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Evidence-Based Practice Network

Explicit Instruction

Description

 Explicit instruction is a way to design and deliver instruction in a systematic and carefully sequenced way. When teachers design and deliver instruction explicitly or use a curriculum that features the critical elements of explicit instruction we can expect increased student engagement in learning, motivated and successful students, increased content mastery, structured and supported learning environments, and improved critical thinking skills.

Implementation Tips

Teachers design instruction by:

- focusing on the critical content.
- establishing a goal for learning.
- ensuring students have the prerequisite skills necessary.
- sequencing the skills from easy to difficult so students gain momentum.
- breaking down complex skills and concepts for understanding.
- planning their script with clear and concise language.
- planning practice activities.

Teachers deliver instruction by:

- sharing the goal for the day aligned with the standards and setting the behavioral expectations for learning.
- reviewing previously learned skills and connecting them to the current goal.
- modeling by providing step-by-step demonstrations for the skill or concept
- giving a range of examples and non-examples to ensure students know when to use the skills.
- interacting with students by giving them multiple opportunities to respond to learning.
- providing guided practice of the skills
- offering positive acknowledgments and corrective feedback to oral and written work.
- delivering the lesson at an adequate pace to ensure the engagement of all students.
- teaching students to generalize and transfer their knowledge.
- maintaining the skills and concepts through continued practice and review.

Resources

- Anita Archer Talks About Explicit Instruction: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-qNpFtcynI
- Model of Elementary Lesson Teaching Vocabulary: https://tinyurl.com/j84dmh9k
- Model of Secondary Lesson on Vocabulary Review in Geometry: https://tinyurl.com/3cnmctzk
- High Leverage Practice for Students with Disabilities 16: Use Explicit Instruction: https://tinyurl.com/3pay6433

Reference

Archer, A. L. & Hughes C. A. (2011). Explicit instruction: Effective and efficient teaching. In What Works for Special-Needs Learners. K. R. Harris & S. Graham (Eds.). New York,