

Integration

Technology
Social Studies
Math
Science



Engaging Students Using Central Themes

- Animals
- Ocean
- Plants
- Insects
- Outer Space
- Human Body
- Maps
- Insects
- Life Cycles
- Force and Motion
- Family
- Teamwork
- Fairy Tales
- Folk Tales
- Transportation
- Slaves
- Weather/Seasons
- Author Studies



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Traditional Literacy Centers

- Activities are based on whole-class instruction.
- Differentiated resources are not available.
- Students may become bored or frustrated.
- Individual levels of support are not part of the center design.
- One level of response is provided for each activity.
- Students may select activities that are outside their instructional zone.

Differentiated Learning Centers

- Activities are based on student assessment data.
- Students work with multilevel resources.
- Students are engaged in their learning.
- Levels of support based on student need are incorporated into the design of each center.
- Tiered activities include varied responses for each skill or strategy.
- Students follow a simple coding system to select activities within their instructional zone.

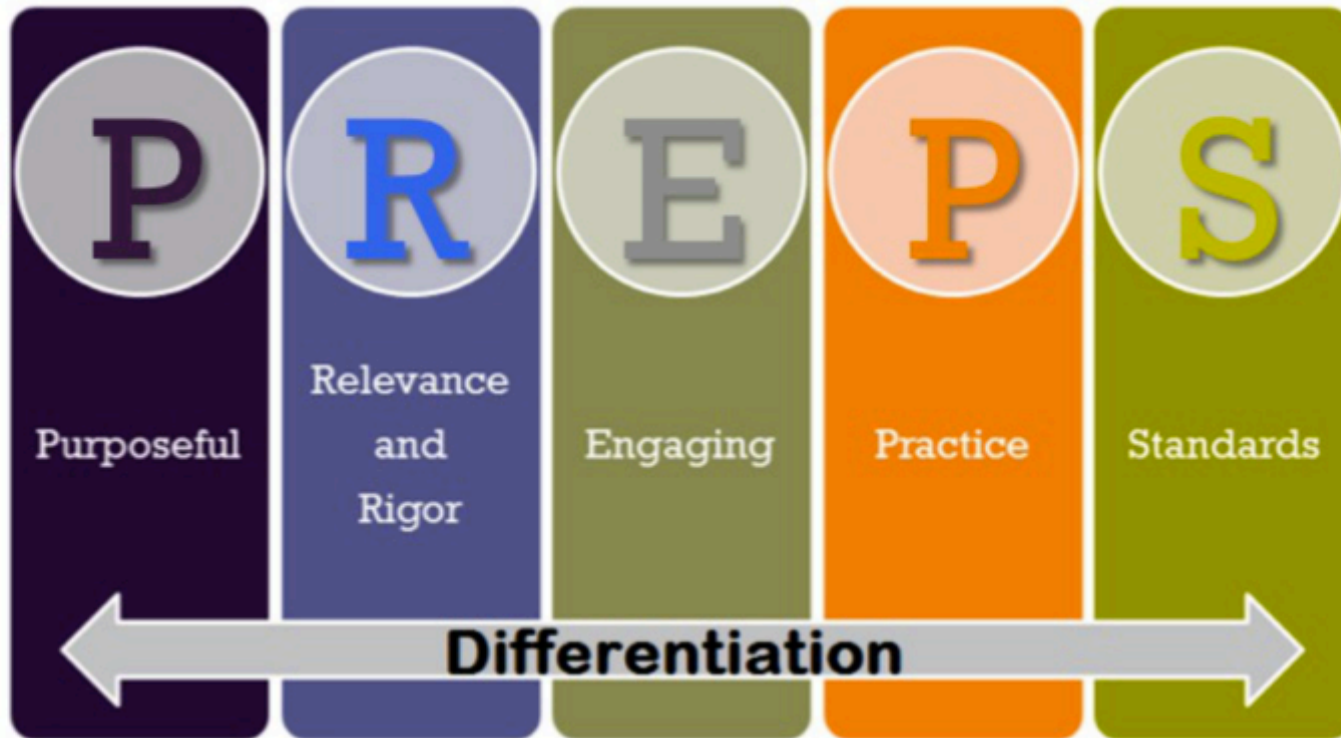
Moving away from “busy work” centers

- Try to move away from “busy work” and “cutesy” centers that must be changed out weekly and focus on more permanent centers with open-ended tasks
- Select activities that involve students in practicing reading, writing, and spelling daily.
- Choose open-ended tasks that can be repeated with different poems, books, or writing topics.
- Remember if it takes you longer to create the center than it takes your students to complete it, ask yourself if the activity is really worthwhile.

Goals for engaging centers

- Collaboration
- Integration of technology
- Multi-level Resources
- Real-Life Application and open-ended tasks
- Giving Students a Choice
- Theme Oriented



The PREPS Criteria



Practice

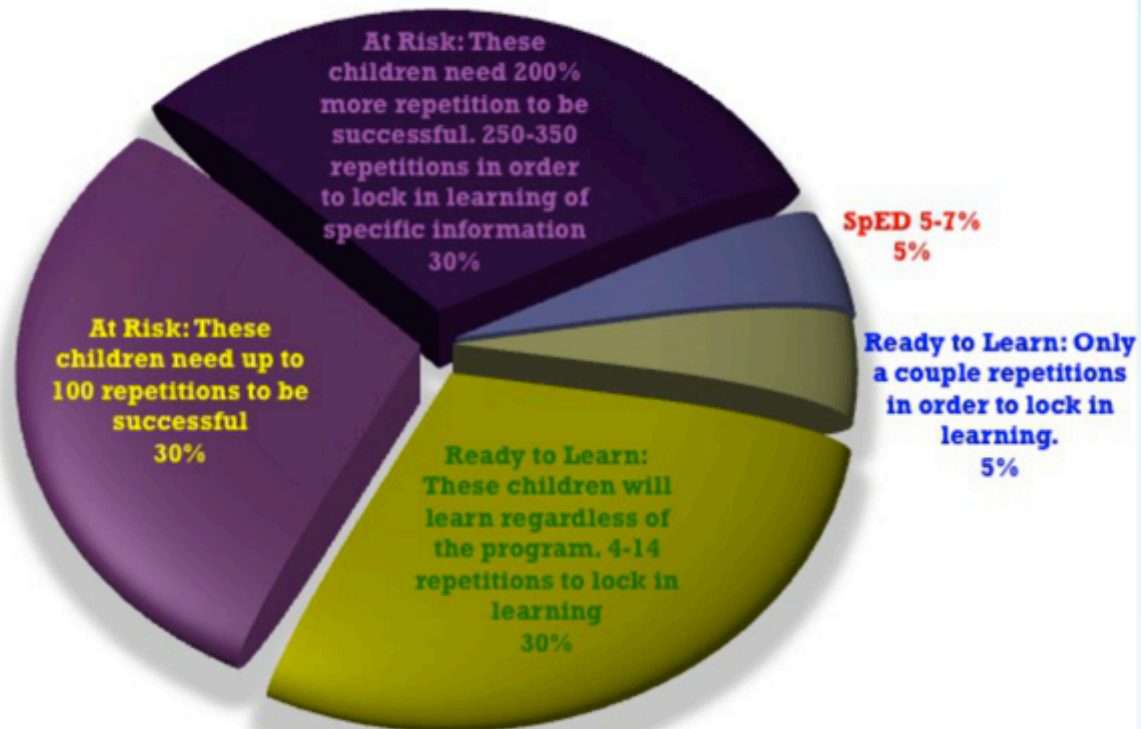
- Practice is a key piece when it comes to learning. Children as well as adults need time, practice, and feedback to process and learn information.

- Effective Centers are a way for students to use their time effectively by practicing the concepts that their teachers have taught them.

- 
- Effective centers provide opportunities for students to practice skills and strategies at their level based on their individual needs.
- 

- Effective Centers provide immediate feedback without waiting for grading by a teacher.

Educational Study



What did I learn during independent time today?

What did I do to help myself be a better writer today?

What did I enjoy doing during independent time today? Why? What did I learn there?

What did I learn about word study today? New words? New strategy I tried?

What didn't I like during independent time today? Why not?

What do I think we should change at work stations? Why?

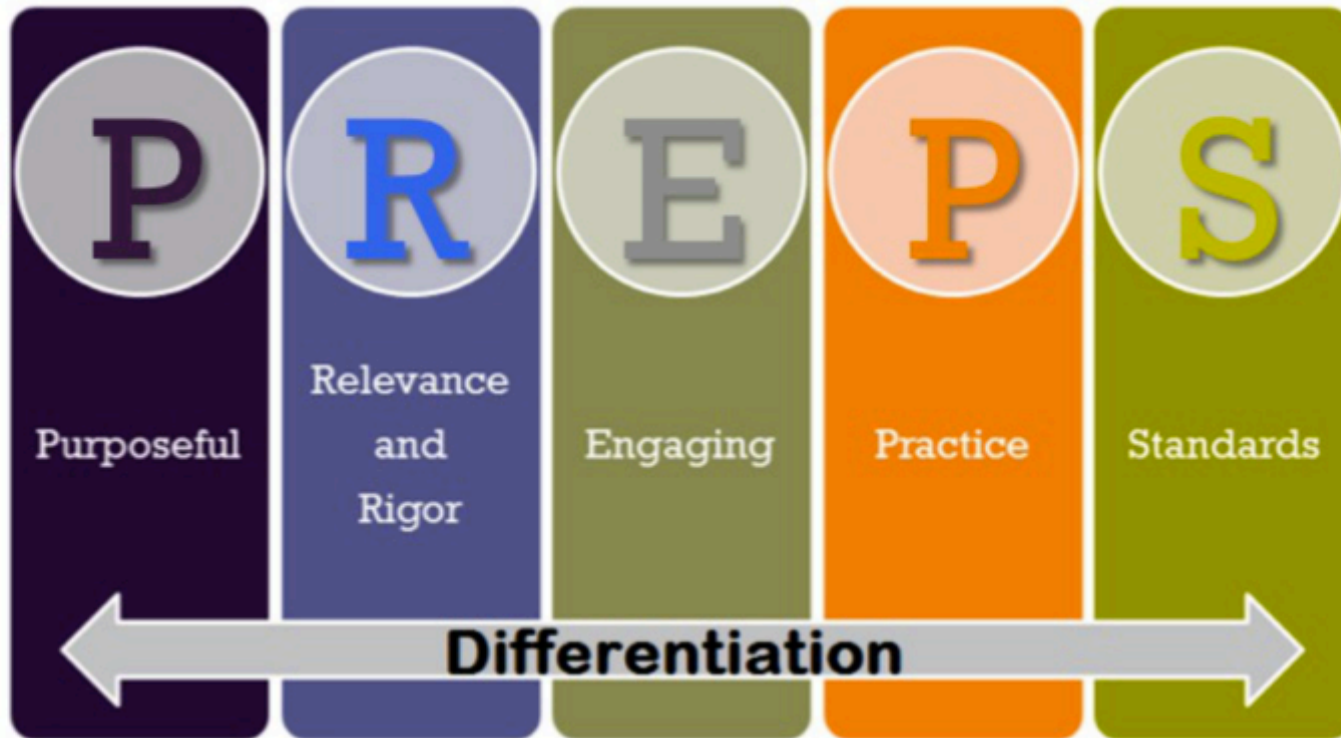
What did I do to help myself be a better reader today?

What else would I like to do at a work stations? What and how would that help me to learn?

How did I solve a problem at work stations today?

How did I help someone else solve a problem at literacy work stations?

The PREPS Criteria



Standards

CENTERS NEED TO BE STANDARDS BASED.

When planning centers, utilize CCSS.

CCSS ELA Instructional Shifts

1. Balancing Informational and Literary Text
2. Building Knowledge in the Disciplines
3. Staircase of Text Complexity
4. Text-Dependent Questions, Text-Based Answers
5. Writing from Sources
6. Academic Vocabulary

"The Standards set grade-specific standards but do not define the intervention methods or materials necessary to support students who are well below or well above grade-level expectations." (CCSS)

<http://www.thecurriculumcorner.com/2012/08/18/common-core-checklists>



Centers are...

Centers are not...

- Revisit Centers are.../Centers are not...
- Consider the PREPS criteria and decide if any changes are necessary.

Center Exploration

Use the next 15 minutes to review the centers at the tables to gather ideas and familiarize yourself with various center resources.

- Teacher Created
- Treasures
- Lakeshore Learning
- Fcrr Website-

http://www.fcrr.org/curriculum/SCA_CCSS_index.shtm

Culminating Activity

DEVELOP A LESSON PLAN FOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

- Use your own curriculum or the Treasures curriculum provided on your table
- Use the PREPS criteria
- Incorporate Differentiation and Integratation

5-3-1

Organize and Integrate Information

PROCESS:

- Each person needs to identify five words that represent today's learning.
- Share the ideas with members of your table group, one at a time, in round-robin fashion. Select three central ideas from your table.
- Select three central ideas.
- If these three ideas were to go into a container with a label, what would that label be? Record this on a sticky note.

Resources

RESOURCES

Literacy Center Ideas and Organization
<http://www.mrsmodwell.com/centers.htm>

Kinder Korner
<http://kinderkorner.com/centers.html>

Links to Literacy Center Ideas
<http://www.k-3learningpages.net/work%20literacy%20centers.htm>

Kathy Hunsinger
<http://www.khanovaditg.com>

PCBE - Phoenix City Board of Education (Story Town Resources that can be adapted for Treasures)
<http://www.pcbe.net/files/oldweb/karconartresources.htm>

Florida Center for Reading Research: Student Centered Activities for all grades
<http://www.fcrr.org/crr/crr.htm/SCIndex.shtml>

Literacy Center Task Ideas
<http://www.stckymoores2.com/files/subpage=437146>

Promethean Planet
<http://prometheanplanet.com>

Printable Center Icons
Teachology: <http://www.teachology.com/worksheets/misc/centers>
ABC Teach: <http://www.abcteach.com>
Mrs. Meehan: <http://www.jmteach.com>

<http://www.thecurriculumcorner.com/2012/06/10/center-ideas-checklist/>

<http://www.mrsmodwell.com/centers.htm#Centers%20to%20share>

<http://www.ascd.org/conferences/annual-conference/conference-daily/2011-right-tips.aspx>

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Kinder Korner
<http://kinderkorner.com/centers.html>

Links to Literacy Center Ideas
<http://www.k-3learningpages.net/web%20literacy%20centers.htm>

Kathy Bumgardner
<http://www.kbumreading.com>

PCBOE – Phoenix City Board of Education (Story Town Resources that can be adapted for Treasures)
<http://www.pcboe.net/les/elderwb/harcourtresources.htm>

Florida Center for Reading Research: Student Centered Activities for all grades
<http://www.fcrr.org/curriculum/SCAindex.shtm>

Literacy Center Task Ideas
<http://www.vickymoore2.com/for.cfm?subpage=407146>

Promethean Planet
<http://prometheanplanet.com>

Printable Center Icons
Teach-nology: <http://www.teachnology.com/worksheets/misc/centers>
ABC Teach: <http://www.abcteach.com>
Mrs. Meacham: <http://www.jmeacham.com>

<http://www.thecurriculumcorner.com/2012/08/18/common-core-checklists>

<http://www.mrsmcdowell.com/centers.htm#Centers%20to%20Include>

<http://www.ascd.org/conferences/annual-conference/conference-daily/2011-eight-tips.aspx>

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