

# Instructional Routines in the Middle School

*Based on Dr. Anita Archer's Explicit Instruction*  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzvPwvxBrQ>

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# Lessons/Instructional Routines Should Keep a Perky Pace



- With "perky pace" the teaching is upbeat and moves swiftly. For one, when the teacher keeps his/her pace perky it means they know the material. He/she has internalized the instructional practices and they have it become second nature. How do you get to this place with your instructional practices? You have to know the steps of the lesson in and out. This takes planning, and it takes doing. The more you practice your instructional routines, the perkier you become! And that's why seasoned teachers tend to be better teachers (but not always!!!)- they can move swiftly through the material, because they know the material. Also, if you're moving quicker through the material, you are able to cover more ground- and the kids will probably end up learning more.

# Instructional Routines Should Be SYSTEMATIC



- Systematic instruction means that you're focused on **critical content**:
  - skills
  - strategies
  - vocabulary terms
  - concepts
  - rules
- Systematic Instruction is **sequenced logically**
  - easier skills before harder skills
  - high frequency skills before low frequency skills
  - prerequisites are taught first
  - similar skills are separated
- With systematic instruction **complex skills need to be broken down**
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# Lessons are organized and focused



- You have an **opening** to your lesson
  - getting student's attention/hooks them into the lesson
  - review of lesson's past
  - preview of what's to come
- Your lesson has a **body**
  - this is the heart of the lesson, your modeling
- Your lesson has a **closing**
  - Review of the lesson taught
  - preview of what will be learned next
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# Your Lesson uses Instructional Routines

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gleNo8dqHb8>

- This way students will be able to focus solely on the content, and not of the task.  
Do you use the method of gradual release?
  - Model. (aka- I do it. My turn.)
  - Prompt. (aka- We do it. Together.)
  - Check. (aka- You do it. Your turn.)
- Do you have instructional routines for teaching everything from phonics to vocabulary small reading groups to behavior expectations, etc...?



# Your Lesson is Relentless and Engaging

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eY5nYuE6IhY>



- You teach to mastery
- You monitor student performance
- You give immediate affirmative and corrective feedback
- You use distributed practice (not mass practice) with cumulative review
- Some children may require 10-30x as much practice opportunities as their peers