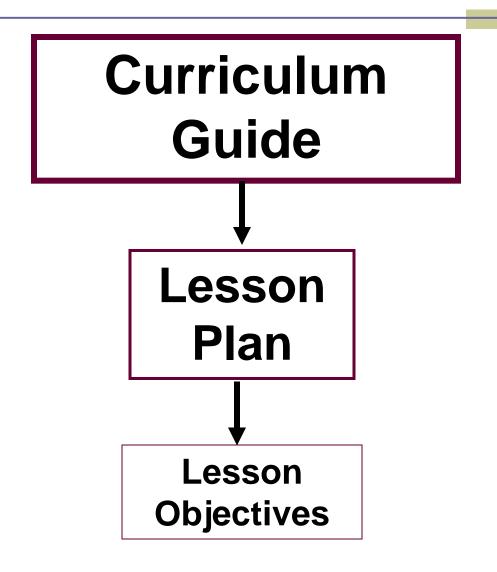
Lesson Objectives

Summer Content Institute 2009

Lesson Objectives

"The quality of one's thinking about objectives during planning directly accounts for the effectiveness of student learning experiences"

How do I frame lesson objectives so they guide my planning and focus on student achievement?



Thinking in Terms of Student Mastery

A clear objective is the anchor of good lesson planning.

- Writing the lesson objective is a thinking skill.
- It is employed before a lesson takes place, yet it is responsible for how the lesson looks and sounds.

Five Kinds of Teacher Thinking

- 1. Coverage Thinking
- 2. Activity Thinking
- 3. Involvement Thinking
- 4. Mastery Objectives Thinking
- 5. Thinking Skills Objectives

1. Coverage Thinking

- What content or skill is to be addressed "covered" in the lesson?
- When a teacher is thinking about coverage he or she is thinking about his or her part in the lesson.
- What we are covering is not the objective of the lesson, but the content.

2. Activity Thinking

The focus shifts from what the teacher will do (coverage) to how students will participate in the lesson.

What activities do you want students to do to meet the lesson objectives?

3. Involvement Thinking

- Get all students engaged in the learning experience!
- This can accomplished in many ways:
 - Use examples that are relevant to students.
 - Plan how information will be presented and have students process information in a variety of modalities. Teachers plan for differentiated learning experiences for students.
 - Make learning exciting and fun.
- Students have to be engaged with activities that are carefully designed to lead to desired outcomes.

4. Mastery Objectives Thinking

- "What exactly do I want students to know and be able to do when this lesson is over?"
- "How will I know they have learned it, that is, What will I take as evidence that the objective has been met?"
- Are learning objectives clear to both teacher and students?
- Are the objectives appropriate?
 - aligned with district and curriculum standards
 - matched to the students; challenging and attainable
 - worth knowing
 - able to be assessed
- Identify the criteria for success

5. Thinking Skills Objectives

- An objective to develop a thinking skill, apart from any particular content knowledge.
- A thinking skill objective. . .
 - names a specific mental action verb
 - is in kid friendly language
 - is appropriate
 - matched to the students (challenging and attainable)
 - able to assessed

Thinking Behind Objectives

THINKING SKILLS OBJECTIVES

What thinking skills do I want students to be able to use? How will I know if they can do it?

MASTERY OBJECTIVES

What do I want students to know or be able to do when the lesson is over? How will I know if they know it or can do it?

INVOLVEMENT

How can I get students really engaged?

ACTIVITIES

What activities could students do to gain understanding or to develop these skills?

COVERAGE

What knowledge, skill, or concept am I teaching?