



What School Administrators  
Need To Know About High-  
Leverage Practices for  
Students with Disabilities

Tips for Mentoring,  
Coaching, and  
Collaboration





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SCHOOL of EDUCATION  
and HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



Michael J. Kennedy, Ph.D.  
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@MJK\_PHD



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Looking for Meaningful Practice  
& Powerful Options for Improvement



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Teachers need a strong foundation of practice



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[www.highleveragepractices.org](http://www.highleveragepractices.org)



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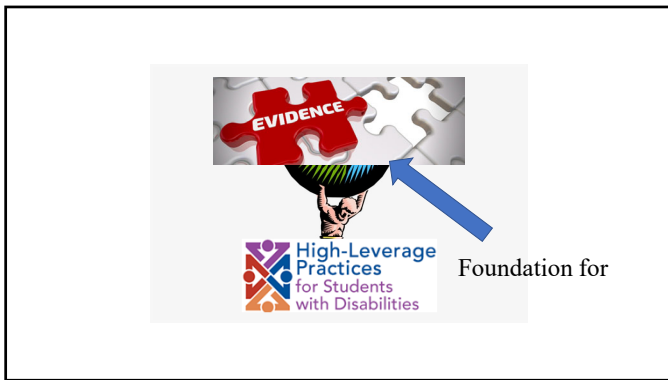
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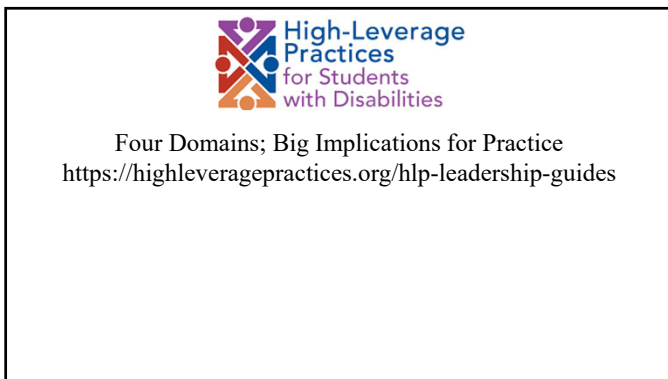
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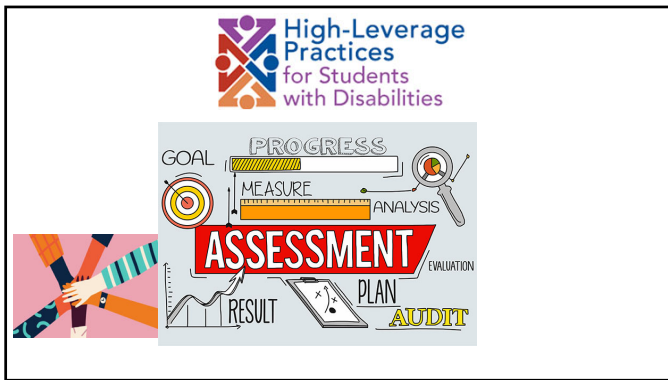
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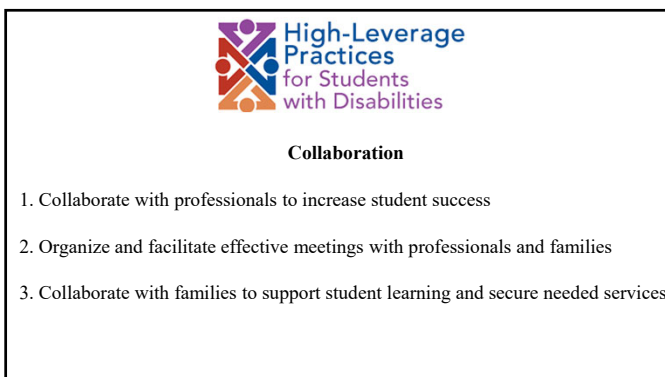
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#### Assessment

4. Use multiple sources of information to develop and comprehensive understanding of a student's strengths and needs
5. Interpret and communicate assessment information with stakeholders to collaboratively design and implement educational programs
6. Use student assessment data, analyze instructional practices, and make necessary adjustments that improve student outcomes

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#### Social/Emotional and Behavior

7. Establish a consistent, organized, and respectful learning environment
8. Provide positive and constructive feedback to guide students' learning and behavior
9. Teach social behaviors
10. Conduct functional behavioral assessments to develop behavior support plans for students

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#### Instruction

11. Create long- and short-term learning goals
12. Systematically design instruction
13. Adapt curriculum materials to help students achieve goals
14. Teach cognitive and metacognitive strategies
15. Use scaffolded supports

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**Instruction**

- 16. Use explicit instruction
- 17. Use flexible groupings
- 18. Use strategies to promote student engagement
- 19. Use assistive and instructional technology
- 20. Provide intensive instruction

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**Instruction**

- 21. Teach students to maintain and generalize learning across settings
- 22. Provide high quality feedback

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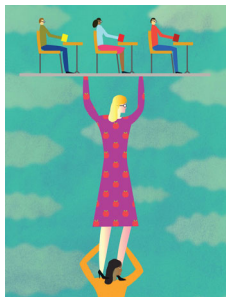
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HLP Use:

Teacher Preparation



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HLP Use:

Professional Development & Daily Instruction



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### An Issue for Administrators

**A LOT VS ALOT**

Sometimes the difference between two words is so small that it's almost impossible to spot it, especially when you are speaking. In some other cases, however, the difference is as obvious as it can possibly be, and it is that one word is real, while the other one isn't. That's exactly what happens with A lot and Alot.

#### USAGE

A LOT is a noun with an article that means "a big amount or number".

#### USAGE

ALOT isn't a word.



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Chronically overworked and overloaded



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What can we get teachers to learn and do well to achieve biggest impact?



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Select which practices are most critical, and focus on those...  
(for starters, anyway)



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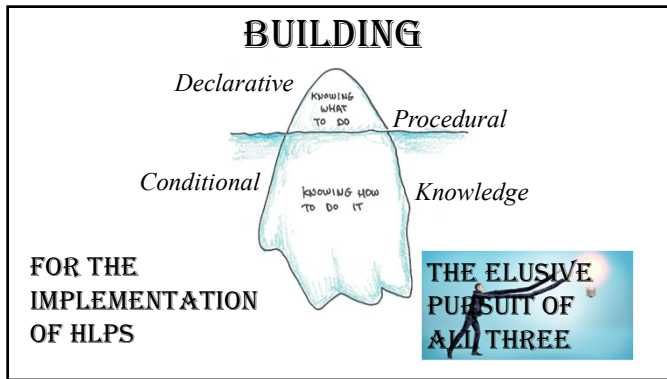
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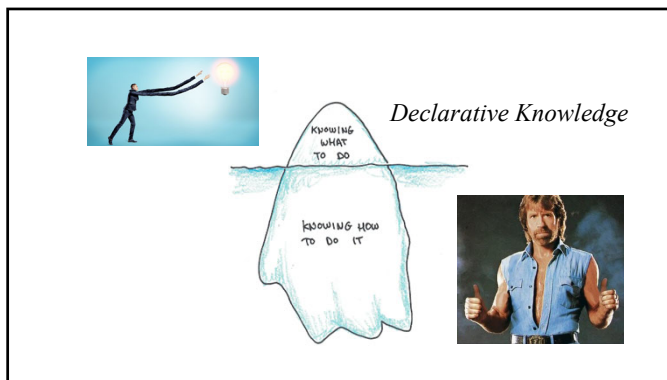
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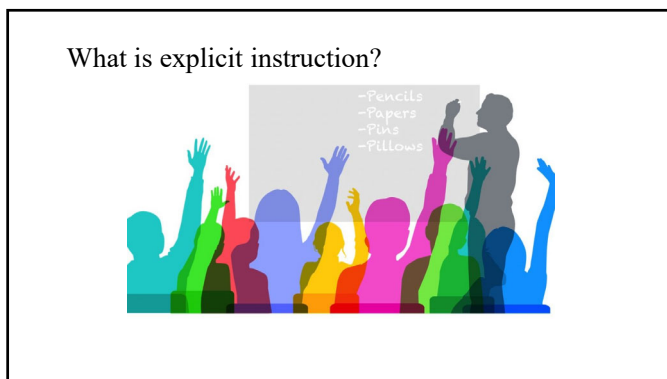
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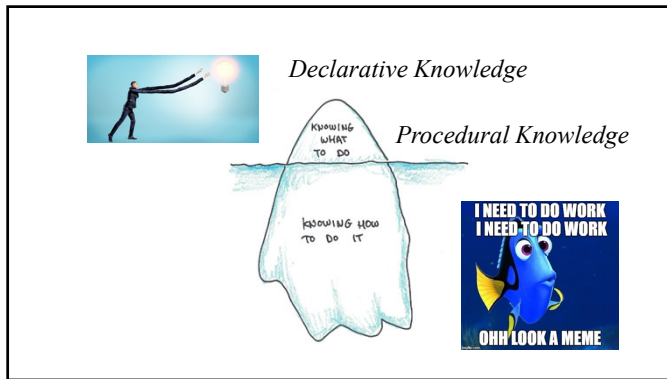
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### Key Elements of Explicit Instruction

- Use clear language
- Use cues
- Break complicated content into chunks
- Make connections to prior learning
- Highlight relevant and varied examples (and non-examples)
- Use an engaging, deliberate, and predictable pace
- Provide lots of (varied) opportunities to respond (OTRs)
- Deliver high-quality feedback
- Model (I do) regularly
- Provide guided practice (we do) regularly
- Utilize independent practice (you do) when students are ready



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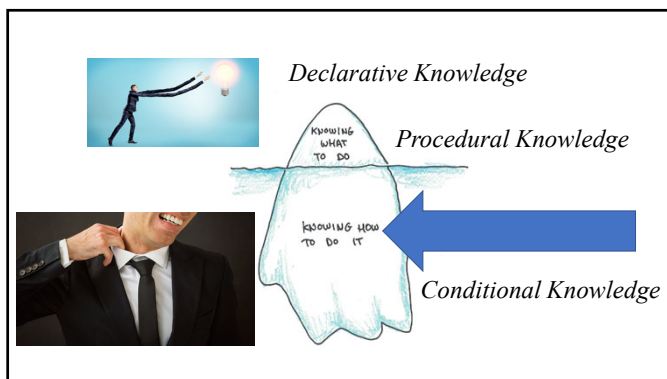
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Knowing when, under what circumstances, with whom




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## THE MESSAGE

The HLPs do not exist in isolation. There is (and should be) substantial overlap in how the practices are implemented and support one another. HLPs also occur as key components of many EBPs.

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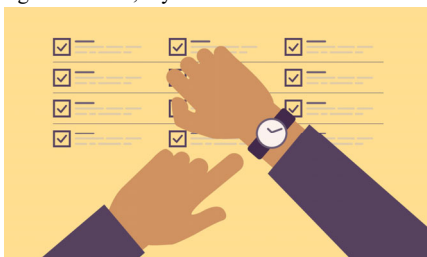
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With 22 HLPs, we can't expect our teachers – especially new ones to master them all – so we need to prioritize where we can get the biggest bang. Therefore, my recommendation is...




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“Explicit Instruction is Life!!!”  
- Danny Rojas (probably)



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As Close To Magic As We've Got:  
The Implementation of Explicit Instruction



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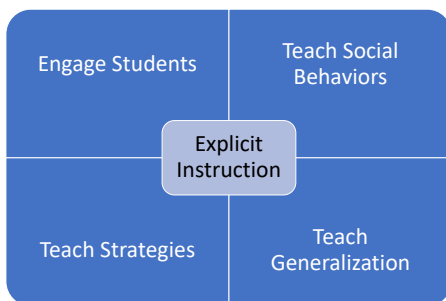
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Almost all HLPs in behavior and instruction domains intersect with EI



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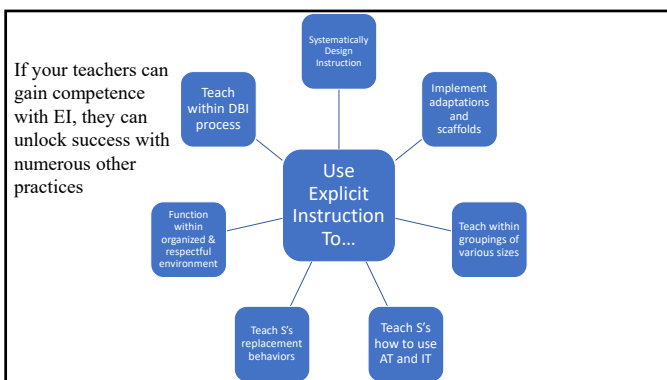
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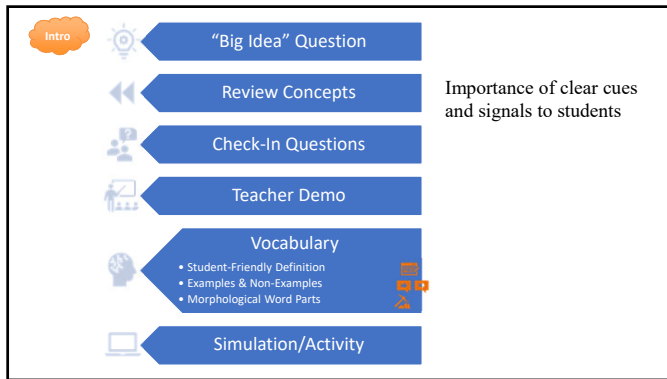
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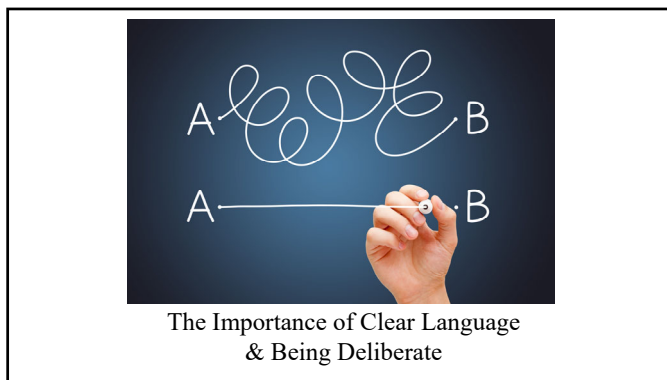
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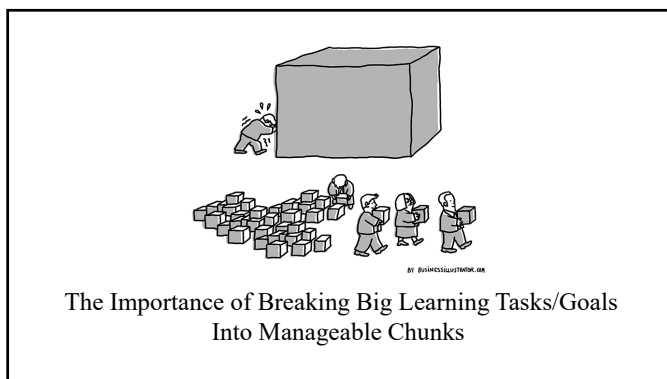
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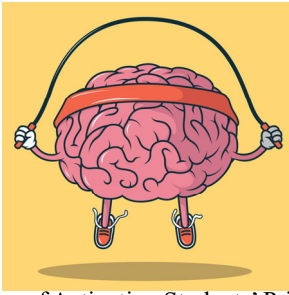
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The Importance of Activating Students' Prior Knowledge  
& Making Connections to the Real World

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The Importance of Engaging Students & Using  
A Deliberate Pace

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The Importance of OTRs

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The Importance of Feedback

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The Importance of Modeling

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The Importance of Guided Practice

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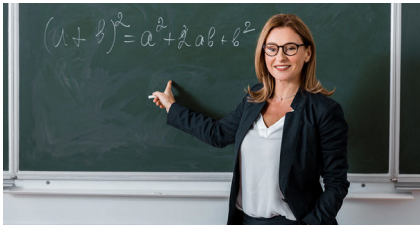
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The Importance of Examples and Worked Examples

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The Importance of Independent Practice

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The importance of providing demonstrations and getting students to dig their hands in and do some deep thinking



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<https://vimeo.com/623713073>

**High-Leverage Practices for the Post-COVID Classroom:**  
Preparing Teachers, Staff, and Other Stakeholders for Instructional and Behavioral Challenges



TTAC HLP Series Vignette 1: ABCs of Explicit Instruction and Effective Feedback

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HLP 7  
Create an organized,  
respectful learning  
environment



Can you help me, Mrs. Martin? This wasn't covered in any of my education courses.

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HLP #9:  
Teach Social Behaviors



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HLP # 13: Adapt Curriculum Materials and Tasks to Address Student Goals



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HLP 14: Teach Strategies



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HLP 15  
Use Scaffolded Supports



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HLP 17  
Use Flexible Groupings



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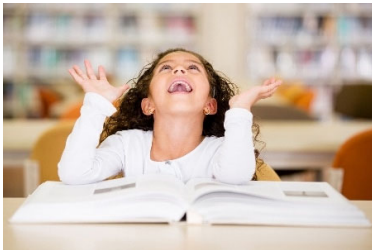
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HLP 18  
Focus on Student Engagement



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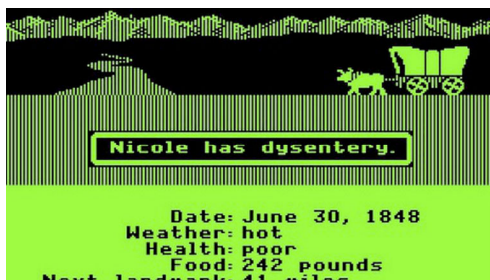
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HLP 19  
Use Assistive and Instructional Technology



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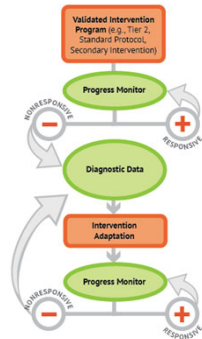
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HLP 20  
Use Intensive Instruction



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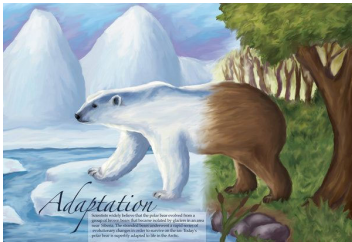
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HLP 21  
Teach for Generalization



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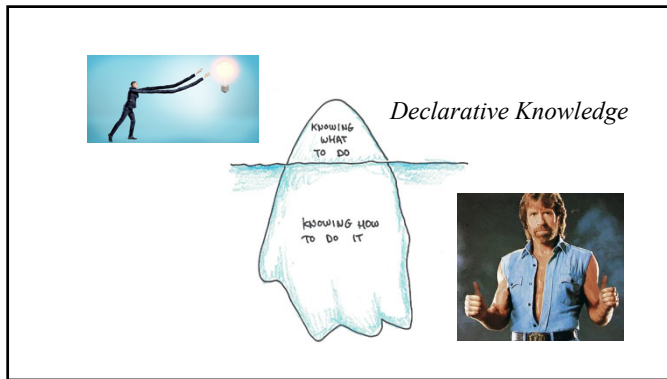
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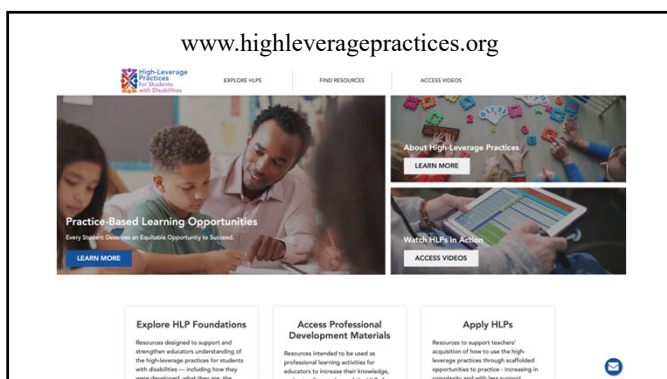
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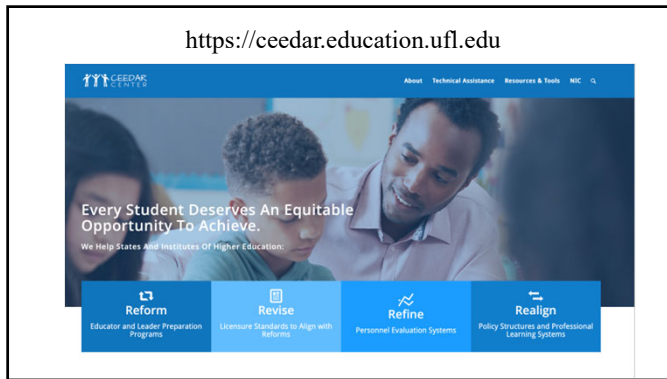
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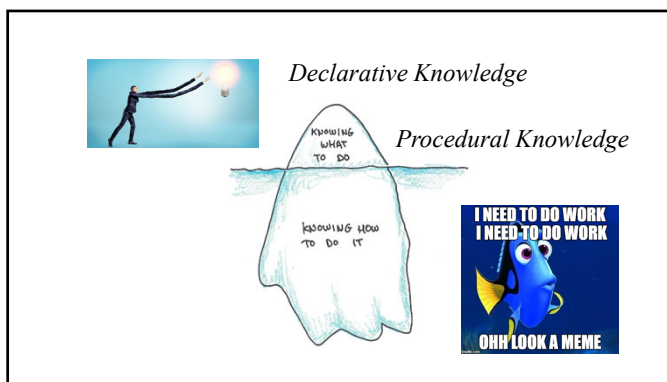
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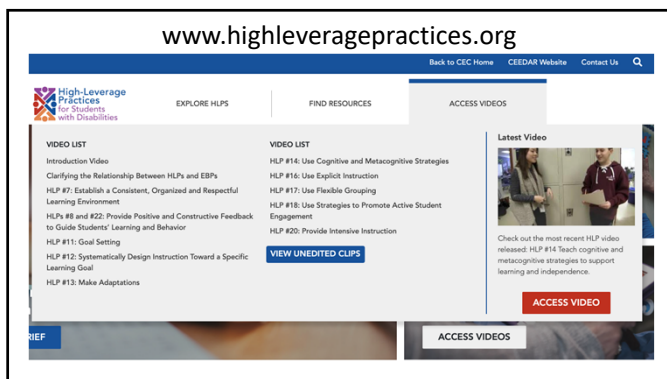
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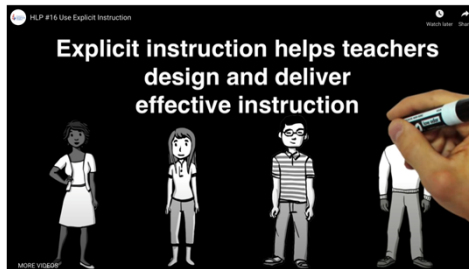
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In each video we note key definitions/components of each HLP



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And model implementation across various settings



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EXPLORE HLPs

FIND RESOURCES

ACCESS VIDEOS

## Unedited Clips of Teachers Implementing HLPs

Home > Unedited Clips of Teachers Implementing HLPs

Looking for virtual content for your courses? These unedited clips feature video exemplars of teachers implementing high-leverage practices (HLPs) in a variety of instructional settings. The settings include elementary-level, secondary-level, one-on-one, small-group, whole-group, and virtual instruction.

The clips can be used in your educator preparation program courses as supplemental content to observe teacher practice and prompt discussion around the HLPs.

SHARE



### View the Clips

UNEDITED VIDEO CLIP #1: UPPER ELEMENTARY SMALL-GROUP MATH LESSON



UNEDITED VIDEO CLIP #2: EARLY ELEMENTARY FULL-GROUP READING LESSON



UNEDITED VIDEO CLIP #3: UPPER ELEMENTARY FULL-GROUP MATH LESSON



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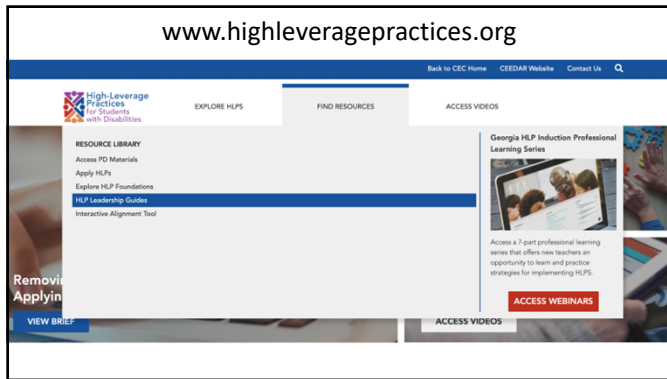
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## HLP 1:

### Collaborate with Professionals to Increase Student Success

## High-Leverage Practices

### for Students with Disabilities

It is very easy for professionals working in schools to take collaboration for granted. Obviously, teachers and other staff see and speak to one another on a regular basis, which can give the illusion that collaboration is happening. However, as noted by Friend and Barron (2019), interaction alone does not constitute collaboration. True collaboration requires intention, effort, and skill on the part of professionals, and results in positive outcomes for all parties – especially students with disabilities and others who struggle. HLP 1 is one of the most essential practices to master because it is one of the HLPs used every single day regardless of grade level, content area, or disability status of students. The effective special educator who collaborates well with their colleagues will then be in a strong position to also collaborate with families (HLP 3) and run effective meetings so quality programming can be decided upon and then implemented (HLP 2). In addition, collaboration is essential to implementing essentially all of the social/behavioral and instruction HLPs as well. In sum, this is HLP 1 for a very good reason.

This resource is intended to support school leaders looking to embed the HLPs in professional development, implementation, teacher observation and feedback efforts at their school site.

The major source for content within this resource is the chapter by Marilyn Friend and Tammy Barron in *High-Leverage Practices in the Inclusive Classroom*; the book *High-Leverage Practices in Special Education: The Final Report of the HLP Writing Team*, and content on [www.highleveragepractices.org](http://www.highleveragepractices.org).

77

#### Teachers Who Effectively Collaborate with Other Professionals

##### Demonstrate Communication Skills

- Demonstrate verbal active listening skills (e.g., paraphrasing).
- Demonstrate nonverbal active listening skills (e.g., facial expressions).
- Use open-ended questioning to encourage active participation and sharing of information from other professionals.
- Use statements that are accurate and descriptive rather than vague and evaluative.
- Carefully blend the above communication skills to foster partnership among professionals.

##### Co-Teaching & Working with Paraprofessionals

- Co-teaching partners have a strong commitment to their shared work.
- Co-teaching partners communicate and plan with each other regularly.
- Co-teaching partners share resources, decision-making, and accountability.
- Co-teaching partners (and in some cases, paraprofessionals) plan for and use a variety of co-teaching approaches to meet students' needs.
- Clearly establish and agree upon roles and responsibilities between co-teaching partners and paraprofessionals.

##### Follow Interaction Processes

- Follow the steps to shared problem solving to manage conflicts or disagreements.

#### Tips for School Leaders to Support Teachers

- Ensure sufficient, common time is provided for team planning and co-planning.
- Communicate that co-teachers (and other collaborators) are of equal value and are expected to make equal contributions to planning and instruction.
- Take co-teaching needs into account when creating the school master schedule.
- Support all professionals in implementation of specially designed instruction and supports noted in IEPs.
- Set up data systems to guide teachers' work and communicate shared accountability in using/maintaining these data systems.
- Be proactive in monitoring collaborators' communication and planning - provide guidance to individuals as needed, to help move their communication and planning in a positive direction.

#### Questions to Prompt Discussion, Self-Reflection, and Observer Feedback

- How can you show individuals with whom you collaborate with that you are actively listening to them?
- What role does collaboration play in establishing a partnership and avoiding conflict when co-teaching?
- How can you rephrase questions to encourage thoughtful and informative responses from collaborators?
- In what ways can you try to ensure that your communicative messages are received as intended?
- If conflict/disagreement arises, what strategies can you use to mend the situation?
- How can you ensure that the interactions and goals are focused on

78

**Council for Exceptional Children**  
1953-2022

EXPLORE IMPROVING YOUR PRACTICE STANDARDS POLICY AND ADVOCACY MEMBERSHIP WELCOME MICHAEL

## Effective and High-Leverage Practices for Paraeducators

**CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF STUDENTS' LIVES**  
Providing exceptional focus & innovative education programs based on your child's individual needs.

Home > Improving Your Practice > Effective and High-Leverage Practices for Paraeducators

**Program Information**

We all know it. Paraeducators are critical to special education. Many in the special education field are already using the High-Leverage Practices (HLPs) to address the most critical issues in special education. Paraeducators need these practices too—and we got you covered.

In collaboration with the Paraprofessional Resource & Research Center and the CEDAR Center, the Council for Exceptional Children is excited to provide paraeducators with a learning program focused on your unique role as a paraeducator and how that aligns with specific HLPs. In this FREE on-demand, eLearning program designed for paraeducators, you will be introduced to four areas of high-leverage practice: Collaboration, Assessment, Social/Emotional/Behavioral, and Instruction.

**Registration**

**SPECIAL BOUNTY PROGRAM (2022)**  
Receive credit for your course. Earn a \$100 bonus with your enrollment. (Only for those who enroll by 12/31/2022. See details on the CEDAR Center website.)

[Learn more](#)

79

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**Council for Exceptional Children**  
1953-2022

EXPLORE IMPROVING YOUR PRACTICE STANDARDS POLICY AND ADVOCACY MEMBERSHIP WELCOME MICHAEL

**PROGRAM LENGTH**  
4 phases

**PROGRAM DURATION**  
Access for 1 year to all content

**AUDIENCE**  
Paraeducators

**FORMAT**  
100% online and on-demand

**MODEL**  
Self-paced, interactive

**COST**  
FREE

**What Do I Get?**

- Informational videos, interactive learning activities, and supporting resources focused on key skills and knowledge every paraeducator will be able to implement in the classrooms
- eLearning sessions that provide critical content and certificates of completion for each
- Participate in all the interactive sessions at your own pace and convenience within one year from the date you register
- Receive certificates of completion for each phase you complete or for completing the whole program (up to 9 PDHs)
- A selection of extremely helpful resources and activities selected by the content experts to support you and enhance your work as a paraeducator

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**Supplemental Resources**

**Documents & Files**

**Practice-Based Learning Opportunities**

Teachers can learn to use high-leverage practices (HLPs) when they have effective opportunities to practice using the HLPs in thoughtful ways. To support teacher educators' use of HLPs, the CEDAR Center, in collaboration with Educator Preparation Program faculty across the country, has collected a set of effective practice opportunities that we refer to as practice-based learning opportunities or PBLs.

[View Page](#)

**High-Leverage Practices and Evidence-Based Practices: A Promising Pair**

High-leverage practices (HLPs) and evidence-based practices (EBPs) when used together can become powerful tools for improving student outcomes. This brief is designed to show the promise of these practices in advancing educator preparation and practice and, subsequently, outcomes for students with disabilities and those who struggle.

[View Page](#)

**High-Leverage Practices Crosswalk**

This document shows points of alignment between the following three important documents: High-Leverage Practices, High-Leverage Practices in Special Education, and Promoting Principal Leadership for the Success of Students With Disabilities.

[View Page](#)

**High-Leverage Practices Flyer List**

This flyer gives a basic definition of what high-leverage practices are and the criteria that was used in determining which would be included as high-leverage practices for Special Education.

[View Page](#)

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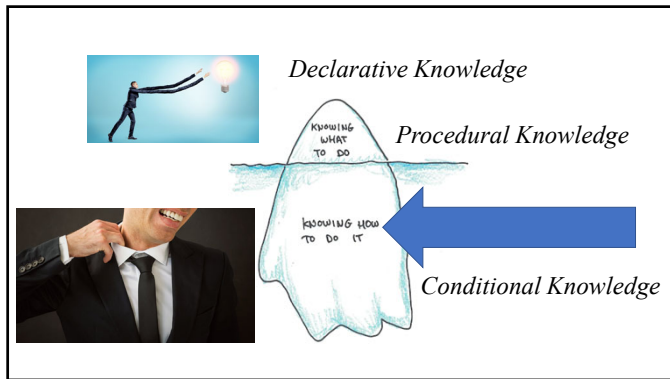
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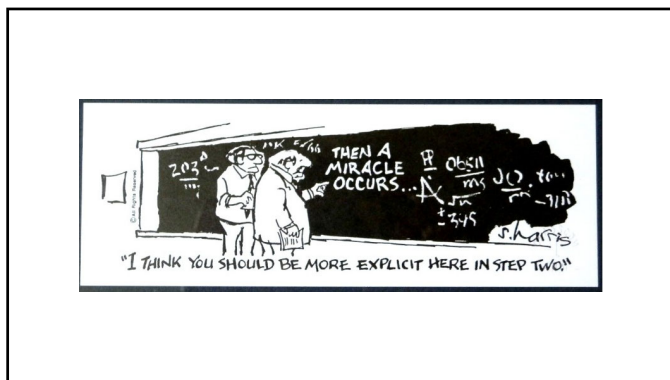
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SCHOOL of EDUCATION  
and HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

# Welcome to COACHED

Capturing Observations and Collaboratively sHaring Educational Data

Created By  
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Rachel Kunemund - [rk8vm@virginia.edu](mailto:rk8vm@virginia.edu)




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## COACHED



<https://www.coached.education.virginia.edu/>



Guest User: COACHED@test.com  
Password: COACHEDtest

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- COACHED is available at **no cost** to individual users and institutions
- We are always looking for **new partners**
  - Pre-K-12
  - Universities/ Teacher Educators



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COACHED

### •Coaching Tools



- CT Scan Observational Instrument
- CAP-TVs Multimedia Vignettes
- Interactive Feedback Form
- Self-Reflection Matrices

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## Flexible Use



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Focus on specific practices being used



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Learning scaffold for administrators/leaders & teachers

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COACHED



- Individual and Institution Accounts
- Varying levels of access

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Live Demo

The word "LIVE" is displayed in large, bold, capital letters. Each letter is composed of many small, glowing orange-yellow lights, giving it a marquee or neon sign appearance. The letters are reflected on a surface below them.

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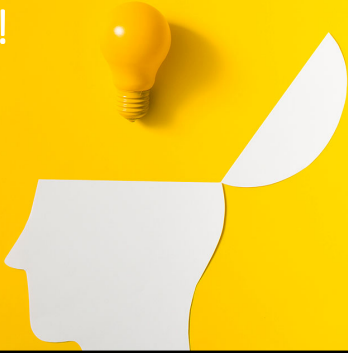
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## Keep in Mind!

- COACHED is available at **no cost** to individual users and institutions
- We are always looking for **new partners**
- **Customizable**



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