

Sanctity of the Lesson

“Lessons, of course, are the most common form of teaching. Classroom teaching, as it is known around the world, plays out through daily lessons.”

Source: Stigler, J. W. & Hiebert, J. (1999) *The teaching gap: Best ideas from the world's teachers for improving education in the classroom*. Free Press, ISBN: 0-684-85274-8.

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“Students’ lives in most schools are organized around the series of 45- to 60 minute periods that they move through in the course of a day. But different beliefs about teaching lead to treating lessons in quite different ways.”

Source: Stigler, J. W. & Hiebert, J. (1999) *The teaching gap: Best ideas from the world’s teachers for improving education in the classroom*. Free Press, ISBN: 0-684-85274-8.

Guiding Principles for World Class Teaching

- A great deal of attention is given to standards-based lesson development;
- Standards-based lessons are planned as complete experiences -- as real world settings with a beginning, a middle, and an end;
- Standards-based lessons tell a tightly connected, coherent story; the teacher builds a visible record of the pieces as they unfold so connections can be drawn between them; and the standards-based lessons strategies cannot be sidetracked or broken by interruptions;

Note: These guiding principles were adopted and adapted directly from the work of Stigler, J. W. & Hiebert, J. (1999) *The teaching gap: Best ideas from the world's teachers for improving education in the classroom*. Free Press, ISBN: 0-684-85274-8. [Pages 95-96]

Guiding Principles for World Class Teaching

- Meaning is found in standards-based lessons through the connections between the parts. If the student stays for only the beginning, or leaves before the end, the student misses the point;
- To succeed standards-based lessons like these must be coherent. The pieces must relate to one another in clear ways. And the standards-based lessons must flow along, free from interruptions and unrelated activities.

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Lesson Templates for World Class Teaching

You are cordially invited to join LearningFront and use the free research-based lesson template for world class teaching to develop and share standard-based lessons and assessments for your classroom -- using integrated social media and professional development tools.

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Note: The world class teaching template is available in the TaskBuilderOnline tool in LearningFront

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