10.3

Structuring a Lesson to Support Students

With Special Needs

Instructions: The lists (adapted from Van de Walle, Karp, & Bay-Williams, 2019) offer research-based strategies that support students with special needs. Identify one focus from each key area—or a particular area but multiple considerations—and brainstorm what ways that might be accomplished for a particular lesson.

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| ***Key Area*** | ***Planning Considerations******What plans do you have for each student who has special needs in regard to . . .*** | ***Notes*** |
| **Organization and environment** | * Student location (close to instruction)
* Reduce competing stimuli (noises, sights, or other distractions)
* Smooth transitions (from one phase of a lesson to the next)
* Post (and state) big idea of lesson
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| **Introducing the lesson (Engage)** | * Build on prior knowledge
* Use a variety of visuals and concrete examples
* Vocabulary support
* Use friendly numbers (but same rigor)
* Clear directions (one direction at a time, check for understanding)
* Vary task size (so it is not overwhelming)
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| **Developing the lesson (Explore)** | * Provide ways to organize work (e.g., graphic organizer, use of heuristics such as Polya’s

four-step process for problem-solving)* Provide support in communicating ideas (writing and speaking)
* Emphasize big ideas
* Make mathematical connections explicit
* Encourage self-monitoring, self-assessment, and reflection
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| **Summarizing the lesson (Explain)** | * Provide support in communicating ideas (writing and speaking), such as writing prompts
* Emphasize big ideas
* Emphasize mathematical connections among ideas
* Provide/solicit examples and non-examples
* Provide additional practice
* Offer strategies to help remember, as appropriate (e.g., mnemonics)
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Retrieved from the companion website for *Everything You Need for Mathematics Coaching: Tools, Plans, and A Process That Works: Grades K–12* by Maggie B. McGatha and Jennifer M. Bay-Williams with Beth McCord Kobett and Jonathan A. Wray. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwi[n, www.corwin.com.](http://www.corwin.com/) Copyright © 2018 by Corwin. All rights reserved. Reproduction authorized only for the local school site or nonprofit organization that has purchased this book.