

The Workshop Model

This framework outlines the components of a workshop model that can be used in any content. Although the times may vary slightly, the instructional components establish the rituals and routines for seamless classroom instruction. The warm-up (not technically part of a workshop model) has been added to facilitate transitions from bell to bell and set the tone for learning.

Warm- up (5 minutes)

The teacher posts a brief assignment that may be done independently. This may be a brief reading, writing, editing, or problem solving activity to ready them for learning.

Mini-Lesson (10-15 minutes)

The teacher provides whole class direct and explicit instruction in one of the following ways:

- conduct a shared reading demonstrating a reading strategy
- read and think aloud for a specific purpose
- teach a key concept
- demonstrate a writing strategy
- direct students in a hands-activity

Teacher outlines the work to be done including

- the expectations as to how to apply the content learned in the mini-lesson to the work
- the expectation of completed work

Independent Work Time (30-40 minutes)

Students work independently, in pairs, or small groups.

The teacher circulates for 2 or 3 minutes to ensure all students are on task, and then

- confers with individuals for a few minutes, taking anecdotal notes
- work with a small group in direct instruction

Share Session (5 minutes)

The teacher reconvenes class to

- focus on the work of one or two students that use what was taught in the mini-lesson
- recap key learning of the day (1 minute)
- check for understanding (with short reflective writing or exit slips)
- give homework assignment