



SWIM Professional Learning, Coaching, and Community of Practice Guide

SWIM Professional Learning

Shared Writing Instructional Model (SWIM) professional learning is intended for teachers of students with intellectual disabilities to meet grade-level general or alternate academic expectations in writing as part of English language arts. The learning objective and outcome of SWIM professional development is that teachers will understand the SWIM model components by implementing the SWIM instructional cycle of *Plan, Deliver, and Evaluate*. SWIM professional development incorporates a student case study to promote job-embedded learning and apply teacher knowledge of the SWIM Cycle. Learning modules are organized into sections that introduce shared writing and the SWIM model and content for each phase of the SWIM Cycle. The sequence of learning is designed to support teachers in applying the knowledge, skills, and understanding of the SWIM Cycle.

SWIM Coaching

SWIM coaching is designed to transfer the critical components of SWIM professional learning into practice so that teachers can apply the SWIM Cycle. The goal of SWIM coaching is to support teachers in planning, delivering, and evaluating high-quality, specially designed writing instruction so that ALL students may grow in their writing development. The SWIM coaching model is designed to support collaborative actions or touch points between the teacher and coach throughout a SWIM Cycle and allows for flexibility and personalization, including in-person or virtual coaching, and scheduling of professional learning and coaching sessions around teacher needs and local context. Examples include one-on-one individual, small group coaching, building or district professional learning communities, and a community of practice. The SWIM coaching menu of options supports the development of a SWIM professional learning and coaching plan in which SWIM coaching, professional learning communities, and a community of practice can be integrated before, during, and after the SWIM professional development.
















SWIM Community of Practice

Professional learning leads and coaches are encouraged to establish a SWIM community of practice to connect teachers who are implementing SWIM in their

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classrooms with other educators who support teachers of students with intellectual disabilities. SWIM community of practice activities can be used to share best practices and advance the goals of SWIM professional learning.

The following graphic illustrates the alignment of SWIM professional learning modules, student case study activities with associated tools, SWIM coaching, and the SWIM community of practice. SWIM professional learning modules are organized within sections. They are: 1) Introduction, 2) Plan, 3) Deliver, and 4) Evaluate. The sequence of learning is designed to support teachers apply the knowledge, skills, and understanding of the SWIM Cycle. SWIM coaching and community of practice assist teachers in transferring the critical components of SWIM professional learning into practice as they apply the SWIM Cycle.

	MODULES	CASE STUDY ACTIVITIES & ASSOCIATED TOOLS	COACHING	
Introduction	 Shared Writing & the SWIM Approach	<i>No activities or tools needed.</i>	<i>Coaching begins after Module 3.</i>	SWIM Community of Practice
	 SWIM Model			
Plan	 SWIM Planning Tool & Instructional Resources	 ✓ Complete the SWIM Learning Map Tool .  ✓ Select and review the SWIM Sequence Plans .	 <i>Refer to the Coaching Guide for prompts + the Plan coaching log.</i>	
Deliver	 SWIM Sequence	 ✓ Use the SWIM Sequence Plan to instruct the SWIM Sequence.  ✓ Video record lessons.  ✓ Complete the SWIM Sequence Self-Reflection/Observation Tool .	 <i>Refer to the Coaching Guide for prompts + the Deliver coaching log.</i>	
Evaluate	 SWIM Cycle Tool	 ✓ Complete the SWIM Cycle Tool .  ✓ Begin a new SWIM cycle.	 <i>Refer to the Coaching Guide for prompts + the Evaluate coaching log.</i>	