

Unit 02: Recording Booth Design and Maintenance

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **FY**
Status: **Published**

Standards Alignment

New Jersey Student Learning Standards

VPA.1.1.12.B	Music
VPA.1.1.12.B.1	Examine how aspects of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and harmonic progressions are organized and manipulated to establish unity and variety in genres of musical compositions.
VPA.1.1.12.B.2	Synthesize knowledge of the elements of music in the deconstruction and performance of complex musical scores from diverse cultural contexts.
VPA.1.2.12	All students will understand the role, development, and influence of the arts throughout history and across cultures.
VPA.1.2.12.A	History of the Arts and Culture
VPA.1.2.12.A.1	Determine how dance, music, theatre, and visual art have influenced world cultures throughout history.
VPA.1.2.12.A.2	Justify the impact of innovations in the arts (e.g., the availability of music online) on societal norms and habits of mind in various historical eras.
VPA.1.3.12.B	Music
VPA.1.3.12.B.1	Analyze compositions from different world cultures and genres with respect to technique, musicality, and stylistic nuance, and/or perform excerpts with technical accuracy, appropriate musicality, and the relevant stylistic nuance.
VPA.1.3.12.B.2	Analyze how the elements of music are manipulated in original or prepared musical scores.
VPA.1.3.12.B.3	Improvise works through the conscious manipulation of the elements of music, using a variety of traditional and nontraditional sound sources, including electronic sound-generating equipment and music generation programs.
VPA.1.3.12.B.4	Arrange simple pieces for voice or instrument using a variety of traditional and nontraditional sound sources or electronic media, and/or analyze prepared scores using music composition software.
AAAA.K-12.2.1	Skills
AAAA.K-12.2.1.1	Continue an inquiry- based research process by applying critical- thinking skills (analysis, synthesis, evaluation, organization) to information and knowledge in order to construct new understandings, draw conclusions, and create new knowledge.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.2	Organize knowledge so that it is useful.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.3	Use strategies to draw conclusions from information and apply knowledge to curricular areas, real-world situations, and further investigations.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.4	Use technology and other information tools to analyze and organize information.

AAAA.K-12.2.1.5	Collaborate with others to exchange ideas, develop new understandings, make decisions, and solve problems.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.6	Use the writing process, media and visual literacy, and technology skills to create products that express new understandings.
AAAA.K-12.2.2	Dispositions in Action
AAAA.K-12.2.2.1	Demonstrate flexibility in the use of resources by adapting information strategies to each specific resource and by seeking additional resources when clear conclusions cannot be drawn.
AAAA.K-12.2.2.3	Employ a critical stance in drawing conclusions by demonstrating that the pattern of evidence leads to a decision or conclusion.
AAAA.K-12.2.2.4	Demonstrate personal productivity by completing products to express learning.
AAAA.K-12.2.3	Responsibilities
AAAA.K-12.2.3.1	Connect understanding to the real world.
AAAA.K-12.2.3.2	Consider diverse and global perspectives in drawing conclusions.
AAAA.K-12.2.3.3	Use valid information and reasoned conclusions to make ethical decisions.
AAAA.K-12.2.4	Self-Assessment Strategies
AAAA.K-12.2.4.1	Determine how to act on information (accept, reject, modify).
AAAA.K-12.2.4.2	Reflect on systematic process, and assess for completeness of investigation.
AAAA.K-12.2.4.3	Recognize new knowledge and understanding.
AAAA.K-12.2.4.4	Develop directions for future investigations.

Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

9.3.12.AR	Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
9.3.12.AR.1	Analyze the interdependence of the technical and artistic elements of various careers within the Arts, A/V Technology & Communications Career Cluster.
9.3.12.AR.2	Analyze the importance of health, safety and environmental management systems, policies and procedures common in arts, audio/video technology and communications activities and facilities.
9.3.12.AR.3	Analyze the lifestyle implications and physical demands required in the arts, audio/visual technology and communications workplace.
9.3.12.AR.4	Analyze the legal and ethical responsibilities required in the arts, audio/visual technology and communications workplace.
9.3.12.AR.5	Describe the career opportunities and means to achieve those opportunities in each of the Arts, A/V Technology & Communications Career Pathways.
9.3.12.AR.6	Evaluate technological advancements and tools that are essential to occupations within the Arts, A/V Technology & Communications Career Cluster.
9.3.12.AR-AV	A/V Technology & Film
9.3.12.AR-AV.1	Describe the history, terminology, occupations and value of audio, video and film technology.
9.3.12.AR-AV.2	Demonstrate the use of basic tools and equipment used in audio, video and film production.
9.3.12.AR-AV.3	Demonstrate technical support skills for audio, video and/or film productions.
9.3.12.AR-AV.4	Design an audio, video and/or film production.

9.3.12.AR-PRF	Performing Arts
9.3.12.AR-PRF.1	Describe the scope of the Performing Arts Career Pathway and the roles of various individuals in it.
9.3.12.AR-PRF.3	Perform a varied repertoire of vocal and/or instrumental music representing diverse styles, cultures and historical periods.
9.3.12.AR-PRF.4	Demonstrate knowledge of music theory.
9.3.12.AR-PRF.6	Create stage, film, television or electronic media scripts in a variety of traditional and current formats.
9.3.12.AR-PRF.7	Describe how technology and technical support enhance performing arts productions.
9.3.12.AR-PRF.8	Analyze all facets of stage and performing arts production management.
12.9.3.ST	Science, technology, engineering & mathematics
12.9.3.ST.1	Apply engineering skills in a project that requires project management, process control and quality assurance.
12.9.3.ST.2	Use technology to acquire, manipulate, analyze and report data.
12.9.3.ST.3	Describe and follow safety, health and environmental standards related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workplaces.
12.9.3.ST.4	Understand the nature and scope of the Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics Career Cluster and the role of STEM in society and the economy.
12.9.3.ST.5	Demonstrate an understanding of the breadth of career opportunities and means to those opportunities in each of the Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics Career Pathways.
12.9.3.ST.6	Demonstrate technical skills needed in a chosen STEM field.
12.9.3.ST-ET	Engineering & Technology Career Pathway
12.9.3.ST-ET.1	Use STEM concepts and processes to solve problems involving design and/or production.
12.9.3.ST-ET.2	Display and communicate STEM information.
12.9.3.ST-ET.3	Apply processes and concepts for the use of technological tools in STEM.
12.9.3.ST-ET.4	Apply the elements of the design process.
12.9.3.ST-ET.5	Apply the knowledge learned in STEM to solve problems.
12.9.3.ST-ET.6	Apply the knowledge learned in the study of STEM to provide solutions to human and societal problems in an ethical and legal manner.

Technology / Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking

TECH.8.1.12	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.12.A	Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.
TECH.8.1.12.A.1	Create a personal digital portfolio which reflects personal and academic interests, achievements, and career aspirations by using a variety of digital tools and resources.
TECH.8.1.12.A.2	Produce and edit a multi-page digital document for a commercial or professional audience and present it to peers and/or professionals in that related area for review.
TECH.8.1.12.A.3	Collaborate in online courses, learning communities, social networks or virtual worlds to discuss a resolution to a problem or issue.

TECH.8.1.12.A.4	Construct a spreadsheet workbook with multiple worksheets, rename tabs to reflect the data on the worksheet, and use mathematical or logical functions, charts and data from all worksheets to convey the results.
TECH.8.1.12.A.5	Create a report from a relational database consisting of at least two tables and describe the process, and explain the report results.
TECH.8.1.12.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.
TECH.8.1.12.B.2	Apply previous content knowledge by creating and piloting a digital learning game or tutorial.
TECH.8.1.12.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
TECH.8.1.12.C.1	Develop an innovative solution to a real world problem or issue in collaboration with peers and experts, and present ideas for feedback through social media or in an online community.
TECH.8.1.12.D	Digital Citizenship: Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.
TECH.8.1.12.D.1	Demonstrate appropriate application of copyright, fair use and/or Creative Commons to an original work.
TECH.8.1.12.D.2	Evaluate consequences of unauthorized electronic access (e.g., hacking) and disclosure, and on dissemination of personal information.
TECH.8.1.12.D.3	Compare and contrast policies on filtering and censorship both locally and globally.
TECH.8.1.12.D.4	Research and understand the positive and negative impact of one's digital footprint.
TECH.8.1.12.D.5	Analyze the capabilities and limitations of current and emerging technology resources and assess their potential to address personal, social, lifelong learning, and career needs.
TECH.8.1.12.F	Critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making: Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources.
TECH.8.1.12.F.1	Evaluate the strengths and limitations of emerging technologies and their impact on educational, career, personal and or social needs.
TECH.8.2.12	Technology Education, Engineering, Design, and Computational Thinking - Programming: All students will develop an understanding of the nature and impact of technology, engineering, technological design, computational thinking and the designed world as they relate to the individual, global society, and the environment.
TECH.8.2.12.A	The Nature of Technology: Creativity and Innovation: Technology systems impact every aspect of the world in which we live.
TECH.8.2.12.A.1	Propose an innovation to meet future demands supported by an analysis of the potential full costs, benefits, trade-offs and risks, related to the use of the innovation.
TECH.8.2.12.A.2	Analyze a current technology and the resources used, to identify the trade-offs in terms of availability, cost, desirability and waste.
TECH.8.2.12.B	Technology and Society: Knowledge and understanding of human, cultural and society values are fundamental when designing technology systems and products in the global society.
TECH.8.2.12.B.1	Research and analyze the impact of the design constraints (specifications and limits) for a product or technology driven by a cultural, social, economic or political need and publish for review.
TECH.8.2.12.C	Design: The design process is a systematic approach to solving problems.
TECH.8.2.12.C.1	Explain how open source technologies follow the design process.

TECH.8.2.12.C.2	Analyze a product and how it has changed or might change over time to meet human needs and wants.
TECH.8.2.12.C.3	Analyze a product or system for factors such as safety, reliability, economic considerations, quality control, environmental concerns, manufacturability, maintenance and repair, and human factors engineering (ergonomics).
TECH.8.2.12.C.4	Explain and identify interdependent systems and their functions.
TECH.8.2.12.C.5	Create scaled engineering drawings of products both manually and digitally with materials and measurements labeled.
TECH.8.2.12.C.6	Research an existing product, reverse engineer and redesign it to improve form and function.
TECH.8.2.12.D	Abilities for a Technological World: The designed world is the product of a design process that provides the means to convert resources into products and systems.
TECH.8.2.12.D.1	Design and create a prototype to solve a real world problem using a design process, identify constraints addressed during the creation of the prototype, identify trade-offs made, and present the solution for peer review.
TECH.8.2.12.D.2	Write a feasibility study of a product to include: economic, market, technical, financial, and management factors, and provide recommendations for implementation.
TECH.8.2.12.D.5	Explain how material processing impacts the quality of engineered and fabricated products.
TECH.8.2.12.E	Computational Thinking: Programming: Computational thinking builds and enhances problem solving, allowing students to move beyond using knowledge to creating knowledge.
TECH.8.2.12.E.1	Demonstrate an understanding of the problem-solving capacity of computers in our world.
TECH.8.2.12.E.3	Use a programming language to solve problems or accomplish a task (e.g., robotic functions, website designs, applications, and games).
TECH.8.2.12.E.4	Use appropriate terms in conversation (e.g., troubleshooting, peripherals, diagnostic software, GUI, abstraction, variables, data types and conditional statements).

Interdisciplinary Connections: NJSLs for ELA, Social Studies, Science and/or Math Section

LA.K-12.NJLSA.W	Writing
	Text Types and Purposes
LA.K-12.NJLSA.W1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.K-12.NJLSA.W2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
	Production and Distribution of Writing
LA.K-12.NJLSA.W4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.K-12.NJLSA.W5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
LA.K-12.NJLSA.W6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.
	Research to Build and Present Knowledge

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
	Range of Writing
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.
LA.W.11-12.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.W.11-12.1.A	Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.W.11-12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies and using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
LA.W.11-12.1.C	Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
LA.W.11-12.1.D	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.11-12.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
LA.W.11-12.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.W.11-12.2.A	Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.W.11-12.2.B	Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
LA.W.11-12.2.D	Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.
LA.W.11-12.2.E	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.11-12.2.F	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
LA.W.11-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.11-12.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a

	new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.W.11-12.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
LA.W.11-12.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.W.11-12.8	Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation. (MLA or APA Style Manuals).
LA.W.11-12.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.W.11-12.9.A	Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics”).
LA.W.11-12.9.B	Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents] and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy [e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses]”).
LA.W.11-12.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes.

Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Climate Change; Informational and Media Literacy

see Crosswalks

21st Century Life and Careers

Stage I: Desired Results

Transfer/Overview/Rationale

Transfer / Overview / Rationale

Unit Rationale

The purpose of this unit...

Professional recording booths and recording studios for independent and/or commercial use demand structural design, creation and maintenance to effectively isolate and record sound waves at the highest quality.

Meaning

Essential Questions

Essential Questions

- Why is it important to isolate sound during studio recordings?
- When, why and how should we record instruments or sounds by capturing natural reverberation and ambient noise?
- How does the design, construction and materials of a recording booth affect the sound quality of recordings?
- How can you design and maintain a recording booth/studio to work at its fullest potential but still have the capability to implement future technological changes in the industry?
- Does sound quality of a recording really matter when a listener is hearing compressed quality of sound with today's listening devices and file sharing?

Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

- Recording Booth and Studio design and building are a vital part of the recording industry
- Specific construction materials are used in the construction of the recording booth
- Multiple uses of Recording Studios, Isolation Recording booths, Recording Rooms and Live Performances are fundamental
- Technical aspects of building their own music studio and recording booth are integral in professional audio engineering .
- Operating and troubleshooting Recording Booths and Recording Studios are imperative for the success of professional recordings and projects.

Acquisition (Student Learning Objectives)

Knowledge

Knowledge

Students will know...

- **Recording Booth Design and Structure:**
- **Soundproofing (What does it mean and why is it used?)**
- **“Block-aid”? (What is it? Why is used in soundproofing?)**
- **Acoustic Panels**
- **Bass Traps**
- **Acoustic Fabric**
- **Green Glue**
- **Sound Test and Sound Treatment**
- **Insulation / Fiberglass used to treat sound**
- **TRS/XLR combo connectors and wall plates**
- **Headphones connectors and wall plates**
- **Testing Connections / Audio Signals**
- **Routing outputs and inputs**
- **Wall / Floor / Ceiling / Corner sound treatment**
- **Window design / treatment**
- **Sound Absorption and Diffusion (Acoustic fabric, Studio foam, diffusors, bass traps)**
- **Standard Door vs. Solid-Core Door**
- **Ventilation**
- **Proper Cleaning and Maintenance**

Skills

Skills

Student will be skilled at ...

- **Connecting Hardware from the recording booth to hardware and software in a control room**
- **Assigning multiple analog inputs / outputs to a digital interface and recording booth**
- **Troubleshooting Technical issues with hardware and/or software**
- **Developing studio and recording booth designs;**
- **Adapting to diverse and changing technology environments through studio design**
- **Use of complex analog and digital audio systems inside and outside a recording studio**
- **Setting up and breaking down a mobile isolation booth in multiple locations**
- **Making your own acoustic panels**

Stage 3: Learning Plan

Resource and Mentor Texts

Resources and Mentor Texts

- Guest Speakers / Master Teachers
- FL Studio 12 (Software)
- Focusrite 6i6 Scarlett Audio Interface
- M-Audio Oxygen 25 MK3 Ignite
- Image-Line FL Studio Tutorials (Youtube Channel)
- The Pro Audio Files (theproaudiofiles.com) Online Blog
- Lynda.com (FL Studio 12)
- Allen and Heath Qu-32 Digital Console
- Auralex.com
- Acousticsfirst.com
- <http://ehomerecordingstudio.com/home-recording-studio-essentials/>
- <https://samcooknell.wordpress.com/2016/03/27/music-production-logbook-pre-production-planning/>
- <https://homestudiocorner.leadpages.net/production-club-61515/>

Formative Assessment Strategies

Formative Assessment Strategies

- Peer to Peer Live Recording / Composition Analysis
- Test/Quiz on software and hardware application
- Individual and group presentations
- Writing assessments

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

- Do Now--problem of the day related to previous learned skills or bellringers problems
- Review/Check Homework - (group check, partner check, whiteboard check)

- Lecture
- Work together to understand and practice the skill - partner work/larger group work to read lesson, and practice skills through “On Your Own” problems incorporated throughout each lesson
- Stations - (Small group instruction, skills practice)
- Review and practice skills using a variety of materials - (text, chromebook, games, activities, discussion)
- Class Discussions
- Guest Speaker/ Master teacher Presentations

Modifications and/or Accommodations

Suggested Modifications (ELL, Sp. Ed, Gifted, At-risk of Failure)

English Language Learners

Native language support: The teacher provides auditory or written content to students in their native language.

Adjusted Speech: The teacher changes speech patterns to increase student comprehension. This could include facing the students, paraphrasing, clearly indicating the most important ideas, and speaking more slowly.

Visuals: The teacher uses graphics, pictures, visuals, and manipulatives. This helps ELL students better understand and comprehend the subjects at hand.

Front-Loading Vocabulary: The teacher front loads vocabulary. This means providing students with a list of important vocabulary words they will need to know for a book, lesson, etc. prior to the lesson being taught. Including pictures to go with the vocabulary words is also very beneficial for the students.

Special Education Students

Chunking: The teacher presents information in a way that makes it easy for students to understand and remember. Chunking is based on the presumption that our working memory is easily overloaded by excessive detail. The best way to deliver information is to organize it into meaningful units. Because students with special needs get overloaded easily, chunking is an effective strategy to use with them.

Checking for Understanding: It is important to constantly check for understanding, especially for students who have accommodations. Teachers want to make sure students understand the concepts being covered in a way that makes sense to them.

Extra time: The teacher provides students with special needs extra time to complete work or answer questions. It is important to give students enough time to process their thoughts.

Oral Reading: The teacher will read work orally to students. Class work such as tests and literature circles may need to be read aloud to the student.

Timers: The teacher will use timers as an instructional tool. The use of timers is beneficial for students who have trouble completing tasks. Timers can be helpful so the student is aware of how much time they have to complete an assignment.

Students with 504 Plans

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Gifted & Talented Strategies

Extensions/Enrichments: Teachers will provide gifted and talented students with extension/enrichment projects. Students will be challenged to further their understanding, to apply acquired knowledge, and/or to produce something in reference to acquired knowledge.

Modify/Change Activities: Teachers will monitor and modify activities to accommodate those students who need to be challenged further. Additional reading, problem-solving, writing, or project work is necessary for those students who are ready to move on at a rate more accelerated than their peers. In this way, G & T students are provided the same opportunity for support as special needs students.

Students at Risk of School Failure

Directions or Instructions: Make sure directions and/or instructions are given in limited numbers. Give directions/instructions verbally and in simple written format. Ask students to repeat the instructions or directions to ensure understanding occurs. Check back with the student to ensure he/she hasn't forgotten.

Peer Support: Peers can help build confidence in other students by assisting in peer learning. Many teachers use the 'ask 3 before me' approach. This is fine, however, a student at risk may have to have a specific student or two to ask. Set this up for the student so he/she knows who to ask for

clarification before going to you.

Alternate or Modified Assignments: Always ask yourself, "How can I modify this assignment to ensure the students at risk are able to complete it?" Sometimes you'll simplify the task, reduce the length of the assignment or allow for a different mode of delivery. For instance, many students may hand something in, the at-risk student may jot notes and give you the information verbally. Or, it just may be that you will need to assign an alternate assignment.

Increase One to One Time: When other students are working, always touch base with your students at risk and find out if they're on track or needing some additional support. A few minutes here and there will go a long way to intervene as the need presents itself.

Contracts: It helps to have a working contract between you and your students at risk. This helps prioritize the tasks that need to be done and ensure completion happens. Each day write down what needs to be completed, as the tasks are done, provide a checkmark or happy face. The goal of using contracts is to eventually have the student come to you for completion sign-offs.

Hands On: As much as possible, think in concrete terms and provide hands-on tasks. This means a child doing math may require a calculator or counters. The child may need to tape record comprehension activities instead of writing them. A child may have to listen to a story being read instead of reading it him/herself.

Tests/Assessments: Tests can be done orally if need be. Break tests down in smaller increments by having a portion of the test in the morning, another portion after lunch and the final part the next day.

Seating: Seat students near a helping peer or with quick access to the teacher. Those with hearing or sight issues need to be close to the instruction which often means near the front.