

# Unit 04: Supernatural, Fate and Spiritual Themes in Film

Content Area: **Template**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **FY**  
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## Standards Alignment

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### New Jersey Student Learning Standards

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#### Capacities of the Literate Individual

#### Students Who are College and Career Ready in Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, & Language

They demonstrate independence.

They build strong content knowledge.

They respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.

They comprehend as well as critique.

They value evidence.

They use technology and digital media strategically and capably.

They come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

LA.RH.11-12

Reading History

Key Ideas and Details

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

LA.RH.11-12.1

Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to develop an understanding of the text as a whole.

LA.RH.11-12.2

Determine the theme, central ideas, information and/or perspective(s) presented in a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events, ideas

and/or author's perspective(s) develop over the course of the text.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R2	Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
LA.RH.11-12.3	Evaluate various perspectives for actions or events; determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R3	Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.
	Craft and Structure
LA.RH.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R4	Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R5	Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.
LA.RH.11-12.5	Analyze in detail how a complex primary source is structured, including how key sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text contribute to the whole.
LA.RH.11-12.6	Evaluate authors' differing perspectives on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6	Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7	Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
LA.RH.11-12.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R8	Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
LA.RH.11-12.8	Evaluate an author's claims, reasoning, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other sources.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R9	Analyze and reflect on how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.
LA.RH.11-12.9	Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.
	Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R10	Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.
LA.RH.11-12.10	By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 11-CCR text complexity band independently and proficiently.
LA.RST.11-12	Reading Science and Technical Subjects
LA.RST.11-12.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough evidence from the text to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to precise details for explanations or descriptions.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W	Writing
LA.RST.11-12.2	Determine the central ideas, themes, or conclusions of a text; summarize complex concepts, processes, or information presented in a text by paraphrasing them in simpler

but still accurate terms.

LA.RST.11-12.3

Follow precisely a complex multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks; analyze the specific results based on explanations in the text.

Text Types and Purposes

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.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.NJSLSA.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.

LA.RST.11-12.4

Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 11-12 texts and topics.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

LA.RST.11-12.5

Analyze how the text structures information or ideas into categories or hierarchies, demonstrating understanding of the information or ideas.

LA.RST.11-12.6

Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text, identifying important issues that remain unresolved.

Production and Distribution of Writing

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W5

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

LA.RST.11-12.7

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., quantitative data, video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem.

LA.RST.11-12.8

Evaluate the hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a science or technical text, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.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.RST.11-12.9

Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible.

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.RST.11-12.10

By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 11-CCR text complexity band independently and proficiently.

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.WHST.11-12.1	Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
LA.WHST.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 the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline appropriate form that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
LA.WHST.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.WHST.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.WHST.11-12.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.
LA.WHST.11-12.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.WHST.11-12.2.A	Introduce a topic and 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.WHST.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.WHST.11-12.2.C	Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
LA.WHST.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; convey a knowledgeable stance in a style that responds to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.
LA.WHST.11-12.2.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.
LA.WHST.11-12.3	(See note; not applicable as a separate requirement)
LA.WHST.11-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.11-12.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.WHST.11-12.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
LA.WHST.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.WHST.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 specific 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.

LA.WHST.11-12.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.WHST.11-12.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
VPA.1.1.12.D	Visual Art
VPA.1.1.12.D.1	Distinguish innovative applications of the elements of art and principles of design in visual artworks from diverse cultural perspectives and identify specific cross-cultural themes.
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.D	Visual Art
VPA.1.3.12.D.1	Synthesize the elements of art and principles of design in an original portfolio of two- and three-dimensional artworks that reflects personal style and a high degree of technical proficiency and expressivity.
VPA.1.3.12.D.2	Produce an original body of artwork in one or more art mediums that demonstrates mastery of visual literacy, methods, techniques, and cultural understanding.
VPA.1.3.12.D.3	Organize an exhibit of personal works of visual art that convey a high level of understanding of how the expression of ideas relates to the art media, art mediums, and techniques used.
VPA.1.3.12.D.5	Identify the styles and artistic processes used in the creation of culturally and historically diverse two- and three-dimensional artworks, and emulate those styles by creating an original body of work.
VPA.1.4.12	All students will demonstrate and apply an understanding of arts philosophies, judgment, and analysis to works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.12.A	Aesthetic Responses
VPA.1.4.12.A.1	Use contextual clues to differentiate between unique and common properties and to discern the cultural implications of works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.12.A.2	Speculate on the artist's intent, using discipline-specific arts terminology and citing embedded clues to substantiate the hypothesis.
VPA.1.4.12.A.3	Develop informed personal responses to an assortment of artworks across the four arts disciplines (dance, music, theatre, and visual art), using historical significance, craftsmanship, cultural context, and originality as criteria for assigning value to the works.
VPA.1.4.12.A.4	Evaluate how exposure to various cultures influences individual, emotional, intellectual, and kinesthetic responses to artwork.
VPA.1.4.12.B	Critique Methodologies
VPA.1.4.12.B.1	Formulate criteria for arts evaluation using the principles of positive critique and observation of the elements of art and principles of design, and use the criteria to evaluate works of dance, music, theatre, visual, and multimedia artwork from diverse cultural contexts and historical eras.
VPA.1.4.12.B.2	Evaluate how an artist's technical proficiency may affect the creation or presentation of a work of art, as well as how the context in which a work is performed or shown may impact perceptions of its significance/meaning.
VPA.1.4.12.B.3	Determine the role of art and art-making in a global society by analyzing the influence of technology on the visual, performing, and multimedia arts for consumers, creators, and

performers around the world.

## **Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

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CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

## **Technology / Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking**

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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.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.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.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.B.2	Evaluate ethical considerations regarding the sustainability of environmental resources that are used for the design, creation and maintenance of a chosen product.
TECH.8.2.12.B.3	Analyze ethical and unethical practices around intellectual property rights as influenced by human wants and/or needs.
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.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.6	Synthesize data, analyze trends and draw conclusions regarding the effect of a technology on the individual, society, or the environment and publish conclusions.
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.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: NJSL for ELA, Social Studies, Science and/or Math Section**

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## **Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Climate Change; Informational and Media Literacy New Section**

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see Crosswalks

## 21st Century Life and Careers

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### Stage I: Desired Results

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#### Transfer/Overview/Rationale

##### Transfer / Overview / Rationale

###### Unit Rationale

The purpose of this unit...

is for students to view, analyze, write and produce films with a specific content and/or technique in order to develop a director's understanding into a popular film genre.

#### Meaning

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#### Essential Questions

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##### Essential Questions

Why do audiences enjoy films that present and express the unknown, challenge faith or human beliefs and address the ancient concepts of spiritual phenomena?

What are different ways to present the supernatural in films?

What genres can be used to present supernatural plots?

#### Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

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## Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

These films have themes including gods or goddesses, ghosts, apparitions, spirits, miracles, and other similar ideas or depictions of extraordinary phenomena.

These films may be combined with other genres, including comedy, sci-fi, fantasy or horror.

These films can also be presented in a comical, whimsical, or a romantic fashion, and may not intended to frighten the audience.

These films also may be hybrids that have combinations of fear, fantasy, horror, romance and comedy.

## **Acquisition (Student Learning Objectives)**

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### **Knowledge**

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Knowledge  
Students will know...

Popular films contain the supernatural narrative about ghosts, unnatural beings or monsters, and aliens.

These antagonists are used not just to create suspenseful situations for the viewer and the main characters, but allow us to question the intent of the protagonist.

These films use heavily "spiritual" themes like loss, loved ones, fear, and grief allowing the viewer to identify with familiar human feelings.

## **Skills**

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### Skills

Student will be skilled at ...

Discussing, analyzing, writing, producing and developing theme, plot and character using camera shots and angles, props and locations, and the overall cinematographic intent of supernatural films.

## **Stage 3: Learning Plan**

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## **Resource and Mentor Texts**

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### Resources and Mentor Texts

Films by an individual director or several films on related genre

## **Formative Assessment Strategies**

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### Formative Assessment Strategies

Discussion of films

Script writing

Rough edits

Film critiques

## **Learning Activities/Unit of Study**

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### Learning Activities/Unit of Study

Watching films directed by a particular artist.

Discussing central theme of each film.

Writing an analytical essay about films.

Group production of films with related themes.

## **Modifications and/or Accommodations**

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### **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.