

Literacy Workstations

Workstations are designated areas in the classroom where students work alone or with a partner/group using instructional materials to explore, practice, and expand their learning. Workstations can provide an opportunity to assess students' mastery of different components within the same objective and establish a routine of differentiation for students with various instructional levels, interests, or learning styles. When workstations are managed effectively, students are aware of behavioral expectations and responsibilities.

- Identify the purpose of the student conference. This can be done by observation or asking open-ended questions relating to the academic or behavioral challenge of the student.
- Determine a schedule for conferences. Share the meeting time, location, and duration with students.
- Establish expectations for students who are conferencing. If you are meeting with multiple students at different times, setting behavior expectations for students as well as what they should be doing while they wait.
- Explain the purpose of the meeting to the student in advance of the conference. Each conference should have a clear plan and outcome that is individualized to the student's goals.
- Begin the conference with "Glows" and "Grows". Solicit student's perception on his or her area(s) of need.
- Assist students in identifying goals to address their area(s) of need and steps to reach those goals.
- Guide students to reflect on the process and newly defined goals for growth.
- Mobile Workstations can be a bucket, basket, folder, and/or envelope with the materials and activities inside. Students can simply move the container to their desk to work.