



# Planning for Instruction

**Introduction** This tutorial explains how to use OWL program materials to plan, instruct, and assess students.

**Instructional Framework** OWL’s instructional framework includes whole group, small group, and independent instruction every day.

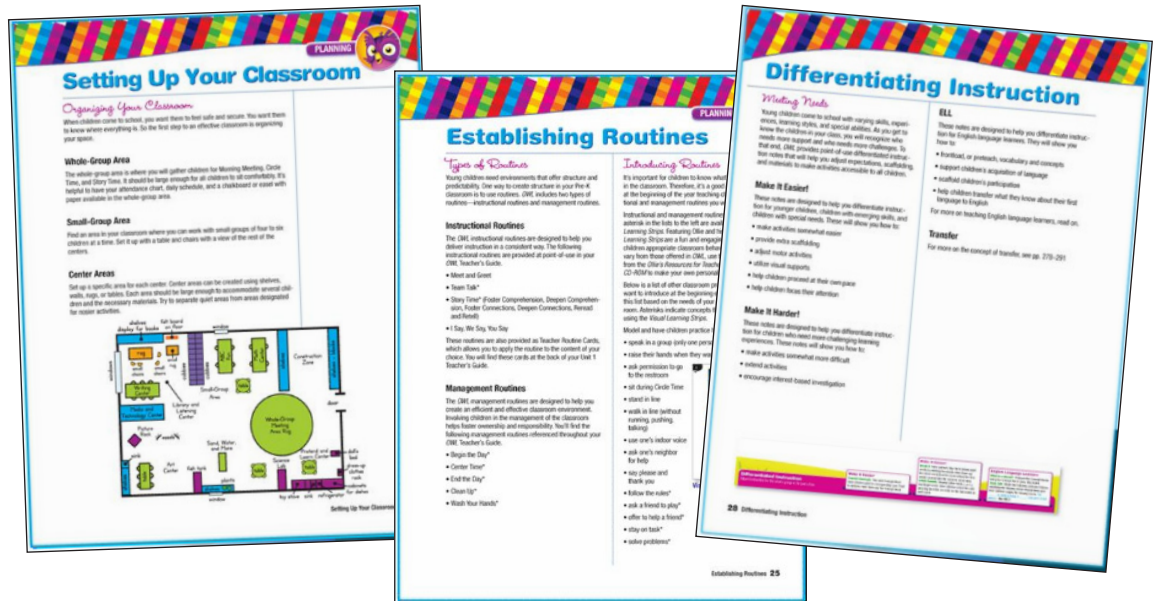
Use whole group instruction to introduce concepts, methods, and vocabulary during Circle Time. Circle Time is for literacy, science and social studies, and math.

Then, children engage in activities related to the concepts introduced in whole group instruction during Small Group lessons.

Finally, small group activities are incorporated into Center Time the following week, allowing children to explore concepts independently.

**Planning** Open the Teacher’s Guide to the week currently being taught.

Reference the Planning and Assessment Teacher’s Guide for ideas on how to set up the classroom, establish routines, and differentiate instruction.



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## Front Matter

Begin planning for a unit by reviewing the information on the Contents page in the front matter of the Unit Teacher's Guide. Find the literacy resources and instructional pages to use throughout the unit here.

At a glance, know what to assess with the Monitor Progress for Success Predictors page. Each week's Success Predictors for Kindergarten are broken down into phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, math, and oral vocabulary.

Also in the front matter is the Concept Development page. Use this to see how the concept connects throughout the unit. The Question of the Week, Concept Words, and Amazing Words are identified for each week.

For tips on how to set up purposeful play, reference the Let's Play page.

In addition, use the Center Time and Small Groups pages in the front matter for information on how to personalize a small group schedule.



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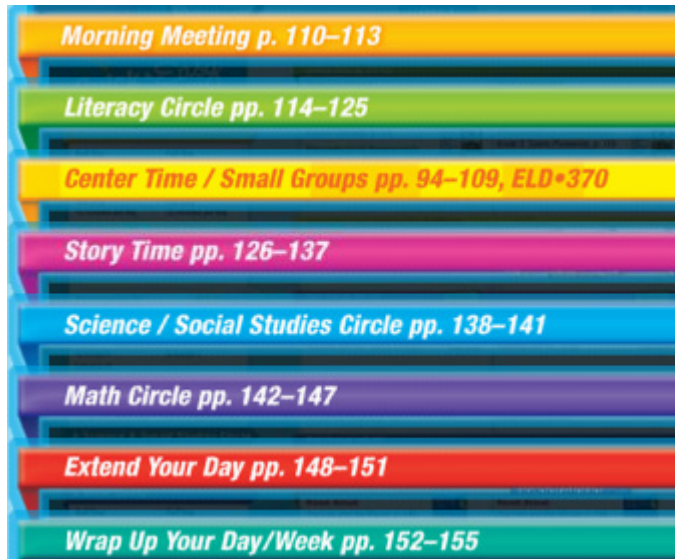
## Plan Your Week/ El plan de la semana

Start the week at the Plan Your Week or El plan de la semana pages.

The Quick and Easy Overview displays a daily schedule at a glance. Details are included for both half-day and full-day schedules, so teachers can choose the option that works best.

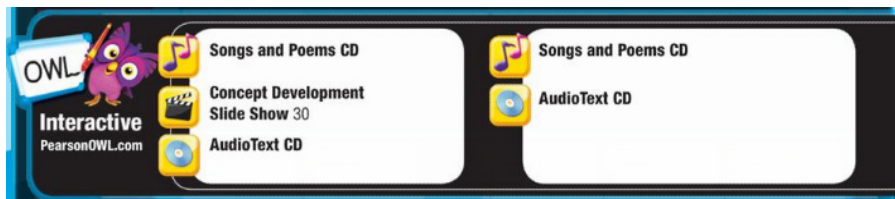
For detailed information about each day's instruction, reference the five-day overview. Each day is listed across the top of the chart.

Each part of daily instruction is broken down by lesson. The color of each lesson corresponds with the instructional pages for that section.



The Question of the Week is posted at the top of the page to easily identify the weekly concept.

The OWL Interactive resources, such as the AudioText and Songs and Poems CDs, are listed at the bottom of the page. Use these resources to integrate technology.



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## Instructing

Use the Set Up Your Centers pages to prepare the classroom for the upcoming week. There are more details about each center on the Center Time pages.

The Make Every Minute Count page includes tips on how to teach skills and reinforce concepts during transitions, meal time, and outdoor play. For example, reinforce science concepts during outdoor play by asking children to push a toy truck on various surfaces. Then ask them whether it was easier to move the truck on sand, dirt, or pavement.

On the Make Every Word Count page, find an overview of the Concept Words, Amazing Words, Story Words, and Academic Vocabulary that builds children's vocabulary throughout the week.

For information about small group lessons, refer to the Small Groups pages. Each lesson lists the materials needed, as well as a step-by-step lesson plan.

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## Assessing

Assessment resources are built into instruction: throughout the week, at the end of the week, and at the end of the unit.

Use the Success Predictors for Kindergarten boxes to monitor progress throughout the week. The If...Then statements provide ways to support children as they learn new skills, and Personalized Practice tips are also included.

**MONITOR PROGRESS** Success Predictor for Kindergarten

Show children one of the letters. We use this letter to write what sound?

**If...** a child cannot produce correct letter sounds,  
**then...** say the sound and have the child repeat.

**Personalized Practice** Use games such as “Change It” (pp. 118, 119) to provide practice with this skill over time.

On Day 5, end the week with a Wrap Up Your Week lesson. Review the Question of the Week and assess children’s understanding of the weekly concept as they play a review game.

Units 2, 4,6, and 8 end with a Review & Check Week. During this week, assess children’s performance on the concepts and vocabulary they learned during the two previous units of instruction.

For more information about assessment, including checklists and forms, be sure to reference the Assess & Check section in the Planning and Assessment Teacher’s Guide.

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## Review

This guide explained how to use OWL program materials to plan, instruct, and assess. Each day includes whole group, small group, and independent instruction.

Use the Planning and Assessment Teacher’s Guide for tips on how to set up the classroom, establish routines, and differentiate instruction. Refer to front matter resources in the Teacher’s Guide as to begin planning for a new unit.

Start each week by reviewing Plan Your Week. To plan for instruction, use the Make Every Minute Count and Set Up Your Centers pages. Also, follow the daily lesson plans to teach essential concepts, skills, and vocabulary for each strand.

Assess children’s progress with Monitor Progress boxes and the Review & Check Weeks.

To learn more about OWL, please visit the other tutorials on this Web site.