



Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Educator Newsletter - Fall 2025

SIM News

- Visit the [KU CRL Online store](#) to see all of the newly added [Content Enhancement Routines](#) and [Learning Strategies](#) materials available to you.
- The ***SLANT Strategy, Second Edition***, is available for free download in the [KU CRL Online Store](#).
- Look for CRL Co-Director, Jocelyn Washburn (breakout session), and SIM Professional Developer, Michael Kennedy (keynote session), at the [Virginia CEC Conference](#) Nov. 5-7, in Virginia Beach.
- Check out Episode 13 of *Sold a Story* by APM Reports: "[The List](#)" — [a powerful look into why many evidence-based reading programs don't make it onto EdReports, state-approved reading lists, or HQIM](#). ~ *If you're curious how SIM instructional tools fit into the bigger picture? [Discover how they align with other programs, strategies, and initiatives](#) to support effective instruction.*
- We wanted to let you know about [KU ScholarWorks](#), a repository for free downloadable research articles and resources.
- KU CRL Researchers are still looking to partner with a few more middle schools for the KU [APLM-WRITE grant project](#). Please email aplm@ku.edu if you know of anyone who might be interested.
- KU CRL Researchers are working with educators in Montana and Virginia this year on the [iSTAR Grant Project](#). Click the link to learn more.

FIND OUT MORE



SIM at School



My Xtreme Reading class is off and running! Here's a picture of their little book stacks I made for them as we start independent reading today!
~ Heather (IL)



sim.ku.edu



Get Credentialed

Have you attended a SIM professional development session recently or implemented the free SLANT Strategy in your classroom?

If so, you can get a professional learning credential for free to showcase your work.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Interested in Integrating SIM with Other Programs, Strategies, and Initiatives?

Visit our website for crosswalks, matrixes, and other resources.

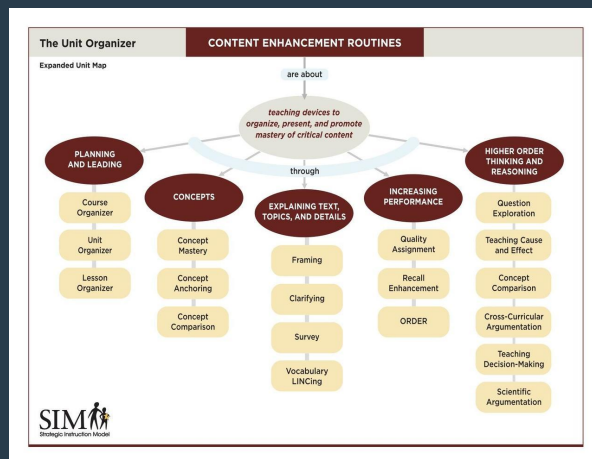
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Featured Article: Higher Order Thinking and Reasoning (HOTR) Graphic Organizers to Support Essay Writing

by Janis Bulgren, Ph.D., Research Professor Emerita

All HOTR graphic organizers (i.e., visual devices) lend themselves to supporting essay writing; these include Question Exploration, Cause and Effect, Decision Making, Cross Curricular Argumentation, Scientific Argumentation and Concept Comparison. When HOTRs are used ACROSS grade levels AND content areas, it provides students with multiple exposures and helps students to master different types of reasoning and leads to generalization of use of the embedded reasoning strategies associated with higher order reasoning.

[Read More](#)



SIM Content Enhancement Routines (CER)

Dynamic instructional tools that use teaching devices and procedures to plan for and teach critical content in an understandable, easy-to-learn manner. Teachers engage students collaboratively to develop understanding to maintain the integrity of the content while meeting both group and individual needs.

[Learn More](#)

