



The Strategic Instruction Model (SIM™) is a comprehensive approach to adolescent literacy, including an evidence-based set of instructional tools and interventions that empower teachers and enable students to better succeed in school and beyond. Strategic schools and teachers select instructional tools and interventions to meet student needs, and strategic students have options for matching an approach to a task.



“I enjoy the simplicity of implementing. Unlike other professional development that is not immediately applicable, I can immediately begin using the strategy with my students.”

For in-depth descriptions of
SIM instructional tools and
interventions, please visit
KUCRL's SIM website:

sim.ku.edu

“I find that the strategies
are extremely successful
and that students do
begin to take personal
responsibility for
the quality of their
schoolwork as a result
of implementing
the strategies.”



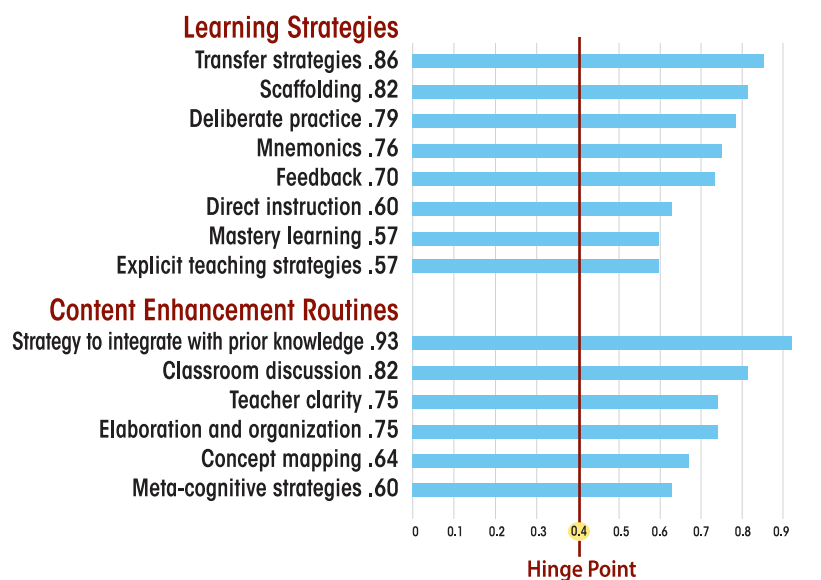
► Why teach with SIM?

Since 1978, researchers from The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning have partnered with classroom teachers to design SIM instructional tools, materials, and interventions. The research-based components of these tools have been tested and approved by teachers to become evidence-based practices effective in varied school and classroom contexts.

Evidence for ESSA, published by John Hopkins University, classifies SIM under a “strong” ESSA rating, which is given to instructional programs meeting scientific evidence of effectiveness as shown by well-designed and well-implemented experimental studies.

High-Leverage Practices for general educators (teachingworks.org) and High-Leverage Practices in Special Education (highleveragepractices.org) are interwoven into SIM, and SIM gives teachers actionable ways to implement these critical, research-based practices shown to improve student outcomes.

Hattie (2017) Effect Sizes* for Key Features of SIM Instructional Tools and Interventions



*Effect size is a quantitative measure of the magnitude of influence an experimental effect has on student outcomes. According to John Hattie, practices with effect sizes of $d > .40$ have a greater than average influence on achievement.

► How does SIM help teachers and students?

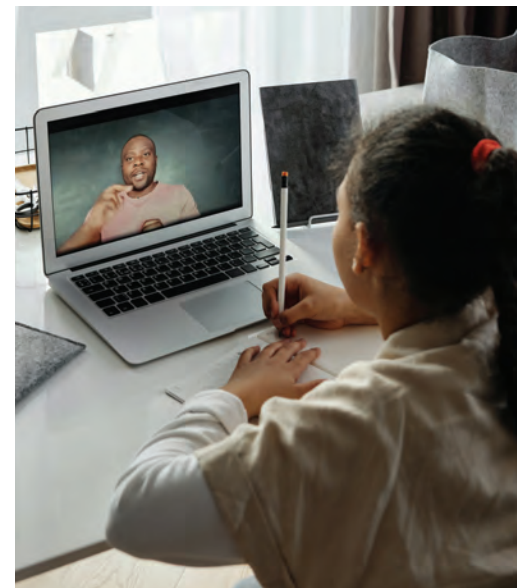
SIM provides solutions to educational challenges through a breadth and depth of instructional tools and interventions designed for adolescents in grades 4-12*. SIM includes an instructional planning cycle that promotes effective teaching and learning of critical content. In essence, we advocate teaching a little less content but teaching it better.

With SIM, the focus is on how to learn to develop literacy skills applicable across disciplines, settings, and tasks. Instructor manuals and accompanying student materials are available as physical and digital copies to offer flexible implementation in traditional face-to-face classes, online courses, and blended learning environments.

Recognizing that academic interventions alone are not sufficient for student success, SIM also includes components that help students create and participate in productive learning communities, develop strong and appropriate social skills, advocate for themselves, envision positive futures for themselves, and plan how to reach their goals.

**Some SIM Learning Strategies are widely-used with younger elementary-age students.*

Read about SIM success:
sim.ku.edu/these-are-their-stories

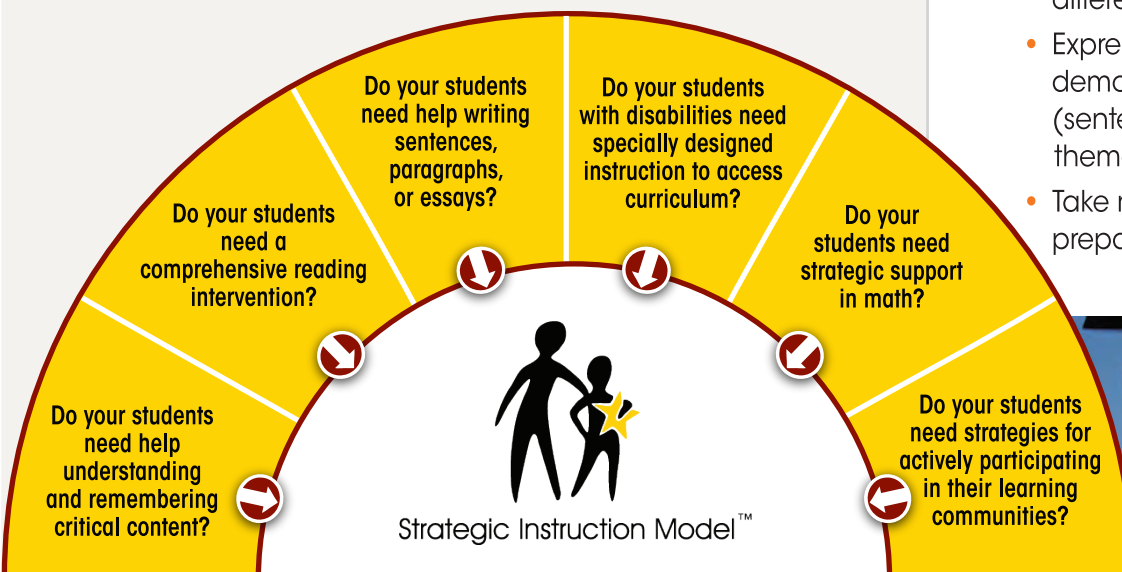


► Teachers use SIM to:

- Think about and organize content
- Teach complex concepts
- Help students learn independently
- Instruct with evidence-based practices

► Students use SIM to:

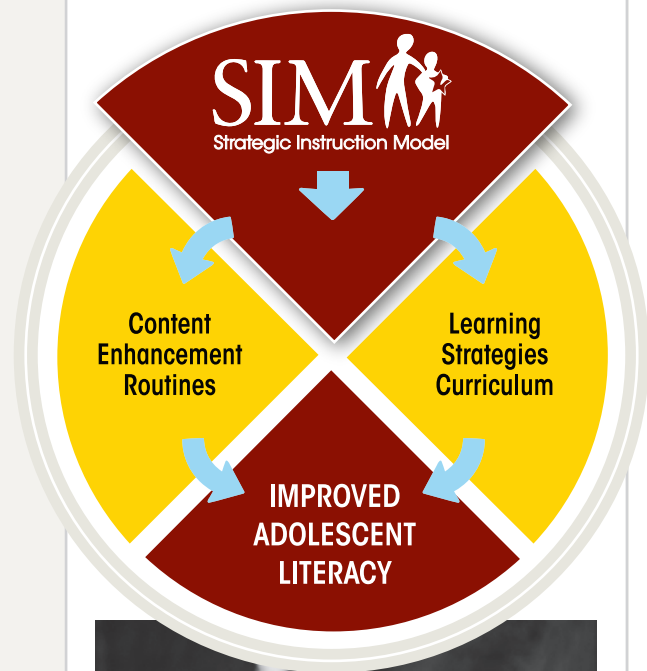
- Digest and retain critical information
- Picture information to aid in understanding and remembering
- Think actively while reading different kinds of texts
- Express ideas and demonstrate knowledge (sentences, paragraphs, themes, and essays)
- Take notes, study, and prepare for tests



► What does SIM include?

SIM includes two arms that work together to improve literacy: **Learning Strategies (LS)** and **Content Enhancement Routines (CER)**. Schools and teachers may implement a combination of LS and/or CER. SIM also includes two comprehensive reading programs, designed based on the science of reading: **Fusion Reading (FR)** and **Xtreme Reading (XR)**.

- **Content Enhancement Routines** are designed to help teachers think about, adapt, and present their critical content in a learner-friendly fashion. CERs use powerful teaching devices to organize and present course information so that all students can understand, remember, and apply their learning.
- **Learning Strategies** are designed to provide the skills and strategies students need to learn content. Each LS targets a specific skill that students need to succeed in school—from late elementary through college or university—and in their careers.
- **Fusion Reading** is a supplemental reading course designed for readers in grades 6-12 reading, minimally, at the low 3rd grade level and two or more years behind grade level, comprising eight foundational word-level, comprehension, and motivation strategies, each taught using direct, explicit instruction, and can be taught in one or two years.
- **Xtreme Reading** is a supplemental reading course designed for readers in grades 6-12 reading, minimally, at the 4th grade level and two or more years behind grade level, comprising eight foundational word-level, comprehension, and motivation strategies, each taught using direct, explicit instruction, and can be taught in one year.



Center for Research
on Learning

Adaptive, Supportive, and Comprehensive Professional Learning

KUCRL is committed to finding solutions to educational challenges and placing our research findings into the hands of practitioners, students, and researchers in the field. Our expansive network of dedicated professionals—the SIM International Professional Development Network—share our values and goals for delivering high-quality professional learning with a partnership approach to educators around the world. These experts offer professional development, instructional coaching, and technical assistance to establish the necessary infrastructure support for educators to implement evidence-based practices.

► Contact:

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