

TEACHER TIP

START SMALL AND GROW

GRADES 4 - 12

Overview

I am always reticent when I hear about a program or strategy that will raise student achievement. Quite frankly, it's usually a company that's trying to sell me something or it's an individual who doesn't work in classrooms. Yet, I am compelled to share with you why I think the LLC model works so well in so many contexts:

- Although there are suggested structures for the model, it's malleable. There are four foundational centers: teacher-led center, vocabulary, writer's craft and reading together. Depending on the content area, teachers can add even more centers.
- Each center has a clearly articulated activity that promotes student independence, provides practice, and develops skills and content knowledge.
- There are ample opportunities to integrate technology into the centers
- Students can work at their own level
- The teacher can work with small groups which creates the opportunity to effectively integrate formative assessment strategies and interventions.

I advise teachers to start small, adding a limited number of centers one day a week. Then, as students get comfortable with the procedures and teachers get comfortable with their new role as facilitator, add more. I promise, the results will be dramatic and positive!

Click here to view a great video of the LLC model in action in East St. Louis, IL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ljbuhCSVE8&feature=youtu.be>



In the past two years, I have worked with this school district to implement the model and increase student achievement – and we're succeeding.