

Practice-Based Approaches to Improving Teacher Education



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**Collaboration for Effective
Educator Development,
Accountability and Reform
(CEEDAR)**

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Today

- ✧ Discuss the importance of practice to improving teacher education
- ✧ Describe the key features of effective practice
- ✧ Discuss how high leverage practices can be used as a foundation for a practice-based approach
- ✧ Provide two examples of practice-based experiences

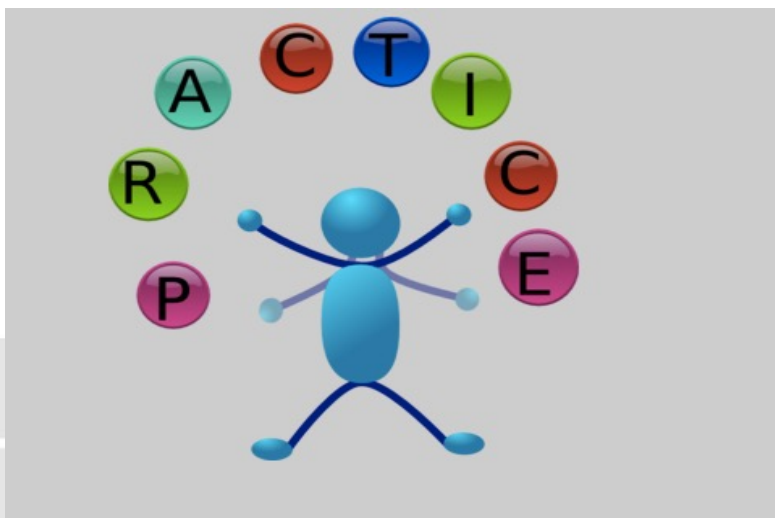
Implementing RTI

“To acquire the research-based knowledge and skills for implementing RTI, novice teachers must participate in initial preparation programs that enable them to acquire the knowledge and skill to participate successfully in RTI”.

Brownell, Chard, Benedict, and Lignugaris-Kraft,
in press

Acquisition of knowledge and skill

- ✧ Teachers need sufficient time to practice applying knowledge and skill in increasingly complex settings



Heterogeneous and coursework based nature of teacher preparation



Designing Effective Practice: The Science Of Learning



3 Overarching qualities



Duration



Cohesiveness

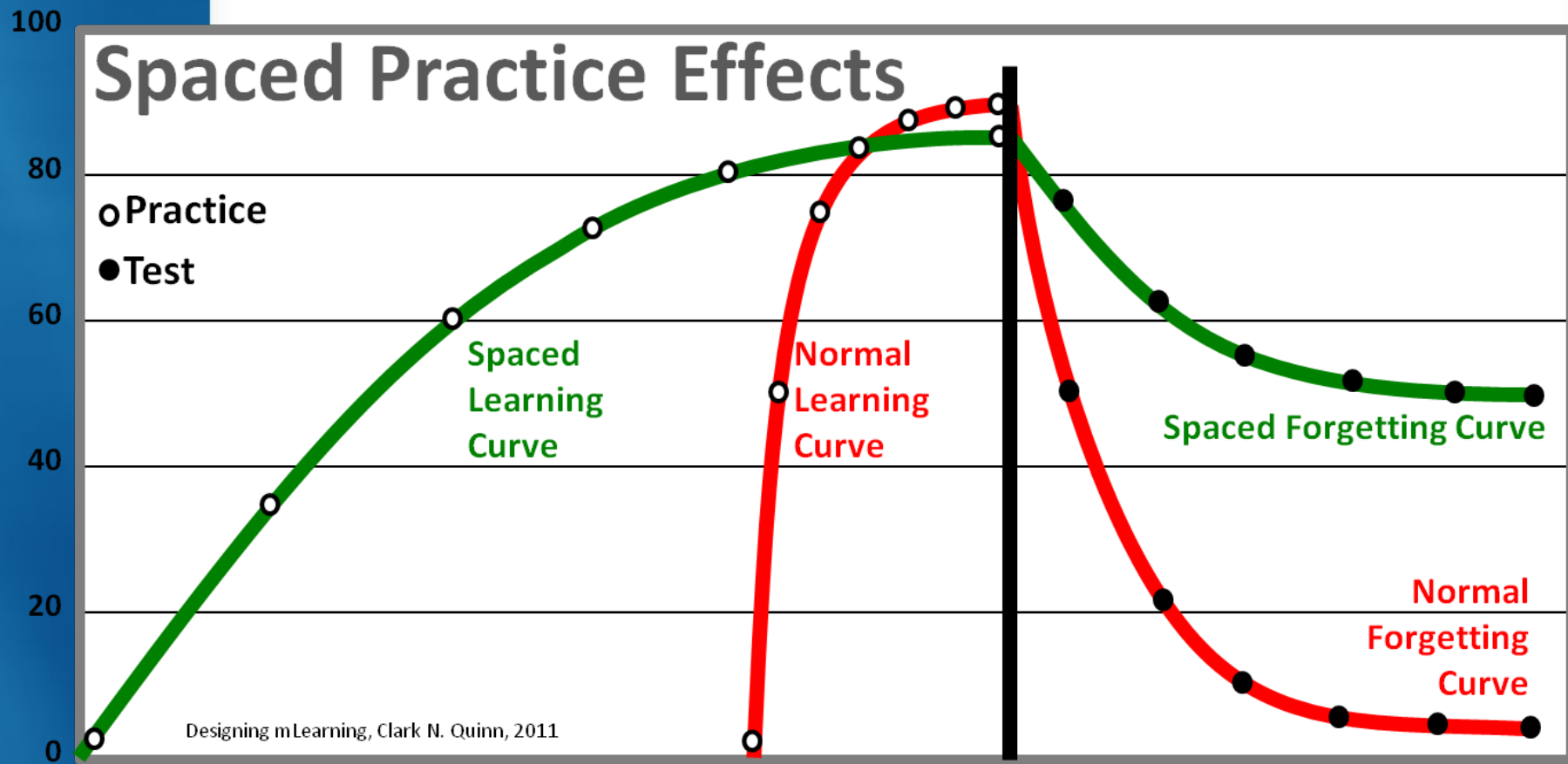


INDIVIDUAL QUALITIES

Modeling

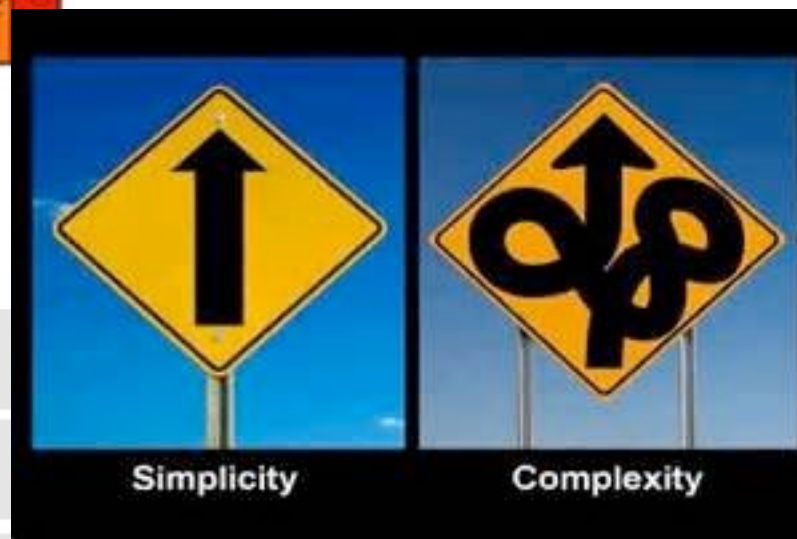


Spaced or Distributed



Varied or interleaved

Blocking vs interleaving



Coaching & feedback



Analysis & reflection



CEEDAR tool



Focus



Focus on what?

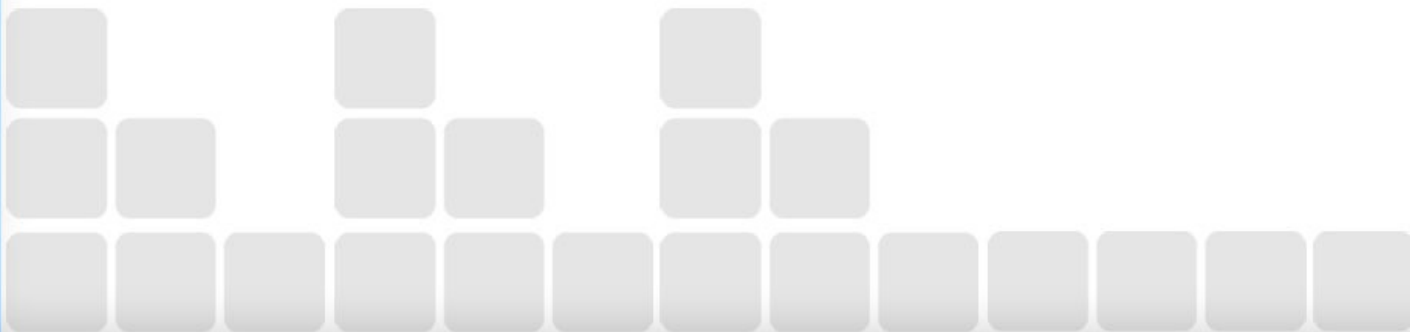
- ✧ Current practice—focus on everything
- ✧ Learning to use complex practices is often left to chance

Also focus on

- ✧ A limited number of complex teaching practices
- ✧ Core curriculum for teacher education programs

What practices?

- ✧ Effective in improving student outcomes
- ✧ Used frequently by teachers
- ✧ Broadly applicable across content areas
- ✧ Fundamental to effective teaching



What other practices?

- ✧ Limited in number (about 20)
- ✧ Novices can learn to use the practice
- ✧ Can be taught during preparation program

Goal

✧ Produce a teacher with a foundation of critical skills when entering the classroom

High Leverage Practices

- ✧ CEC HLPs for K-12 SPE teachers
- ✧ Grouped into four areas
 - Collaboration
 - Assessment
 - Instruction
 - Social/Behavior

More Examples of HLPs

✧ Collaboration

- Collaborate with other professionals to improve student success

✧ Assessment

- Use assessment data, analyze instructional practices, and make necessary adjustments that improve student outcomes

Examples of HLPs

✧ Social/Behavior

- Conduct FBAs to develop individual student behavior support plans

✧ Instruction

- Use explicit instruction
- Use flexible grouping

More information

- ✧ McLeskey, J. & Brownell, M. (2015). *High leverage practices and teacher preparation in special education* (Document No. PR-1).
- ✧ Retrieved from [The CEEDAR Center Website](#)
- ✧ [Contact: mcleskey@coe.ufl.edu](mailto:mcleskey@coe.ufl.edu)