

Introduction to The Depth & Complexity Framework for Elementary Teachers (Grades 3-5)

Presenter: Sunny Bonnacarrere

The Depth & Complexity Framework is the most widely-used differentiation technique in the country. Used in hundreds of thousands of classrooms, it provides teachers with concrete tools they can use to elicit high-level thinking and raise the learning bar for all students. Join an elementary practitioner and learn how Depth & Complexity and the Icons are the solution to creating appropriately differentiated learning experiences and prompting students to think like professionals.

Introduction to The Depth & Complexity Framework for the Primary Elementary Grades (Grades K-2) *Presenter: Katherine Solomon*

The common misconception that Depth & Complexity is too abstract or challenging for the youngest elementary students often prevents Kindergarten-2nd grade teachers from implementing the Framework. In this session, a practitioner that has used Depth & Complexity with 5-8 year olds for over 15 years will share her low-prep, fun methods for introducing the Icons. Strategies for helping primary students internalize and understand the concepts embedded in the Icons and the other parts of the Framework will be shared. Browse sample lessons aligned to primary content and feel confident that you can begin using Depth & Complexity the following week in your classroom.

Introduction to The Depth & Complexity Framework for Secondary Teachers

Presenter: Dr. Carrie Simpson

Secondary teachers face several challenges when it comes to introducing and using Depth & Complexity with their students. Join a secondary practitioner, speaking secondary teacher language, to explore the best strategies for introducing and using the Depth & Complexity Icons with middle and high school students. Leave this session ready to incorporate Depth & Complexity right away.

Depth & Complexity: The Icing on the Core Curriculum (All Grade Levels)

Presenter: Kim Tredick

Depth & Complexity is the most versatile thinking framework. It enhances learning in all content areas, and can easily be added and aligned to the core curriculum in a couple of steps. In this session, we'll practice ways to embed Depth & Complexity on a daily basis into lessons and activities without creating additional work. Let Depth & Complexity serve as the "icing" on your curriculum, giving it new flavor as you seamlessly differentiate and make learning more exciting for students. Samples will be shared from different content areas and grade levels.

Analyzing Novels through the Lenses of Depth & Complexity (Secondary Teachers)

Presenter: Daniel Brillhart

Participants will learn a multitude of ways that Depth & Complexity enriches thinking about literature. Several common novels will be discussed and time will be allotted so participants can layer Depth & Complexity with novels they read and use with students. Strategies and exciting ways to prompt students to analyze various aspects of literature through the lenses of Depth & Complexity will be shared.

Across Disciplines (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Parker Tredick*

Believe it or not, when Depth & Complexity was being developed in the 1980s, the primary focus was on interdisciplinarity. The creators staunchly believed that educators need not isolate content instruction, but instead should deliver a free-flowing, cohesive instructional day where different disciplines' content standards were taught concurrently. This session places a magnifying glass on the Across Disciplines Icon, providing attendees with strategies to incorporate Universal Concepts as the bridge to teach multiple topics simultaneously - while highlighting natural connections to other Icons.

Match, Match, Defend (Grades K-6) *Presenter: Brittney Varao*

How can we check students' understanding in a fast and fun way? Match, Match, Defend! Students are given a set of phrases from a familiar text and a stack of Depth & Complexity Icons. They work in teams to match each phrase to an icon and explain their thinking in a 1-minute flipped video. Want to up the ante? Give them more icons than phrases and force a match!

Unanswered Questions: What is Unknown and May Stay That Way! (All Grade Levels)

Presenter: Parker Tredick

The Unanswered Questions Depth & Complexity Iconic Prompt is frequently understated. When implemented effectively, it elicits arguably the highest levels of thinking compared to the other Icons. Unfortunately, Unanswered Questions is often employed as a means for students to ask any question, or to ask a question they don't know the answer to but want to discover. While those may be acceptable techniques for introducing the Icon, the power of this prompt lies in the curiosity and puzzlement of those questions that are truly unknown - and may not have a clear answer. Take an in-depth look at Unanswered Questions in this session and learn strategies for harnessing its full power.

The Depth & Complexity Math Challenge (Grades 3-8) *Presenter: Daniel Brillhart*

The Depth & Complexity Framework and the Icons are used less in Math than any other content area. Many educators believe the perceived dichotomy between the objectivity of math and the subjectivity of Depth & Complexity precludes them from incorporating the Framework into math instruction. In this session, we'll explore "how to" and examine the value of adding Depth & Complexity to any math lesson. Participants will choose math content they currently teach, and Icons will be added live time, by a practitioner expert (along with other attendees) to differentiate and create more robust math lessons. Time will be provided for participants to infuse Depth & Complexity into one or two math lessons/activities they currently teach.

Depth & Complexity Graphic Organizers (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Misty Lewin & Amy Smith*

Using the Depth & Complexity Icons as Graphic Organizers is not a new practice. It helps students internalize the concepts embedded within the Icons and creates meaningful products. We've combed through 3 decades of Graphic Organizer archives, and turned to current expert teachers to provide the most widely-used, effective Depth & Complexity organizers. In this session, you will explore exciting and meaningful ways to use a number of Graphic Organizers to differentiate and empower critical thinking for your students.

Complex Tiered and Differentiated Questions with Depth & Complexity (Grades 3-12)

Presenter: Marcy Voss

Questions embedded with Depth & Complexity Icons often lack challenge and highlight basic thinking skills. Learn how to climb the D & C Questioning Ladder through the addition of critical thinking skills and iconic combinations. Several samples will be provided and participants will have opportunities to create questions related to their own content with the Q4 Depth & Complexity Question Creator Software. Empower students to develop their own challenging questions that spark curiosity and exhibit an in-depth understanding of content.

Ethics and Multiple Perspectives: More Interwoven Than Ever (All Grade Levels)

Presenter: Dr. Carrie Simpson

While expert perspectives may be based primarily on facts, perspectives are also guided by ethics. Through the examination of dilemmas, prejudices, and controversies, multiple differing perspectives are formulated relating to one singular topic. With ethics and morals being debated frequently in our society, the process by which students prioritize, judge and empathize with different perspectives is vital to the learning process. Understanding how and why ethics are developed and valued provides unique perspectives in any area of study. These varied and broad analyses guide students towards higher-level thinking skills.

Details and Big Idea: Like Peanut Butter and Jelly (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Parker Tredick*

Arguably the Details and Big Idea Icon naturally work together better than any other Iconic combination within The Depth & Complexity Framework. Interestingly enough, both are often misused or underutilized. Students may fall into the trap of identifying EVERY detail within a topic of study, instead of focusing on the most valuable and relevant ones. The Big Idea should be a statement, not just represented by one word. And the Big Idea Icon is meant to represent an overarching concept, or broad generalization - it's not just numerous minor themes within a topic of study. Through the analysis of true meanings behind these Icons, they become increasingly significant and more powerful. As students evaluate, justify and prove their Big Idea, how they collect, sequence, and determine the most crucial supporting details is of paramount importance.

Language of the Discipline - So Much More! (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Daniel Brillhart*

The Language of the Discipline Icon is vital to the Depth & Complexity Framework. It's so much more than just vocabulary and words disciplinarians use. Take a closer look at the Language of the Discipline icon in this session. Learn why and how it's a foundational Icon, and practice ways to implement it into your content. Examine natural combinations with other Icons and focus students towards learning in similar ways to disciplinarians.

Over Time: Simple Idea, Powerful Concept (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Misty Lewin & Amy Smith*

Over Time, also known as Change Over Time, is one of the three Depth & Complexity Icons of Complexity. It pairs seamlessly with almost all of the other Icons, allowing learners to investigate concepts as they relate to time. There is intrinsic value in evaluating and understanding how and why things change, or don't change over time - allowing individuals and societies to learn from mistakes and build on successes. History is being made every day, and asking students to predict the future based on past and present occurrences prompts them to consider how rules, perspective, and ethics have impacted change over time. This sessions highlights and explores proven ways for students to make connections over time, and why delving into past, present, and future is so beneficial in the learning process.

Rules: Analyzing, Making, and Breaking Them! (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Katherine Solomon*

Oh Rules - the Icon teachers love to employ at the beginning of school to set classroom expectations, and, well....Rules! While that is an excellent strategy for introducing the Rules Icon to students, it's time to dive into its broader meaning. Rules are related to structure, methods, and typical/accepted action or behavior. There are implicit and explicit rules in nearly everything. Spend time dissecting this powerful Icon and see how "breaking the rules" prompts creative and critical thinking.

Patterns and Trends (All Grade Levels) *Presenter: Kim Tredick*

Patterns is one of the most popular and widely implemented Depth & Complexity Icons. Trends is one of the two that is least used (along with Across Disciplines). Yet, these Icons have many similarities. Explore both of these Iconic prompts in detail, and see how their relationship with one another - and using them in combination, can push students toward deep thinking. Content-specific samples will be provided along with time to align both Icons to something you teach.

Iconic Response: Critical Thinking in Motion *Presenter: Brittney Varao*

Students love to move! Research shows that children hold onto what they learn when the brain associates a movement with the material. These four fun-filled strategies will feel like a game, but the learning is undeniable. Join me as we take on the role of students justifying our thoughts through the Icons of Depth & Complexity.

SESSION #	TIME	SESSION TITLE
SESSION 1	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	
	<i>15 min. break</i>	
SESSION 2	10:15 AM – 11:15 AM	
	<i>15 min. break</i>	
SESSION 3	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	

BREAKOUT SESSION

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. CST

1

- Introduction to The Depth & Complexity Framework for Elementary Teachers (Grades 3-5) *Sunny Bonnacarrere*
- Introduction to The Depth & Complexity Framework for the Primary Elementary Grades (Grades K-2) *Katherine Solomon*
- Introduction to The Depth & Complexity Framework for Secondary Teachers *Dr. Carrie Simpson*
- Depth & Complexity: The Icing on the Core Curriculum (All Grade Levels) *Kim Tredick*
- Analyzing Novels through the Lenses of Depth & Complexity (Secondary Teachers) *Daniel Brillhart*
- Across Disciplines (All Grade Levels) *Parker Tredick*

BREAKOUT SESSION

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. CST

2

- Match, Match, Defend (Grades K-6) *Brittney Varao*
- Unanswered Questions: What is Unknown and May Stay That Way! (All Grade Levels) *Parker Tredick*
- The Depth & Complexity Math Challenge (Grades 3-8) *Daniel Brillhart*
- Depth & Complexity Graphic Organizers (All Grade Levels) *Misty Lewin & Amy Smith*
- Complex Tiered and Differentiated Questions with Depth & Complexity (Grades 3-12) *Marcy Voss*
- Ethics and Multiple Perspectives: More Interwoven Than Ever (All Grade Levels) *Dr. Carrie Simpson*

BREAKOUT SESSION

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CST

3

- Details and Big Idea: Like Peanut Butter and Jelly (All Grade Levels) *Parker Tredick*
- Language of the Discipline - So Much More! (All Grade Levels) *Daniel Brillhart*
- Over Time: Simple Idea, Powerful Concept (All Grade Levels) *Misty Lewin & Amy Smith*
- Rules: Analyzing, Making, and Breaking Them! (All Grade Levels) *Katherine Solomon*
- Patterns and Trends (All Grade Levels) *Kim Tredick*
- Iconic Response: Critical Thinking in Motion *Brittany Varao*

OUR PRESENTERS

Sunny Bonnacarrere began her career as an educator in 2005. She has taught all elementary grade levels as a classroom teacher and gifted specialist. She currently works as an Instructional Technology Specialist in Round Rock ISD. Sunny joined J Taylor Education's Depth & Complexity consulting team a few years ago and has quickly become one of its most requested trainers. Her practical and relatable presentation techniques are popular with teachers as they discover numerous ways to implement Depth & Complexity into instructional practices right away.

Daniel Brillhart is the 2016 TAGT Educator of the Gifted. He has taught a wide range of subjects across all levels, primary and secondary, during his 30 year career. Currently, Daniel serves as the GT Specialist for his campus and on district GT leadership committees. Daniel has presented on Depth & Complexity at the campus, district, state, and national level. He utilizes the Depth & Complexity Framework in his classroom daily.

Brittney Varao is the Gifted and EL Coordinator at the Nye County School District in Nevada. She previously a Gifted Education Program Specialist in the Clark County School District. Brittney has over 20 years experience in education teaching 2nd - 5th grades, and highly gifted K-12. She currently develops and presents professional learning opportunities for staff and educators in her district and throughout the country. Brittney has been a Depth & Complexity practitioner for over eight years, joining the J Taylor and Center for Depth & Complexity consulting team in 2019.

Katherine Solomon currently teaches at a STEM elementary school in the Saugus Union School District (CA). She has been a Depth and Complexity trainer since 2006, primarily focusing on best practices for integrating Depth and Complexity to differentiate at the elementary level. Katherine is The Center for Depth and Complexity's expert and lead trainer working with Primary Elementary (K-2) educators. Her classroom-proven lessons, activities, and strategies she uses to incorporate Depth and Complexity with 5-8 year old students makes her one of the The Center's most requested consultant trainers.

Misty Lewin is an Honors Graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and served as an inspirational speaker at the graduation ceremonies. Mrs. Lewin has thrived in the field of education for 20 years. She served as a Director for 8 years in private education and has taught in the public education classroom for 12 years as a Kindergarten Teacher, 1st grade Teacher, and Gifted and Talented Teacher. Mrs. Lewin was Teacher of the Year for her campus and was named Frisco ISD Teacher of the Year in 2019. She has had the honor of presenting for staff across the Frisco Independent School District and is proud to have presented for TAGT at giftED20. Mrs. Lewin is a fierce fan of Depth & Complexity and is thrilled to share exciting new ideas with all of you!

Marcy Voss recently retired after 36 years in public education. During her career, she coordinated Gifted and Special Programs in several districts, as well as served on the Commissioner's Gifted and Talented Advisory Council and the TAGT Board. Marcy currently serves as Facilitator for the TAGT Emerging Leaders Program in addition to working as an ELL Coach, curriculum writer, and staff development trainer. She is also the parent of three gifted children.

OUR PRESENTERS

Dr. Carrie Simpson has made a career of understanding, researching, and utilizing differentiated instruction as part of the foundation for teaching. Her work in the field of gifted education, followed by curriculum development and teacher training in the field of special needs brought her to one steadfast understanding: differentiation is paramount to student success. Currently, Dr. Simpson continues to hone her skills in the craft of differentiation by teaching Humanities courses for Austin Community College, working with the ACC ECHS programs, and through online instruction for the University of Texas at Dallas' Teacher Development Center, teaching courses on Differentiation for Diverse Student Populations. The Depth & Complexity Framework is a significant part of her work and reinforces her beliefs that potent bursts of excellent instruction help us meet student needs.

Kim Tredick is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services in the Castaic School District in Southern California. She has served as lead curriculum writer for J Taylor Education since 2006 and has been using Depth & Complexity for three decades as a teacher, principal, and district administrator. In 2006, she was awarded the Milken National Educator award for her work with differentiation. Kim is the author of the best-selling Differentiation Smart Reference Guide, which is used in over 30,000 classrooms. As one of the original participating educators during the first PD rollout of Depth & Complexity in the 1990s, Kim provides teachers with practical, best practices for using all the components of the D & C Framework.

Parker Tredick has been a Depth & Complexity consultant for J Taylor Education since 2019. He began his teaching career at the Middle School level in Southern California. Parker recently moved to Oklahoma and is a biology teacher at Broken Arrow Freshman Academy. He has been instrumental in helping J Taylor create its Depth & Complexity Video Library, which will launch in February 2021.

Amy Smith currently serves as the Elementary Gifted and Talented Lead Teacher for Frisco Independent School District. Amy has been an educator for 24 years, currently in her 17th year as a Gifted and Talented Teacher in FISD. She also acts as a Professional Learning Presenter for her department, collaborating with fellow educators and acting as an advocate for the learners she interacts with daily. She feels it imperative to foster the unique characteristics and cognitive skills of gifted learners and is constantly amazed by their profound abilities. Amy has been a practitioner of the Depth & Complexity framework for 7 years. She has quickly become a popular trainer for The Center for Depth & Complexity, providing educators with classroom-proven, exciting ways for teachers to differentiate learning opportunities for their students.