

# The Behaviorist Approach to Lesson Planning: Skill Development

The behaviorist approach to lesson planning asks teachers to begin with objectives or standards in mind before designing a lesson that will help achieve those ends.

**Learning Aims:** Teachers will be able to understand the theory behind the behaviorist approach to lesson planning in order to write a learning objective and create a lesson plan based off the Hunter framework.

## Key Teaching Points

- \* Theoretical Framework
- \* Behavioral Objectives using Audience, Behavior, Conditions, and Degree (ABCD) format
- \* Hunter seven-step lesson plan
  - Anticipatory Set
  - Objective and Purpose
  - Input/Direct Instruction
  - Modeling
  - Check for Understanding
  - Guided Practice
  - Independent Practice
  - Closure and Evaluation
- \* Objective-Based Assessment

## Teaching Ideas

**Anticipatory Set** Post the words “Guiding Students to the Desired Outcome” for teachers to respond to. Ask teachers to brainstorm a list of questions that relate to the phrase on the board. Over the course of teaching the Behaviorist approach to lesson planning, come back to the questions generated by the teachers as they relate to the instruction.

**Creating Objectives** Following the “I Do, We Do, You Do” model, walk teachers through the creation of ABCD objectives. Have teachers practice by writing multiple objectives that correspond with content area objectives of their choice.

## Deeper Dive

- \* Haston, W. (2007). Teacher modeling as an effective teaching strategy. *Music Educators Journal*, 93(4), 26-30.
- \* Chase, C. C., & Klahr, D. (2017). Invention versus direct instruction: For some content, it’s a tie. *Journal of Science and Technology*, 26(6), 582-596.

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