

Unbound2024: Leading Through the Five Stages of Curriculum Implementation for Student Success

Note Catcher

Session Objectives

- Understand technical versus adaptive challenges
- Explore the Five Stages of Curriculum Implementation
- Learn practical strategies for navigating technical and adaptive challenges at each stage
- Learn how UnboundEd’s Curriculum Services supports effective implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM)

Introduction

Reflection: Where are you in your implementation process? Are you considering adopting a new curriculum, currently implementing a curriculum, or looking to refine implementation?

Understand Technical Versus Adaptive Challenges

Technical Challenges	Adaptive Challenges

Identify each descriptor as technical or adaptive.

1. Easy to identify	Technical or Adaptive
2. Difficult to identify	Technical or Adaptive
3. Require change in numerous places	Technical or Adaptive
4. Can often be solved by an expert	Technical or Adaptive
5. People with the problem do the work of solving it	Technical or Adaptive

Explore the Five Stages of Curriculum Implementation

Stage	Non-Use	Awareness	Mechanical	Routine	Proficient
Definition	Practitioners are not implementing the curriculum because they may not know about it or actively or passively resist it.	Practitioners know about the curriculum and are not resistant to it, but they aren't implementing it. Often, this is because they are unclear on how to implement it.	Practitioners start to implement the curriculum, but they often feel awkward because they must remember a lot of new information to change their practice.	Practitioners start to become comfortable with aspects of the curriculum. They may implement it in a structured, quick, and easy-to-remember way, but they are hesitant to move beyond that use.	Practitioners have a deep understanding of the curriculum and how to modify it to provide personalized support.
Notes					

Adapted from Knight, J. (2021). *Moving from Talk to Action in Professional Learning*. ASCD, <https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/moving-from-talk-to-action-in-professional-learning> and National Implementation Research Network (2020). *Implementation Stages Planning Tool*. Chapel Hill, NC: National Implementation Research Network, FPG Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Navigating Technical and Adaptive Challenges at Each Stage

Stage	Non-Use	Awareness	Mechanical	Routine	Proficient
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Technical Change					
Adaptive Change					

Reflection: Where is your school or district with implementation? Why do you believe you are at this stage?

Call to Action

- Reflect on your current stage of implementation and your learning today.
- Choose one technical and one adaptive change you would make to progress to the next stage of implementation.
- Identify the individuals to include in your curriculum implementation journey.