

School Rollout Kit How to Introduce PK-3 Teach Lead Grow to Your Team



Thank you for your interest in PK-3 Teach Lead Grow! As you know, this platform provides comprehensive, on-demand professional development for teachers of the earliest grade levels. Before your teachers can take advantage of the platform, they should understand why and how it provides value to their classrooms and careers.

This resource will guide you through introducing PK-3 Teach Lead Grow to your team, including how to answer frequently asked questions and suggestions for encouraging them to continue engaging with the videos and resources.



How to Introduce PK-3 Teach Lead Grow to Your School

All teachers' needs are different. Before you dive into each teacher's individual professional learning priorities, you can get your team on the same page by walking them through the site, assessing their understanding of the <u>Danielson Framework for Teaching</u> and encouraging them to keep watching the videos. Use the following checklist as a guide to introducing PK-3 Teach Lead Grow to your school. You can print this guide and check off the boxes as you complete each step.



Step 1: Assemble Your Team to Debut PK-3 Teach Lead Grow

Here are some suggestions for debuting the platform to your team:

- Introduce PK-3 Teach Lead Grow at your regular staff meeting or announce it in a newsletter.
- **Gather teachers into professional learning communities**, organized by grade level/teams. You may also want to set aside time to coach new or struggling teachers individually.



Step 2: Answer Frequently Asked Questions

Your teachers will likely have some questions about the platform. Here are some suggested talking points to help you answer those questions.

- What is PK-3 Teach Lead Grow? It is a video library and toolbox, organized around the Danielson Framework, that provides the professional development and evaluation resources PK-3 teachers, principals and school leaders need to be effective early childhood educators.
- Why was it created? It was created because when students receive high-quality education from skilled teachers in their earliest years, they're set up for future academic and life success. When teachers receive effective guidance from principals and teacher leaders in the field, they're better equipped to provide high-quality educational experience.
- Who are the teachers and leaders in these videos? The teachers and leaders in the learning modules all lead highly effective classrooms in Illinois and Michigan. They are all experienced teachers and leaders, and they each provide unique expertise in what makes an effective early childhood classroom.
- How many videos should I watch? You should watch as many videos as you are interested in, and be sure to discuss them with peers and your school principal. The platform was created for continuous engagement so you can plan for, teach toward, reflect on, and apply best practices in your classroom.
- How can I access PK-3 Teach Lead Grow? It is accessible at www.pk3teachleadgrow.org anytime, anywhere and can be used at your own pace. All you have to do is create a user account to get access to all of the learning modules.

Step 3: Explain How the Danielson Framework Informs PK-3 Teach Lead Grow

- **Point teachers to our resources on the** <u>Danielson Framework for Teaching</u>. PK-3 Teach Lead Grow is aligned with Danielson Framework for Teaching clusters with developmentally appropriate practice.
- Encourage teachers to download the Look and Listen Guide, which breaks down how each video topic aligns with the Danielson Framework.

Step 4: Tell Them How to Navigate the Website

When introducing the platform to your teachers, you may want to lead a meeting where you project your computer screen and lead teachers through each page of the site.

- Visit the <u>About: Using the Site</u> page. On this page, walk them through the Planning, Teaching, Reflecting and Applying teaching cycle that integrates each domain of the Framework for Teaching.
- Walk them through the <u>video roadmap</u>. This roadmap identifies which modules teachers should complete throughout the Plan, Teach, Reflect, and Apply teaching cycle.
- Introduce them to the video classrooms and <u>educators</u>. On the <u>Learning Modules</u> page, walk them through each type of learning module. On the <u>Meet the Teachers and Leaders</u> page, they can get to know highly effective early educators they'll be learning from.
- Show them the <u>Teaching and Leading Toolbox</u>. If teachers are interested in a particular Early Learning cluster or would like to learn about additional early childhood instructional resources or research, they can find more information in the Teaching and Leading Toolbox.

Step 5: Encourage Regular Use of the Platform

Engaging regularly with PK-3 Teach Lead Grow will not only help you streamline your evaluation process, but will give teachers clearer direction on research-based, developmentally appropriate best practices for their classrooms. Some ideas for encouraging your team to use PK-3 Teach Lead Grow regularly include:

- Host a monthly roundtable lunch where teachers can discuss what they've learned from videos. They may also want to discuss their feedback and answers from the Look and Listen Guide.
- Create a collaborative chart where teachers can share what they are leaning and implementing from the videos.
- **Start an email newsletter** where you share a piece of information from one of the videos every week, encouraging teachers to think critically about a specific topic.
- Schedule one-on-one check-ins with teachers who are particularly interested or struggling with concepts in a specific module.
- **Pair teachers for peer observations** where they can observe and reflect on other teachers' instruction styles, and how they compare to best practices shown in the learning modules.



