

Utilizing *The Dock for Learning* as Teacher Preparation for the School Year

COVID-19 may have caused the cancellation of large gatherings of teachers, but it hasn't cancelled the creative abilities of teachers to adapt to new circumstances and prepare in other ways. We offer the following content as one option for teachers, principals, and school boards to consider when planning for teacher orientation in their schools and communities.

Since many teachers had planned to take several days or a week to attend an event, we suggest that teachers dedicate several days in their own communities to preparation for the school year. The Dock (<https://thedockforlearning.org>) offers thousands of recordings and documents that could provide a starting point for teacher orientation. The lists on the following pages offer some of the best content in various categories.

We encourage teachers to take a group approach to this preparation. Teachers prepare best in collaboration, and the conversation that happens in a group is one of the significant benefits of a large gathering. While this year it may not be possible to gather with hundreds of other teachers, smaller groups could gather and reap many of the same rewards. Perhaps all the teachers from a school could gather for one or two days of focused preparation. If it is not possible to gather with teachers from the same school, perhaps teachers who live in the same geographic area could gather. Groups could plan to eat lunch together to maximize the benefit.

School boards who planned to send their teachers to an event could ask their teachers to devote several days to this sort of development. A school board or principal could enable that gathering by identifying a place and time, or by providing lunch or supper for the teaching staff.

Whether the teacher listens to content alone or with a group, there are ways to maximize the learning that occurs. Here are some ideas to try after listening to a session:

- Think together about ways in which you're already applying the teaching strategies described.
- Talk about ways you could strengthen your practices and methods.
- Choose one or two new things you're going to try.
- Choose a core subject (math, reading, etc.) you're going to focus on teaching extra well this year.

We offer this suggested schedule as a starting point for groups to plan their time together.

Sample Daily Schedule

All Teachers Together

Listen to one segment of a multi-session series

- Give time for discussion
- Series to Consider:
 - Becoming an Effective Teacher (Anthony Hurst)
 - Texts for Teachers (Steven Brubaker)
 - Biblical Integration (Daniel Rutt)
 - Series options in the lists below are marked with an asterisk*.

Breakout 1

Split into grade level groups to watch or listen.

- Choose content from Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary/Middle School, or High School

All Teachers Together

Discuss the content experienced so far.

- What are your take-aways and applications?
- What are your lingering questions?
Listen Together
- Consider listening to a presentation on Learning Difficulties, Class Culture, or Classroom Management.

Eat a meal together.

New and less experienced teachers could round out their preparation by listening to at least one presentation from each of the following categories: learning difficulties, classroom management, and class culture. In addition, they should take in as much content as possible from the most relevant grade level section to their teaching position. The grade level sections below are Lower Elementary (Grades 1-3), Upper Elementary/Middle School (Grades 4-8), and High School (Grades 9-12).

Besides learning about methods of teaching core subjects such as math and reading at their grade level, new teachers also need to spend time thinking more generally about how to plan lessons and assess the learning of students. The shaded section in the New Teachers category provides videos and lesson plan templates to help teachers start thinking about these important topics.

The lists below include more content than any school could hope to cover in a few days of teacher orientation. In addition, these are only some of the resources available on The Dock. In many cases, related items are listed on the page for each item; those related items may offer additional help in a given area.

We hope that this material will assist teachers in their preparation for the school year ahead. We pray that God will bless the efforts of school boards, principals, and teachers as they engage in the challenging work of this year!

Preparation for New Teachers--General

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Anthony Hurst | *Becoming An Effective Teacher | Audio 4 sessions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/becoming-an-effective-teacher-understanding-your-role/ 2. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/becoming-an-effective-teacher-fulfilling-the-expectations/ 3. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/becoming-an-effective-teacher-developing-proper-relationships/ 4. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/becoming-an-effective-teacher-managing-the-demands/ |
| Steven Brubaker | *Texts for Teachers | Audio 4 sessions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/texts-for-teachers-i-will-build-my-church/ 2. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/texts-for-teachers-you-shall-love-the-lord-you-shall-love-your-neighbor/ 3. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/texts-for-teachers-the-lord-is-one-the-earth-is-the-lords/ 4. https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/texts-for-teachers-the-fear-of-the-lord-is-the-beginning-of-wisdom/ |
| Jonas Sauder | Essential Personal Qualities of Teachers | Audio 1 hour 24 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/essential-personal-qualities-of-teachers-jonas-sauder/ |
| Deana Swanson | Incorporating Good Books into any curriculum | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/incorporating-good-books-into-any-curriculum-%c2%96-deana-swanson/ |
| Paul Harrison | Start with Simple: Tips to Make the First Year Less Stressful | Video 5 Minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/start-with-simple-tips-to-make-the-first-year-less-stressful/ |

Preparation for New Teachers—Lesson Planning and Assessment

The items below will help new teachers start to think about the vital topics of planning lessons and assessing the learning of students. Some of the documents are templates that can be edited.

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Peter Goertzen | What do Teachers Do? Focusing Your Lessons with Objectives | Video 6 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/what-do-teachers-do-focusing-your-lessons-with-objectives/ |
| Rolin Martin | The 4 Ms of Effective Objectives | Video 15 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/the-4-ms-of-effective-objectives/ |
| Brian J. Martin | More than a Grade: Assessment as a Teaching Tool | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/more-than-a-grade-assessment-as-a-teaching-tool/ |
| Betty Yoder | Help for the Beginners and the Experienced | Document for new teacher orientation 25 pages | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/help-for-beginners-and-the-experienced/ |
| Jonas Sauder | Basic Lesson Plan Template | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/basic-lesson-plan-template/ |
| Arlene Birt | Introduction to Teaching Master Document (includes lesson plan template) | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/intro-to-teaching-master-document/ |

General Interest for Experienced Teachers

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Daniel Rutt | *Biblical Integration | Audio 30-40 minutes each session | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/gods-story-in-education/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/telling-gods-story-in-education/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/calling-students-to-embrace-gods-story/ |
| Daniel Rutt | Biblical Integration Summary | Video 2 clips 5-6 minutes each | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/lighting-the-way-scripture-in-our-classrooms/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/more-than-bible-facts-gods-wisdom-in-our-classrooms/ |
| Kyle Lehman | *Swords to Ploughshares: Knowledge to Wisdom | Audio 30-40 minutes per session 4 sessions | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/swords-to-ploughshares-knowledge-to-wisdom-session-1-kyle-lehman/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/swords-to-ploughshares-knowledge-to-wisdom-session-2-kyle-lehman/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/swords-to-ploughshares-knowledge-to-wisdom-session-3-kyle-lehman/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/swords-to-ploughshares-knowledge-to-wisdom-session-4-kyle-lehman/ |
| Gerald Miller | *A History of Christian Education | Audio 1 hour per session 4 sessions | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/a-history-of-christian-education-part-1-gerald-miller/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/a-history-of-christian-education-part-2-gerald-miller/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/a-history-of-christian-education-part-3-gerald-miller/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/a-history-of-christian-education-part-4-gerald-miller/ |
| Sharon Martin | Called to Teach | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/called-to-teach-sharon-martin/ |
| Sheldon Kauffman | Peaceful Classrooms | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/peaceful-classrooms-what-are-the-ingredients-why-do-they-matter/ |
| Howard Bean | 40 Things I've Learned in 40 Years of Teaching | Audio 1 hour 24 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/40-things-i-learned-in-40-years-of-teaching-howard-bean/ |

Content for Lower Elementary Teachers

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Carolyn Martin | Welcome to First Grade Part 1-2 | Audio 1 hour per session | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/welcome-to-first-grade-part-1-carolyn-martin/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/welcome-to-first-grade-part-2-carolyn-martin/ |
| Verlin Miller | Teaching Elementary Math | Audio 50 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/teaching-elementary-math/ |
| Glenda Miller Ruth Anna Kuhns | The Exciting Journey: Guiding Your Class to Successful Reading | Video 12 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/the-exciting-journey-guiding-your-class-to-successful-reading/ |
| Ruth Anna Kuhns | Making Elementary Math Come Alive | Video 2 clips 2-3 minutes each | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/making-elementary-math-come-alive-reenreks-and-read-alouds/ |
| Yvonne King | Show Them, Tell Them; Techniques to Share the Story of the Bible | Video 3 clips 6-10 minutes each | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/show-them-tell-them-techniques-to-communicate-the-stories-of-the-bible/ |
| Becky Bollinger | Sing, Chant, Learn: Making Memorization Easier with Songs and Chants | Video 8 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/sing-chant-learn-making-memorization-easier-with-songs-and-chants/ |
| Martha Stoltzfus & Karen Yoder | Helping Struggling Readers | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/helping-struggling-readers/ |
| Marla Bear | Children Thrive on Routines: The Power of Rhythms for Individualized Classrooms | Video 8 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/children-thrive-on-routines-the-power-of-rhythms-for-individualized-classrooms/ |
| Yvonne King | Responding to the Challenge: Teaching Lower Elementary | Video 6 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/responding-to-the-challenge-teaching-lower-elementary/ |
| Yvonne King | 10 Resources for Elementary Math Review | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/series/elementary-math-fact-review/ |

Content for Upper Elementary/Middle School Teachers

Content for Upper Elementary/Middle School Teachers

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sharon Yoder | 3 Components for a Successful Reading Class | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/3-components-for-a-successful-reading-class/ |
| Sharon Yoder | Teaching Fictional Elements in the Reading Class | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/teaching-fictional-elements-in-the-reading-class/ |
| Jonas Sauder | Developing Levels of Reading Comprehension | Audio 2 hours 14 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/developing-levels-of-reading-comprehension-jonas-sauder/ |
| Jonas Sauder | Speaking Skills Across the Curriculum | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/developing-speaking-skills-across-the-curriculum-jonas-sauder/ |
| Amy Zimmerman | Making Your Curriculum Work For You | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/making-your-curriculum-work-for-you-amy-zimmerman/ |
| Melvin Lehman | Teaching Math | Audio 1 hour 40 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/teaching-math/ |
| Bethany Peachey | STAR in Reading | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/remember-to-star-honing-communication-skills-in-reading-class/ |
| Rebecca Beiler | Turn and Learn | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/turn-and-learn-engaging-every-student-with-turn-and-tell/ |
| Denise Martin | Ways to Call on Students | Video 4 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/to-keep-their-attention-keep-moving-ways-to-call-on-students/ |
| Amy Zimmerman | Too Long, Too Hard: Making Your Curriculum Work for Your Class | Video 6 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/too-long-too-hard-making-your-curriculum-work-for-your-class/ |

Content for High School Teachers

Content for High School Teachers

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sharon Martin | Conquering Subjectivity in Assessments | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/girls-and-math-how-going-beyond-the-rules-helps-students-engage-with-math/ |
| Dana Atkinson | The Hills and the Valleys: Geology from a Young Earth Perspective | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/the-hills-and-valleys/ |
| Dana Atkinson | Astronomical Adventure: Is Orion's Belt a Waste of Space? | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/astronomical-adventure/ |
| Rolin Martin | Girls and Math: How Going Beyond the Rules Helps Students Engage with Math | Video 9 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/girls-and-math-how-going-beyond-the-rules-helps-students-engage-with-math/ |
| Peter Goertzen | Teaching Church History | Video 5 minutes Linked Resources | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/to-better-serve-god-with-his-people-teaching-church-history/ |
| Peter Goertzen | World Cultures and Geography | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/why-we-teach-world-cultures-and-geography/ |
| Sharon Martin | Rubrics | Video 3 minutes Document: 3 sample rubrics | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/how-do-i-assess-subjective-projects-rubrics-for-creative-writing/ |
| Brian J. Martin | Now They Know: Why and How to Differentiate Instruction | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/why-and-how-you-can-differentiate-instructions/ |

If your subject areas are not listed here, you may want to browse the Dock further.

Content on Learning Difficulties

Content on Learning Difficulties

| Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lynell Nissley | A series of blog posts that should be read first to give an overview to this complex topic. Dyslexia is a common disability that teachers will encounter, so special attention could be given to these blog posts. | Blog Post | Evaluations for Special Education History and Frequency of Special Education Myths about Dyslexia Specific Learning Disabilities The World of the Exceptional Learner What is Dyslexia? |
| Anthony Hurst | ADHD | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/the-adhd-question-anthony-hurst/ |
| Becky Bollinger | Dyslexia: Signs, Symptoms, and Solutions | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/dyslexia-signs-symptoms-and-solutions/ |
| Becky Sue Kreider | Trauma: How Can I Teach This Child? | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/trauma-how-can-i-teach-this-child/ |
| Deana Swanson | Accommodating Special Needs in the Classroom | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/accomodating-special-needs-in-the-classroom/ |
| Hannah Johnson | Memory | Video 8 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/learning-the-right-brain-way-visual-strategies-to-help-students-remember/ |
| Wesley King | Coping with RAD | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/coping-with-reactive-attachment-disorder/ |
| Lynell Nissley | Resources to Consider | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/bibliography-of-resources-for-learning-disabilities/ |

Content on Developing Class Culture

| Content on Developing Class Culture | Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Anthony Hurst | Components of Classroom Culture | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/components-of-classroom-culture/ |
| | Jeremy and Diana Sauder | Improving Communication with Your Students (2-part series) | Audio 1 hour each | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/improving-communication-with-your-students-part-1-%c2%96-jeremy-diana-sauder/ https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/improving-communication-with-your-students-part-2-%c2%96-jeremy-diana-sauder/ |
| | Melvin Lehman | Authority in Action | Audio 50 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/authority-in-action-melvin-lehman/ |
| | Sheldon Kauffman | Peaceful Classrooms Excerpt | Audio 7 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/is-your-classroom-a-place-of-peace/ |
| | John Mark Kuhns | Relationships with Students | Video 4 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/its-not-about-me-evaluating-relationships-with-students/ |
| | Joseph Shantz | Enjoying School, Delighting in God: Classroom Culture | Video 5 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/what-kind-of-classroom-culture-do-you-want/ |

Content on Classroom Management

| Content on Classroom Management | Speaker | Title | Format | Link |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Conrad Smucker | Managing a Multi-Grade Classroom | Audio 50 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/procedures-for-managing-a-multi-grade-classroom/ |
| | Howard Bean | Discipline: Preventive and Corrective (Grades 3-up) | Audio 1 hour | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/discipline-preventive-and-corrective-grades-3-and-up-%c2%96-howard-bean/ |
| | Brian Martin | Setting Up Your Classroom to Enhance Student Learning | Video 4 minutes | https://thedockforlearning.org/audiovideo/setting-up-your-classroom-to-enhance-student-learning/ |
| | Karen Nolt | Sample Classroom Procedures (5 th grade) | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/sample-classroom-procedures/ |
| | Regina Martin | Classroom Management Plan (Grades 1-3) | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/classroom-management-plan-for-lower-elementary/ |
| Amy Zimmerman | Code of Conduct | Document | https://thedockforlearning.org/contributions/code-of-conduct/ | |