

*How does **TEAMS** enhance interdisciplinary teaching?*

The **TEAMS Learning Activities Guides** link the four core subject areas around unifying themes. The themes for sixth grade are: *Transitions, Caring, Identities, Conflict Resolution*. Seventh grade themes are: *Institutions, Interdependence, Wellness, Social Structures*.

TEAMS teachers develop curriculum maps during initial training to coordinate their subject curricula with the unit themes. Teachers then use **TEAMS** weekly planning templates and collaborative strategies to coordinate topics and skills to be covered.

*How will **TEAMS** enhance the use of technology?*

The **TEAMS Learning Activities Guides** include detailed software correlations for a wide variety of educational software. Teachers can easily incorporate effective software into their lesson plans. And the learning station format provides the necessary classroom environment to enable all students to be productively engaged with a limited number of computers. The computers become an important component of instruction rather than a distraction from whole group learning.

What kind of results can you expect?

TEAMS has been field tested in several middle schools with positive results. Evaluation reports show that students and teachers had positive attitudes toward school and learning, ability to work cooperatively in groups was enhanced, and test scores improved significantly over time.

How can you get started?

Contact the Institute for School Innovation to order materials and schedule training at your site. You can also visit our web site at www.ifsio.org for more information and to contact us on-line.

“Our TEAMS students are gaining valuable experience in becoming independent learners, ready for success when they reach high school.”

—Paul Dyal, Principal,
Taylor County Middle School, Perry, FL

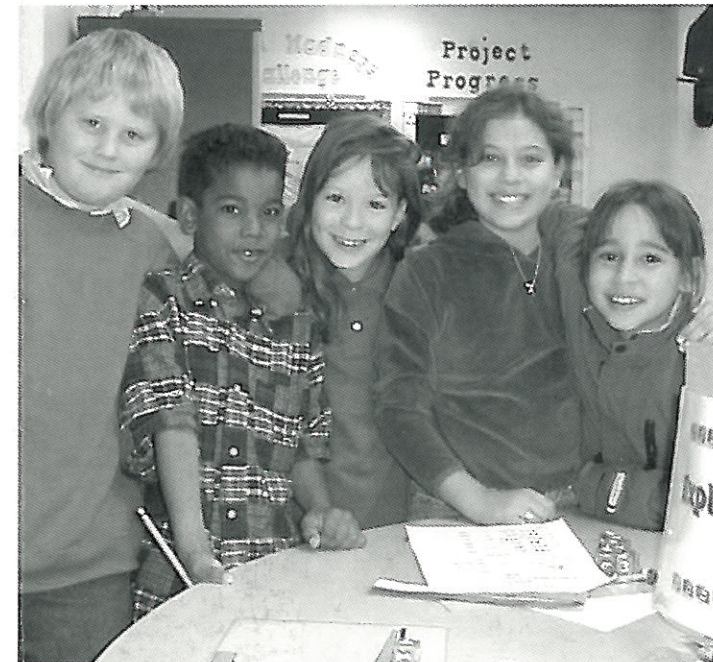


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Grades 6-7

- ... integrates computers throughout an interdisciplinary instructional model.*
- ... enhances your curriculum through active learning.*



How does it work?

TEAMS integrates instructional technology, interdisciplinary instruction, and active learning into the middle school curriculum. It builds upon the foundation laid by the middle school movement to make schooling more meaningful and relevant for the early adolescent child.

A **TEAMS** team consists of core teachers in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. A common group of students is assigned to the team, rotating among the four classrooms throughout the day.

*What does a **TEAMS** classroom look like?*

A **TEAMS** classroom is set up with four stations to accommodate multiple ways of learning a particular skill or concept. There is a *Computer Station* for technology-based learning, a *Textbook Station* for written work, a *Challenge Station* for learning in a game-like format, and an *Exploration Station* for hands-on activities.

After whole group instruction, students work collaboratively at the various stations, while the teacher circulates to provide guidance and support. A **TEAMS** rotation is usually a two-week process involving one or two days of whole group instruction, five or six days of station work, followed by two days of whole group review, reflection, and assessment.

What materials are included?

TEAMS materials include a *Teacher's Manual* to introduce teachers to the **TEAMS** system, as well as how to effectively manage an active-learning classroom. An *Administrator's Guide* helps the principal provide leadership and support.

Each teacher also receives a subject area *Learning Activities Guide* for ideas on coordinating interdisciplinary lessons across the curriculum, as well as planning appropriate station activities correlated to specific skills and concepts. The guides also include station activity templates and reproducible task cards to supplement teacher-developed station activities.

Student materials include *Work Logs* that students use to set goals, record their activities at the various learning stations, and assess their progress. Parents use the *Work Logs* to stay informed.



*Is software included with the **TEAMS** materials?*

No, you will use your own software. The **TEAMS Learning Activities Guides** include software correlations for numerous titles from major publishers in Windows and Macintosh formats.

*How many computers are needed to implement **TEAMS**?*

We recommend at least 4 computers per classroom.

What kind of training is required?

The Institute for School Innovation provides extensive training and on-site coaching throughout the first year of implementation. Follow-up coaching is also strongly advised.

- Implementation training – 3 day workshop (scheduled during the summer prior to implementation)
- On-site coaching – 1 day visit (scheduled 4-6 weeks after implementation begins)
- On-site coaching – 1 day visit (scheduled 9-12 weeks after implementation begins)
- Follow-up training – 1 day workshop (scheduled prior to beginning second semester)
- On-site coaching – 1 day visit (scheduled 6-8 weeks after follow up workshop)