

Teacher desk/work area

- The teacher desk is the initial base for the teacher, however this can also be converted into an individual student conference area to address issues or assess students one-on-one.
- While literacy centers are occurring, students that have finished can individually have their work checked, or inquire about questions they have.
- Individual students that need more in depth instructions or further guidance can be grouped around the work area while other students are focused on literacy stations.
- “Teachers accommodate individual student needs in literacy instruction increasingly by using progress monitoring, screening, diagnostic, and outcomes assessment...” (Morrow & Gambrell, 2011); individual conferences concerning this matter can be conducted by the teacher’s desk.

Student desks/tables

- From experience I feel that it is good to have students paired in fours on group desks, rather than have them sit individually on their own desk. Having more than four students in a group can cause more talking, distraction, and less participation.
- The student desks/tables can also turn into the literacy stations; the desks are spread out just enough which provide a good walk/work flow around the classroom.
- These stations can also be the math centers when math instruction is occurring.

Literacy Center (technology center)

- This station counts as the research and accelerated reader station. Students can print their projects, research for the other subjects, and find information on the web. This can also be used as the auditory center for students with disabilities who need to hear words or text instead of visually seeing them.

Small group teaching area

- This area can be used for mini-lessons or small group instructions, or independent writing projects. As stated in Morrow & Gambrell (2011), “...small-group differentiated reading instruction is a time to focus instruction directly on student reading skill and strategy development rather than focusing on appreciating and discussing high-quality literature.”

Whole group teaching area

- Centered around the smart board, the teacher is able to give whole group instructions before directing students to the next lessons or centers. This is also where the teacher can introduce the 5-block schedule where students can thereafter group together. “...the five-block schedule is divided into five clearly defined instructional time and activity blocks.” (Morrow & Gambrell, 2011).

Sink wash-station

- Students are able to use this area for science experiments or art projects; this can also be used for creativity being applied to subjects such as math, social studies, and literacy projects.

Classroom Library

- The teacher can perform read-alouds and introduce mini-lessons, and summarize a presentation on new word learning or vocabulary introduction.
- Students can use the library for independent reading or shared reading.