

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning

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A Detailed Overview of The Teaching Decision-Making Routine, by Janis Bulgren, Ph.D. Research Professor, Emerita



The *Teaching Decision-Making Routine* is a guidebook of instructional methods that teachers can use to help students engage in reasoning. Although “reasoning” has many definitions, it is used here to identify an issue, options that could respond to the issue, ranking those options, considering other options, and making and explaining that decision. This routine provides teachers with ways to help students make good decisions in many different areas of

life. It is part of the SIM Higher Order Thinking and Reasoning (HOTR) routines. [Click here to read the full article](#)

**Images Created with Adobe Express AI*

SIM News

- Researchers at the CRL are supporting the launch of Kansas’ Blueprint for Literacy initiative. They are conducting a needs assessment with a representative sample of schools about their literacy instruction as well as validating educator tools for use with structured literacy efforts. This initial research will be shared with forthcoming statewide literacy centers. - [Read more in the Lawrence Times](#)



- Due to new KU guidelines, we are required to change the pricing structure for KU CRL products. Please look for new (increased) pricing and order forms in January.

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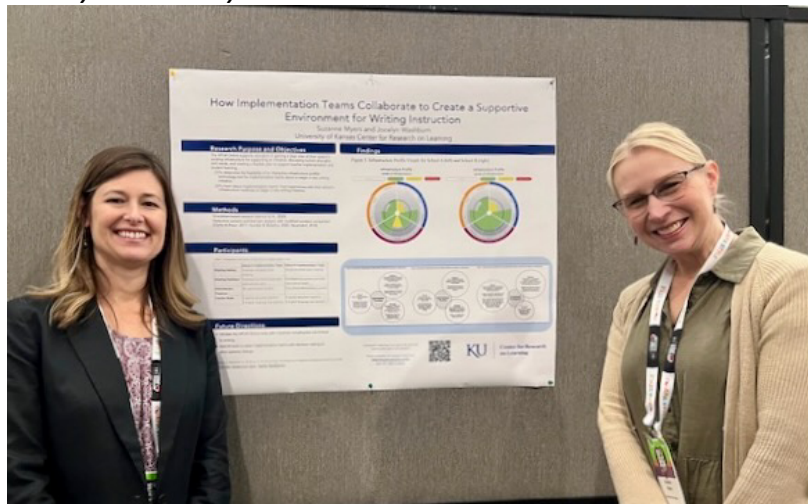
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- **What we're grateful for this holiday season:**
 - Almost 50 years of making a positive difference in the world of education.
 - Our SIM Network of educators who work so hard to improve the lives of teachers and children around the world.
 - Our newly funded federal projects that are renewed annually. They allow SIM and KUCRL to continue to thrive and help children and educators.
 - Our SIM Team and our new offices. We've had good fortune with some changes in 2024.
 - **New KUCRL Online Store is online:** <https://shop-kucrl.ku.edu/>
 - KU Center for Research on Learning has received a **cooperative agreement award from the U.S. Library of Congress**. [The project, titled "Citizen Journalism for All Students: Making Journalism in Action's Library of Congress resources more accessible and relevant for students with disabilities,"](#) is being led by Suzanne Myers and Jocelyn Washburn.
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SIM in the Field

KU CRL Researchers, Jocelyn Washburn and Suzy Myers, presented on their work at the 2024 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Conference in Boston in November and really enjoyed the message from speaker, Bryan Stevenson, *"We have to stay hopeful. And I really believe it's important that we identify the things that are making us hopeless and prevent those things from pushing us into despair. Hope is our superpower... We've got to be hopeful, and while hopeful is not always rational, it is always necessary."*




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SIM Professional Developer, Darren Minarik, presented at the 2024 National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Annual Conference in Boston in November and included SIM Content Enhancement Routines in his presentation.



Radford Virginia Inclusive Practices Center
UNIVERSITY

Specially Designed Instruction for Students with Disabilities in the Social Studies Classroom

Darren W. Minarik, PhD.
dminarik@radford.edu
@captminarika (Social Media)



<https://bit.ly/ncss2024>

Radford School of Teacher Education and Leadership
UNIVERSITY

In their new book, *Data Rules: Elevating Teaching with Objective Reflection*, Jim Knight and Michael Faggella-Luby offer a proven approach for instructional leaders to leverage data effectively, featuring 10 rules for data use, best practices for communication, and analysis techniques to enhance teaching, student engagement, and achievement.

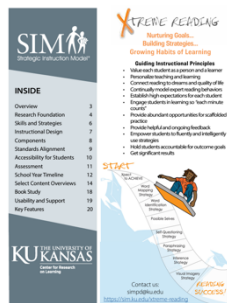
SIM Resources & Reminders

Reminders:

- [Update your StrateDirectory information](#)
- [Report your SIM PD work](#)

Resources:

- Have a listen to the new **Notebook LM (AI) created podcast overviews** for: [SIM](#), [Learning Strategies](#), and [Content Enhancement Routines](#).
- [2024 Xtreme Reading Sampler](#)



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Upcoming SIM Events:

- **SIM Update Conferences** for PDers and Specialists
 - [Feb. 2025 - Florida Virtual SIM Conference](#)
 - [March 2025 - Southeast Conference \(Charlotte, NC\)](#)
 - [April 2025 - Spring Virtual SIM Conference](#)
 - October, 2025 - SIM Virtual Conference
- **SIM Online PD Classes** for educators (self-paced courses on Canvas, with follow-up coaching time)
 - Content Enhancement Routines:
 - [Cross-Curricular Argumentation Routine](#)
 - [Framing Routine](#)
 - [Unit Organizer Routine](#)
 - Learning Strategies:
 - [Fundamentals of Paraphrasing and Summarizing Strategy](#)
 - [The Paragraph Writing Strategy](#)
 - [Possible Selves Strategy](#) (1st or 2nd edition)
 - [Sentence Writing Strategies \(Fundamentals and Proficiency\)](#)

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