

# Supporting CALI Reads with digiCOACH

CALI Reads has partnered with digiCOACH to develop walkthrough frameworks to support middle school literacy instruction. Participants conduct digiCOACH walkthroughs to reinforce key instructional look-fors and provide formative feedback through praise and coaching tips from a library of feedback statements.

In CALI Reads, the digiCOACH system is used to:

## Conduct Walkthroughs

digiCOACH informs and guides users through key look-fors aligned with professional learning literacy training modules designed to enhance teacher efficacy.

## Coach Teachers

A library of prewritten strategies and coaching tips specific to each strategy help reinforce the use of key instructional components.

## Self-Reflect & Support Peers

Teachers use digiCOACH to plan and self-reflect on lessons. Peer walkthroughs offer teachers the opportunity to collaborate and reflect on strategy implementation.

## Four Simple Steps to Completing a CALI Reads/digiCOACH Walkthrough:

**Step 1.** When implementing a CALI Reads strategy, teachers use the corresponding Walkthrough tool (pictured below) to plan a lesson that incorporates key instructional look-fors.

### CALI Reads

### Vocabulary Maps

### digiCOACH

Lesson Design	Tools and Resources	Vocabulary Map
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Graphic Organizer</b>	<b>Pronunciation</b>
Teacher tells the reason for using a Vocabulary Map and how it will benefit students.	Teacher displays a fully completed Vocabulary Map to teach a word.	Teacher carefully enunciates the vocabulary word.
<b>Explicit Instruction</b>	<b>Word Choice</b>	<b>Illustration</b>
Teacher using the Vocabulary Map to preteach a vocabulary word.	Teacher selects a vocabulary word that is conceptually important to the text.	Teacher uses a relevant illustration to support the vocabulary word meaning.
<b>Instructional Time</b>	<b>Cognate</b>	<b>Student-Friendly Definition</b>
Teachers keeps lesson to 5-10 minutes for a vocabulary word.	Teacher identifies an existing cognate for non-native speakers.	Teacher gives an easy-to-understand definition.
<b>Collaborative Discussion</b>	<b>Turn and Talk Prompts</b>	<b>Synonym(s)</b>
Teacher monitors students Turn and Talk discussion and supports as needed.	Teacher chooses prompts that effectively illicit student discussion about the vocabulary word.	Teacher gives a known, closely related synonym for the vocabulary word.
		<b>Example Sentences</b>
		Teacher selects/creates appropriate example sentences to illustrate the word's use in context.

[calireads.org](http://calireads.org) | [digoach.com/calireads.html](http://digoach.com/calireads.html)



**Step 2.** During the lesson, the observer uses the digiCOACH system to identify key instructional look-fors used in the lesson from the Walkthrough Tool.

Delete **Walkthrough** 00:15

Lesson Design

**Purpose:** Teacher tells the reason for using a Vocabulary Map and how it will benefit students.

Exemplary Evident Emerging

Not Evident N/A

**Explicit Instruction :** Teacher using the Vocabulary Map to preteach a vocabulary word.

Exemplary Evident Emerging

Not Evident N/A

**Instructional Time:** Teachers keeps lesson to 5-10 mins for a vocabulary word.

Exemplary Evident Emerging

Not Evident N/A

Walkthrough Feedback Complete

**Step 3.** Next, the observer uses the digiCOACH system to send an email with formative feedback, including praise and coaching tips, from the library of feedback statements to support strategy implementation.

**Feedback** 00:56

To: "Hilda Battle" <Hilda.Battle@safetymail.info>

CC: demo@digicoach.com

Subject: Instructional Feedback on 2020-08-06 14:2'

Thank you for allowing me to visit your classroom today. I saw some effective teaching strategies that were utilized during your lesson.

Below, I have included some feedback for reflection.

Strategy - Lesson Design/Purpose: You stated that students will learn an important word from a text they are going to read.

Strategy - Lesson Design/Instructional Time: You limited Turn and Talk conversation to under a minute to keep the lesson moving.

Coaching Tip - Lesson Design/Instructional Time: Try practicing what you want to say beforehand to keep the lesson moving quickly.

Send Email Feedback

Strategies Coaching Tips

Walkthrough Feedback Complete



**Step 4.** After informal walkthroughs are complete, teachers meet with a peer or coach to reflect on the lesson and discuss how to refine future lessons by incorporating the walkthrough feedback provided in the feedback email during step 3.

## All Walkthroughs with digiCOACH Are Non-Evaluative

digiCOACH walkthroughs offer teachers a system for receiving formative feedback specific to the CALI Reads literacy strategies.

The digiCOACH system is designed as an informal observation tool to support high quality instruction and promote collaborative discourse among educational professionals.

Data collected and feedback provided during step 3 are shared only with the teacher and observer, and used for the sole purpose of improving strategy implementation.