

Launching a lesson

In launching a lesson, the teacher creates a shared signpost that a lesson is beginning, thus creating a more level playing field for students as they engage in new learning. The teacher situates the new learning within the larger storyline of a learning segment or a unit, again, providing students with a collective understanding of where the new learning falls within the segment or unit. By tapping into students' funds of knowledge teachers honor the knowledge that students bring from their families and cultures, and also help students see how valuable that knowledge is in the context of what they are learning in school.

The Features of a Lesson Launch

Launch Enabling	Launch Enacting
<p>Teacher planning/prep before the lesson</p> <p>Identify the learning objectives</p> <p>Plan what you are going to say and what you want the students to do during the launch</p>	<p>Orient students to where the lesson lives in the instructional segment</p> <p>Activate prior knowledge (e.g., funds of knowledge)</p> <p>Remind students what came before the lesson</p> <p>As necessary, teach, review or remind students of classroom norms</p> <p>Give a general student-friendly instructional goal (don't steal the students'"aha" moment)</p> <p>As necessary, teach, review or remind student of discussion protocols (language supports)</p>