



Proficiency Scales Virtual Institute: Ensuring Students Know the Most Important Content

Marzano Resources recommends watching sessions in the following order.

Introduction and Keynote—Robert J. Marzano <i>Identify, Teach, and Assess: Using Proficiency Scales to Ensure Mastery</i>
Break
In-Depth Session—Robert J. Marzano <i>Understanding What's in a Proficiency Scale</i>
Break
In-Depth Session—Robert J. Marzano <i>Using the Critical Concepts for Instruction</i>
Break
In-Depth Session—Robert J. Marzano <i>Using the Critical Concepts for Assessment</i>
Break
In-Depth Session—Robert J. Marzano <i>Tracking Student Progress and Celebrating Success</i>
Break
Question & Answer Session Robert J. Marzano

Agenda is subject to change.

Keynote Session Description

Robert J. Marzano

Identify, Teach, and Assess: Using Proficiency Scales to Ensure Mastery

In this keynote address, Dr. Robert J. Marzano overviews the concept of proficiency scales at a general level, and details how to use Marzano Resources' proprietary proficiency scales, the Critical Concepts. Created through a rigorous analysis of standards documents from across the United States, the Critical Concepts articulate the content that students need to know in math, ELA, science, and social studies. Using proficiency scales for instruction and assessment personalizes the curriculum and ensures that students will do well on any type of assessment that they might encounter.

In-Depth Session Descriptions

Robert J. Marzano

Understanding What's in a Proficiency Scale

Proficiency scales organize the content into target, simpler, and more complex levels of understanding. This allows teachers and parents to keep track of both student status and student growth. In this session, Dr. Marzano explains how teachers and parents can leverage proficiency scales to make sure that students achieve mastery of the essential topics in each content area.

Using the Critical Concepts for Instruction

Different types of knowledge require different types of instruction. Students should learn simpler, foundational content before moving on to more complex understandings and skills. Proficiency scales make it easy to see what students have mastered and what they need to learn next. If students haven't attained mastery of a particular topic, the proficiency scale can help explain why—where are the gaps and how can they best be addressed?

Using the Critical Concepts for Assessment

Using proficiency scales for assessment simplifies and streamlines the task of measuring student achievement. Additionally, proficiency scales provide personalized feedback to students in real-time; the teacher can quickly and easily identify what a student has mastered and what they need to work on next. Because proficiency scales articulate the necessary content and levels of performance, assessment can be far more flexible than in classrooms without proficiency scales. In this session, Dr. Marzano explains how a series of proficiency scale-based classroom assessments can achieve unprecedented levels of reliability.

Tracking Student Progress and Celebrating Success

Teachers who use proficiency scales are able to track student status *and* student growth. This means that students can see where they started for each topic, where they are now, and what they need to do to move to the next level. The impact of this knowledge on student agency and efficacy cannot be overstated. Proficiency scales allow students to take ownership of their learning and growth and facilitate authentic, effort-based celebrations.