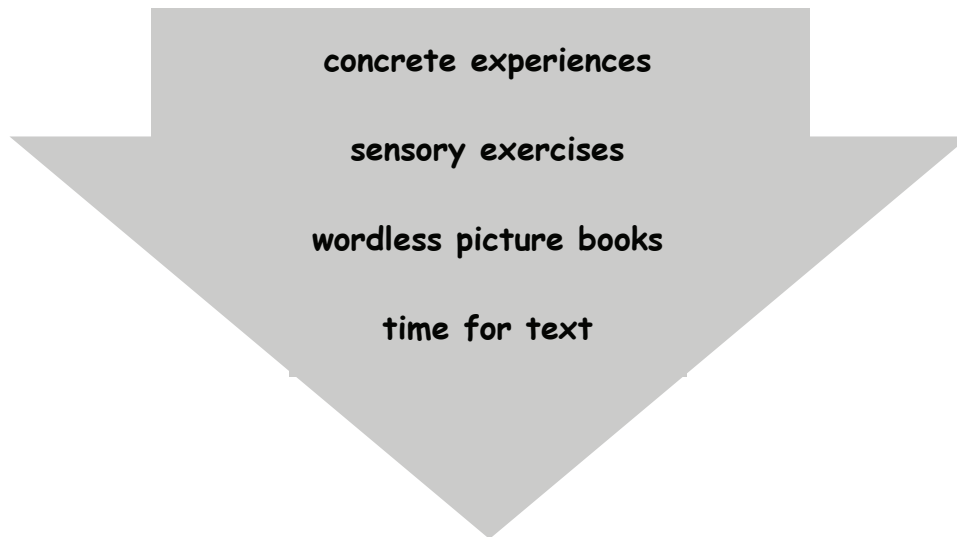


Launching Sequence



Launching sequence: A progression for planning lessons that honors the gradual release of responsibility. This sequence allows time for teacher modeling, thinking aloud, and lots of talk. Kids acquire and practice strategic language, having fun along the way!

Concrete experience: An initial exposure to a thinking strategy; a lesson with a concrete focus. Connections are easily made, creating bridges of thinking from the known to the new. Concrete lessons anchor future learning.

Sensory exercise: A lesson that links the concrete experience with the ways kids learn, providing opportunities for practice in students' areas of strength, increasing their likelihood for success. Sensory exercises might include art, music, food, or movement.

Wordless picture books: Books with little or no text that enable the reader to practice strategic thinking without the added responsibility of decoding. Mistakenly considered by some to be baby books, wordless books provide a rich, authentic place for readers of all ages to rehearse strategic thinking.

Time for text: When the launching process is complete, learners confidently enter the world of text with strategic language in place. Through the launching sequence, kids acquire new tools for thinking; now they need time to practice using them. It's time for more independence, as support from the teacher decreases.