



Understanding the A2i Minutes

A2i minute recommendations are truly the heart and soul of A2i! The minutes are based on more than 2000 hours of actual classroom observations conducted across multiple schools and districts. During these observations, researchers tracked the amount of time and type of instruction that was most effective for each student. This data was then used to create algorithms that could pin-point the exact dimensions (TM/CM & CF/MF) of instruction each student needs to ensure growth. The minutes you now see on your Classroom View page are the result!

Once the A2i algorithms were developed, they were tested to see if the recommendations were accurate for all students. Two very important findings came out of these studies:

1. There is a **PROVEN** connection between the A2i minutes and student performance! In fact, the closer teachers got to matching the A2i minutes the more growth the students in their classrooms made over each school year.
2. There were some guidelines for using the recommendations that helped teachers put the information from A2i into practice. See below for that list!

The guidelines for using the A2i minute recommendations:

- Code Focused minutes are a **maximum** recommendation for how long students should work on code focused activities.
- Try to stay within 5 minutes below or above the recommended time for code.
- Meaning Focused minutes are a **minimum** recommendation for how long students should work on meaning focused activities.
- Try not to do less than 5 minutes below the recommended time for meaning; however, you can go beyond the recommended time depending on your literacy block and student stamina. This is fine for Meaning Focused activities only.
- Code Focused minutes are 4-10 times more effective in small groups.
- Meaning Focused minutes can be met during whole group instruction, although small group is still more effective.



For more information about the study findings mentioned here, please take a look at the research articles and video below, talk to your LOS, or reach out to Dr. Siegal (ssiegal@learningovations.com).

Here's a [video](#) of Dr. Connor explaining the minute guidelines and research behind them in her own words!

References

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