

# Overview of SPIRAL Coaching

During and after participation in SPIRAL professional development, SPIRAL educators will work with their SPIRAL coaches to schedule observations of small-group math instruction. These observations will be followed by coaching sessions. Adapted from Pierce (2015), SPIRAL coaches will use the four practices below in a recursive, three-step process during SPIRAL coaching sessions.

- Pre-Observation
- Observation in the classroom or using video
- Post-Observation
- Alliance-Building (threaded into the above three steps)

SPIRAL works with consultant Dr. Jennifer Pierce on the design of the SPIRAL coaching model (Pierce, 2019; Pierce et al., 2019; Pierce et al., 2021). Pierce helps our research team merge the topic of each professional learning with coaching and learn how to collect data for continuous improvement. Pierce is a Senior Technical Assistant Consultant at the American Institutes for Research with over a decade of experience working in public school settings and leading state- and district-level trainings about coaching for educators. See *Effective Coaching: Improving Teacher Practice and Outcomes for All Learners*.

In our Lightboard video recording studio at The University of Texas at Austin run by Principal Investigator Powell, our research team creates brief (3-10 min) videos about the content from each of the Professional Learning sessions plus extensions on the Professional Learning content. SPIRAL also has a project-specific YouTube channel to host all videos, and coaches can share videos with educators based on observations and discussions of educators' needs. Subscribe to the @mathspiral YouTube channel!