

Guide: Writing for a Practitioner Teaching Journal

The Goal

To share a classroom strategy, intervention, or lesson learned that other educators can immediately use. Focus on actionability over theory.

1. Tone & Style

- **Be Direct:** Use the active voice (e.g., "I implemented..." or "Students created...").
- **Avoid Jargon:** Use every day professional language. If you use a technical term, define it briefly.
- **Keep it Short:** Aim for 2,500–4,000 words unless the journal specifies otherwise.

2. Core Structure

- **Introduction (Hook):** What specific classroom problem are you addressing? State why this matters to other teachers right now.
- **The Foundation (Brief Lit Review):** Mention 3–5 key sources that inform your approach. Don't overdo it—just provide the why behind your method.
- **The Blueprint (The Activity):** This is the heart of the paper.
 - Who were the students?
 - What were the step-by-step instructions?
 - What materials or technology were used?
- **The Evidence (Results):** What happened? Use student quotes, photos of work, or simple charts. Show, don't just tell.
- **The Reflection (Discussion):** What went well? What would you do differently next time? Be honest about the messy parts of teaching.
- **The Takeaway (Conclusion):** Provide 3–5 tips for Success for a peer trying this for the first time.

3. Essential Visuals & Add-ons

Practitioner journals love "extras" that save teachers time. Include:

- **Tables/Checklists:** Step-by-step procedures or grading rubrics.
- **Figures:** Photos of the classroom setup or student artifacts (ensure privacy).
- **Resources:** Links to handouts, websites, or apps used.