

# THE DIRECT INSTRUCTION TIMELINE

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Englemann on Direct Instruction not being adopted from the Project Follow Through

Apparently the key decision-makers had a greater investment in romantic notions about children than in gritty detail of actual practice or the fact that some things work well.

\$1bn study with 700,000 children across 170 disadvantaged communities. The most effective method should have been taken nationally by President Johnson's War On Poverty programme.

**1970s & 1980s**  
Piaget's naturalistic view on learning heavily influences education with minimally-guided instructional approaches.

**1967**  
Project Follow Through initiated. Largest controlled comparative study of teaching methods in history.

**1970**  
First DISTAR reading language and arithmetic programmes released.

**1983**  
*Teach Your Child To Read in 100 Easy Lessons* published.

**1992**  
*Connecting Math Concepts* first published and *War Against Schools' Academic Child Abuse* published.

**2006**  
A Rubric for Identifying Authentic DI Programs published.

**2007**  
Geary's language of biologically primary and secondary learning published.

**2007**  
*Teaching Needy Kids In Our Backward System: 42 Years Of Trying* is published.

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

**1966**  
Engelmann-Bereiter pre-school opens. He learns a great deal about how children learn and what disadvantaged children need.

**1977**  
Project Follow Through ends. Direct Instruction most effective of 9 teaching methods against basic skills, problem solving, and self concept. It was not taken on nationally despite these results.

**1982**  
*Theory of Instruction: Principles and Applications* (co-authored with Carnine) first published.

**1991**  
*Theory of Instruction: Principles and Applications* revised and republished.

**2003**  
Englemann retired, granted Professor Emeritus of Special Education, University of Oregon.

**2009**  
John Hattie's reviews show that DI has twice the effect size (ES) of inquiry-based teaching, four times the ES as problem-based learning and ten times the ES of whole language.

**1963**  
Englemann first filmed his teaching sessions with his two sons in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of his techniques and theories of instruction.

**1997**  
National Centre for Direct Instruction opened with Englemann as director.

**2006**  
Kirschner, Sweller and Clark: *Why Minimal Guidance During Instruction Doesn't Work*, published.

**2010**  
*Could John Stuart Mill Have Saved Our Schools?* is published.

