

# It's CRUNCH time... So what's a teacher to do?

***All benchmarks should have been instructed and intensively taught.***

***Graphics & worksheets should be set aside.***

***Instruction MUST focus on student/text interactions.***

- Analyze Assessment :
  - Examine the item analysis where a grade-level missed 50% or more.
  - Organize the questions from the highest percentage missed to the lowest percentage missed, i.e. 82% missed item number 6 and 75% missed item 8 (both Cause/Effect) while 90% of students missed item 2 (Main Idea). Instruction should center around these two benchmarks.
  - Teachers should look for passages that lend themselves to instruction of those particular benchmarks.
  - Deep-discussion and “think-alouds” are invaluable for engagement leading to higher levels of comprehension
  
- Test-taking tips and management for testing situations should be firmly embedded in the situation
- Use appropriate, grade-level material in a variety of genres to maximize students' exposure to the targeted benchmarks
- Promote independent reading to promote reading stamina