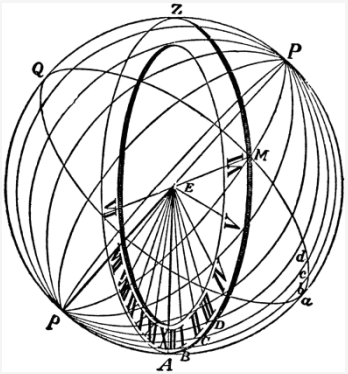
Alignment

Coherence to Support Learning



Alicia Henderson, Ph.D.

Three (3) Components of Alignment

Intended Curriculum

Taught Curriculum

Learned Curriculum

Three (3) Components of Alignment

Intended Curriculum

Standards

Taught Curriculum

Instruction

Learned Curriculum

Assessment

Alignment

True or False

The intended curriculum and the taught curriculum are synonymous.

The learned curriculum and is always known.

With standards, all students will learn the same things.

If we hold our breath, this accountability thing will go away.

Give them the standards
and teachers will figure it all out.

Seven (7) Domains of Alignment

Classroom
Grade Level
Department
School
District
State
National
International

A Systems Approach to Alignment

Big Idea #1

Horizontal & vertical alignment impact student learning.

12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
K
PreK
Home

12
11
10
9 9 9 9 9 9
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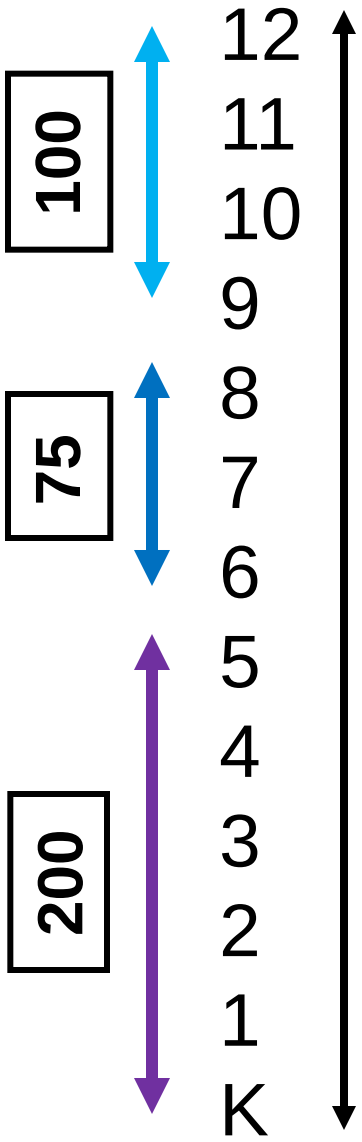
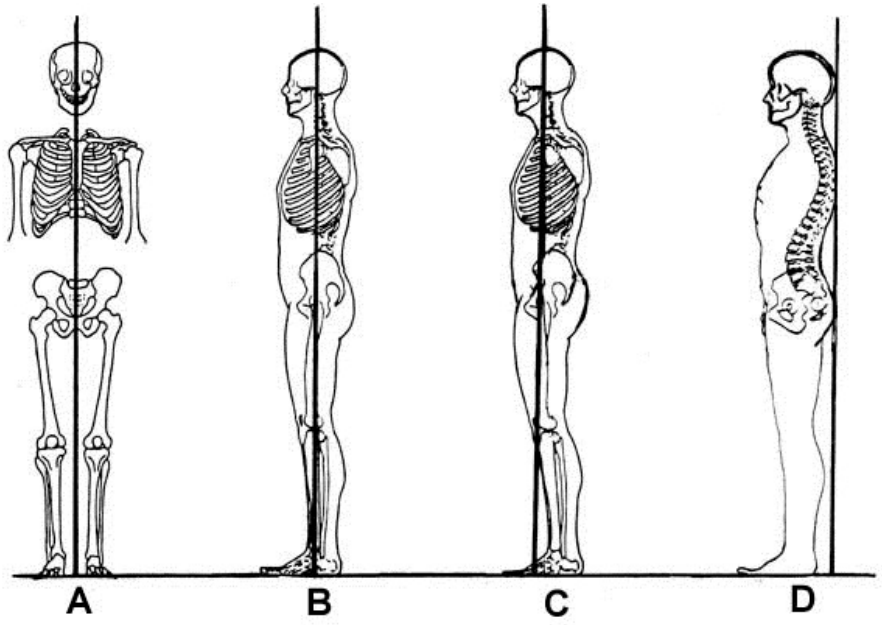
K

Alignment of the System Through Horizontal Structures



Alignment of the System Through Vertical Structures



The 4 Questions of Professional Learning Communities

1. What is that we want our students to learn?
2. How will we know they have learned and learned well?
3. How will we respond to those students who have not learned?
4. How will we challenge those that have learned?

Big Idea #2

Alignment of **time structures** through flexible scheduling and grouping practices ensures students the opportunity to learn based on their unique learning clocks.

John Carroll's Research:
Time Affects Learning

$$\text{Degree of learning} = \frac{\text{Time spent}}{\text{Time needed}}$$

What Affects Time Spent?

- Perseverance
- Attention span
- Opportunity structures

What Affects Time Needed?

- Aptitude
- Prior knowledge
- Quality of instruction

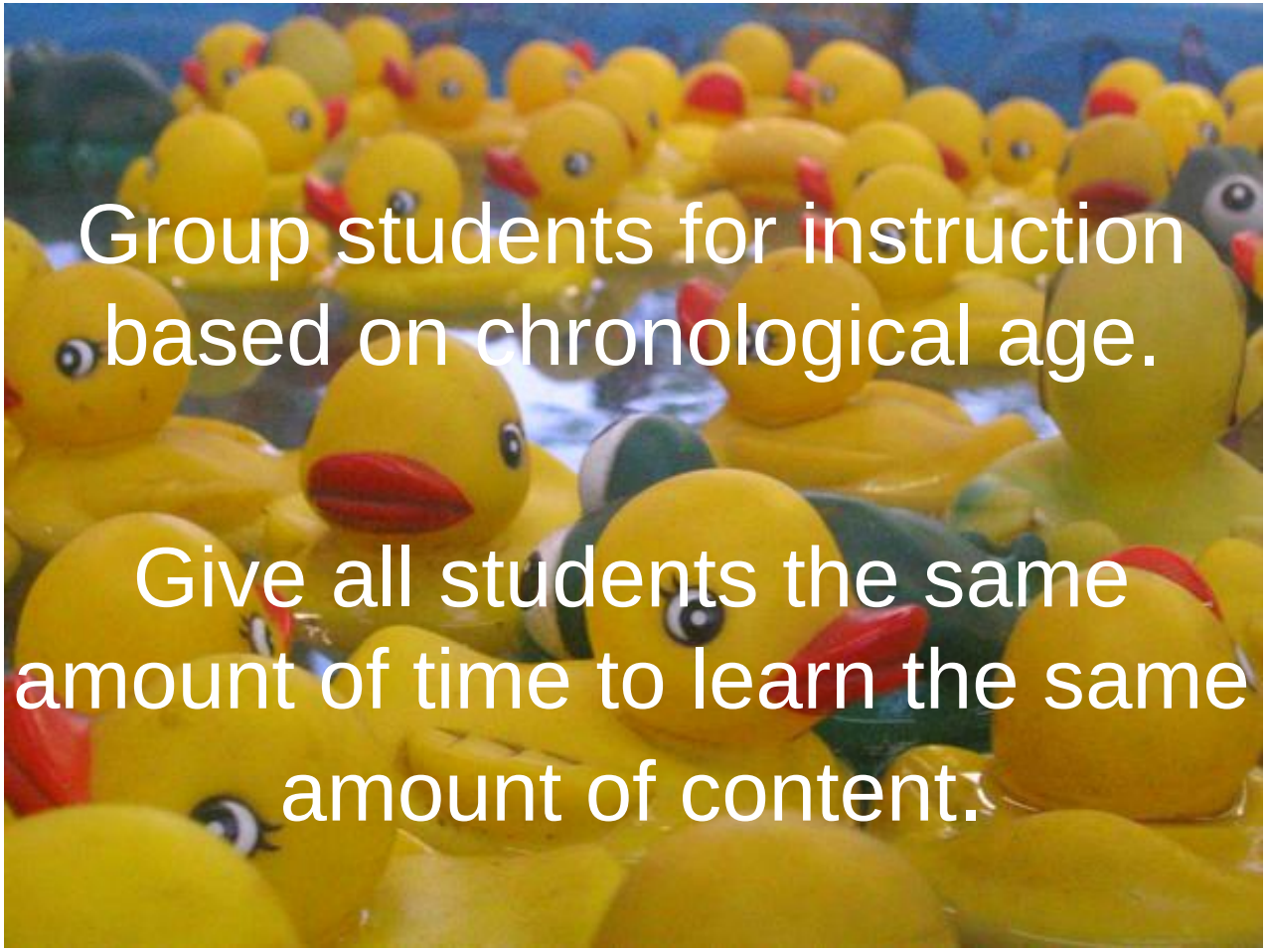
What We *Know*

Students come to us with a variance of knowledge and skill level.

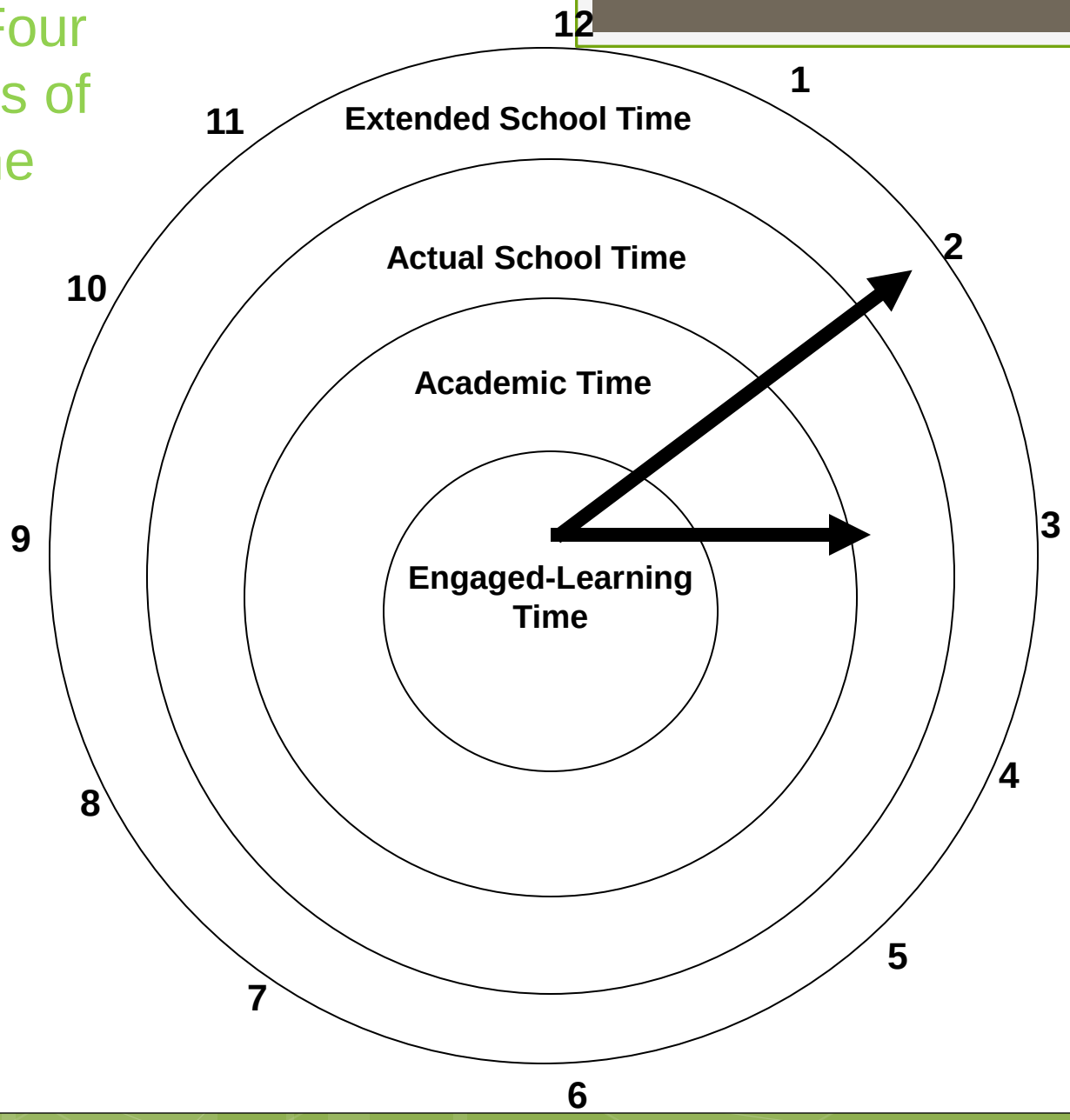
Students learn at different rates.

Learning is an incremental process.

What We *Do*


Group students for instruction based on chronological age.
Give all students the same amount of time to learn the same amount of content.

The Four Circles of Time

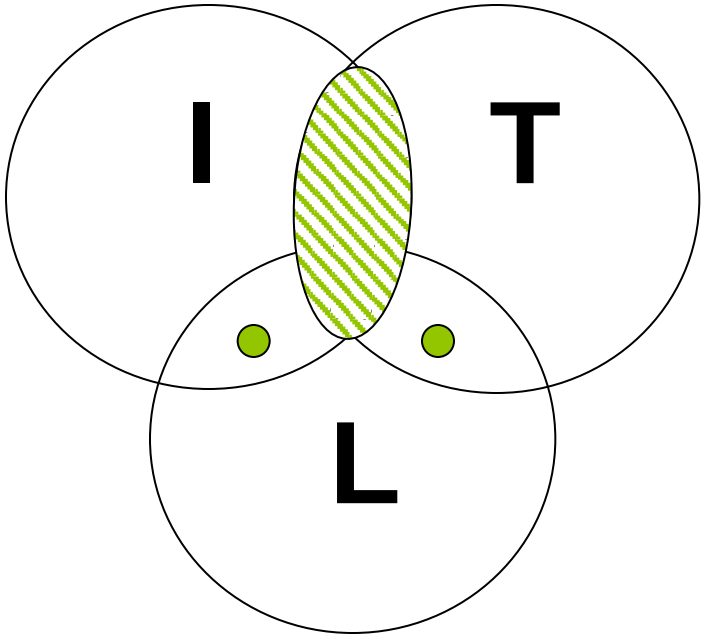


Big Idea #3

Alignment **ensures equity** in learning opportunities for all students through alignment of standards, instruction & assessment.

Scenario 1:

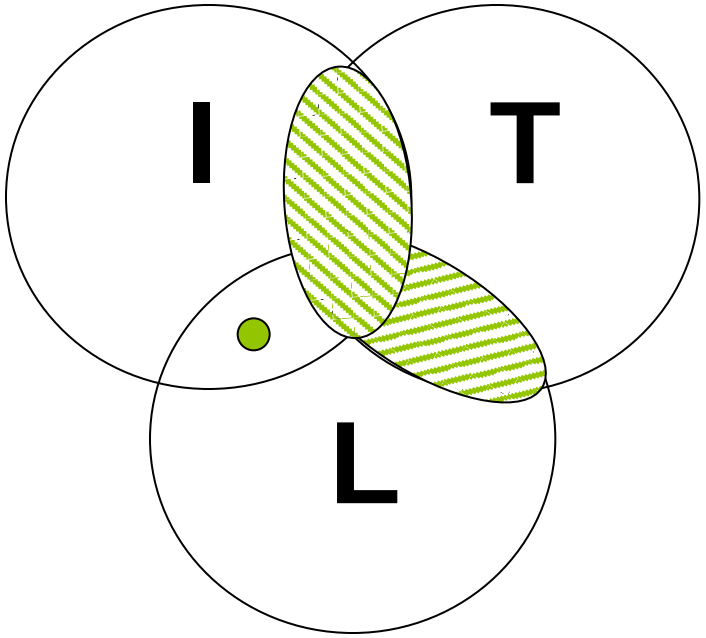
What is going on here?



Intended
Taught
Learned

Scenario 2:

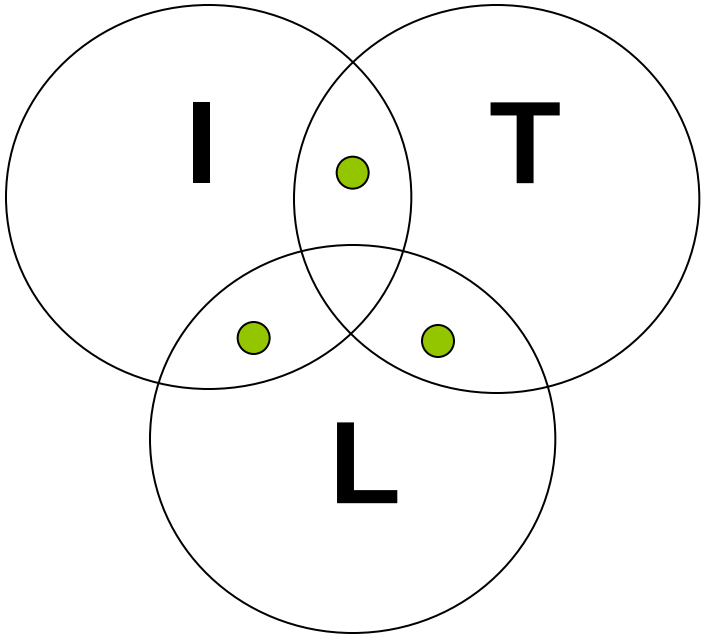
What is going on here?



Intended
Taught
Learned

Scenario 3:

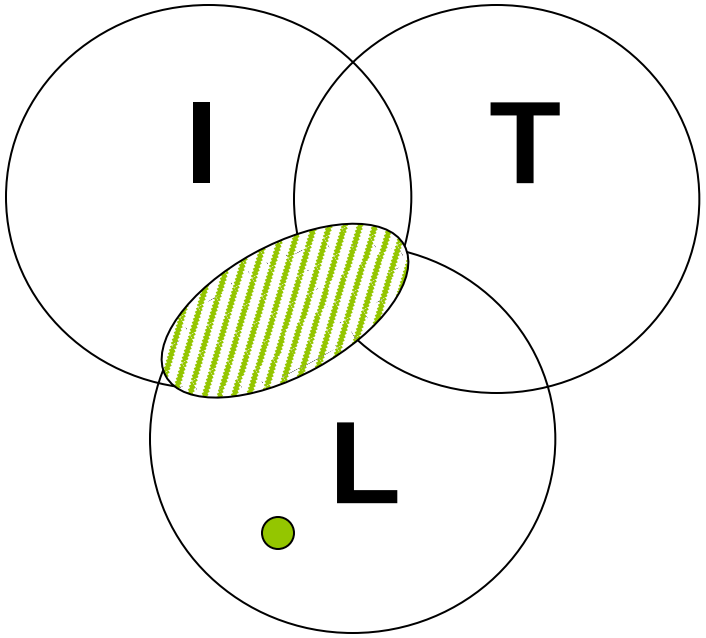
What is going on here?



Intended
Taught
Learned

Scenario 4:

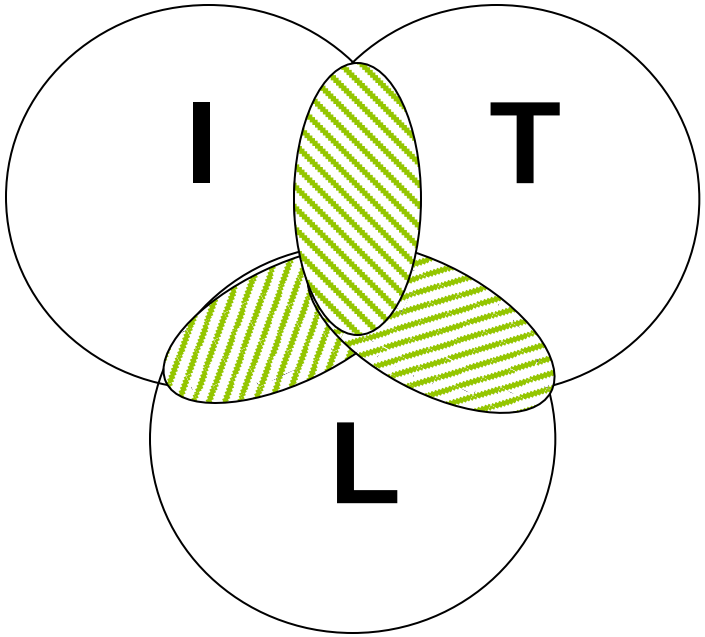
What is going on here?



Intended
Taught
Learned

Scenario 5:

What is going on here?



Intended
Taught
Learned

PLANETARY ALIGNMENT WITH THE GIZA PYRAMIDS,
IT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE IN 2,737 YEARS