

Frequently Asked Questions About Book Studies

1. How should I structure my book study?

There are a variety of ways to structure a book study. Some schools have teachers work in small groups as they progress through the chapters. Other schools ask different teams, departments, or grade levels to present one chapter at a faculty meeting.

2. How much time should I spend on each chapter?

That also depends on your structure, and your school schedule. If you would like to work on a compressed schedule, you can do one chapter per week. I prefer to have more reflection time, so two weeks per chapter works as a minimum. I've also worked with schools that do one chapter a month.

3. Are there specific questions that should guide our work?

For *Rigor Made Easy*, you have study guide questions for both teachers and leaders, also available on the free downloads section of Barbara's website. There is also a facilitator's guide of suggestions for use before, during, and after reading the book.

For *Rigor is NOT a Four-Letter Word*, the reflective questions are built into the book for easy reference. There is a similar facilitator's guide in the downloads section.

4. Are there any other suggestions you have for schools?

For the five middle chapters of each book (*Raise Level of Content, Increase Complexity, Give Appropriate Support and Guidance, Open Your Focus, and Raise Expectations*), it's important to implement activities so teachers are applying their learning. I encourage you to have teachers share what they tried, as well as samples of student work, with you or with other teachers.

