

## Parsing the Practice of Teaching

Kennedy, M. (2016). Parsing the practice of teaching. *Journal of Teacher Education*, 67(1), 6-17.

**Summary:** Kennedy unpacks teacher education's approach to teaching novice teachers. According to Kennedy, schools of education typically parse their curriculum into two versions: a curriculum focused more on knowledge or a curriculum focused on practice. She examines three different approaches, with examples, to parse teaching practice into its essential parts. Then she argues for an alternative approach, identifying practices according to their purpose and to how they contribute to overall lessons. The article proposes deconstructing teaching behaviors according to five challenges faced by all teachers. All teacher face challenges when enacting the curriculum, involving student participation, uncovering student thinking, monitoring student behavior, and adapting to student learning needs. Kennedy concludes that teacher education needs to focus on helping beginning teachers to think strategically about how their actions address the learning needs instead of falling back on a set of prescribed practices. Kennedy provides an integrated example of what teachers do to illustrate her argument.