

## 37 Successes – ‘C’

From my big five Successes to make a difference from the SPACE acronym I want to now zoom into the ‘C’ of SPACE and look very closely at chunking.

Lots of research studies have been done about children’s attention spans, and the magic figure is seven minutes. We need to think about this as teachers – we have got their attention for that amount of time. Anything longer, we can lose them.

So, working on that principle, we build sometimes four, or maybe five moments within a lesson where children are able to ‘have a go’.

It’s very crucial that we think about bitesize chunks of teaching, where each chunk is small enough, clear enough and explicit enough. Within those chunks, if we can combine sentence stacking as well so we always move as a sentence-maker, we can then begin to say that at the end of that lesson, that child has three sentences. They’re very clear about how they’ve built them, and we’re very sure about how they can be built on top of one another for a final piece of writing.