

Free Spiral Review Checklist

Is your weekly review routine doing enough?

A quick self-check for school leaders and teachers who want stronger retention and a routine that's easy to keep up week to week. Spiral review works best when it's consistent and simple to run, so this looks at **the routine itself, not just the materials**. Check every box that's true today.

1 Routine clarity

- ☐ Review happens at a set, predictable time each day.
- ☐ Every teacher on the team runs it the same basic way.
- ☐ A teacher could explain the routine in a sentence or two.

3 Instructional fit

- ☐ The routine fits in about 10–15 minutes a day.
- ☐ It works inside the schedule teachers already have.
- ☐ Weekly prep time is minimal.

5 Retention and reinforcement

- ☐ Skills come back on a spaced schedule, not just once.
- ☐ Students who struggle get repeated exposure over time.
- ☐ Review reaches skills before they fade, not after.

2 Review quality

- ☐ Practice mixes skills instead of drilling one at a time.
- ☐ Questions pull from earlier skills, not just this week's lesson.
- ☐ Students recall answers from memory before checking.

4 Standards and support

- ☐ Review covers the priority standards for the grade.
- ☐ Materials are clear enough to use with little training.
- ☐ A new or substitute teacher can pick it up quickly.

6 Visibility and next steps

- ☐ You can see which skills are sticking and which aren't.
- ☐ Results are easy to check without heavy grading.
- ☐ There's a plan for when a skill isn't landing.

Add up your checks (18 total)

- 14–18** Your routine is doing the heavy lifting. Keep it consistent and protect the time.
- 8–13** Solid base. Tighten the gaps above, starting with routine clarity and spacing.
- 0–7** The opportunity is in the structure, not more materials. A clearer routine and better spacing move results without adding to the schedule.

Teacher tip: If review feels inconsistent, don't start by adding more. Tighten the routine so it's easy to repeat every week.

Want the routine handled for you?

Grab the free spiral review resources at simplesolutions.org, or see print workbooks built around a short daily practice routine.