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Dakota Breen

Nov 03 · Edited: Nov 03 ⋮


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Elementary Education Thread

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Missy Slaathaug

Nov 05 ⋮

How do you handle teachers who want their new-to-country EL to walk around with a tablet opened to Google translate all day?

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Dyanis Conrad (she/her)

Nov 06 ⋮

I have had teachers respond favorably when I share alternatives that they can implement right away. I try to focus on what could we do if Google Translate didn't have this language? It can be really frustrating but I think we have to emphasize the pedagogical reasons that specific techniques make or don't make sense - but with user-friendly terminology.

Members Chat

 Reply  M


Theresa Hsu

Nov 05 

I am interested in ideas for assessing my students, tracking, and using rubrics for ELD.

 Reply  0

Missy Slaathaug

Nov 05 

hmmm - interesting. Sounds like you like good formative assessments. I tend to spend more time on practice than assessing, but I don't have many students so I have their needs and progress in my head I suppose. Have you ever used self-assessments? Where they rate themselves on progress/mastery? Even newcomers can do a smiley or serious or frowny face.

 Reply  T


Dyanis Conrad (she/her)

Nov 06 

Margo Gottlieb has a good book on assessments that give templates and other useful resources.

 Reply  0


Theresa Hsu

Nov 05 

It's not me so much that like good formative assessments. I am thinking about using self assessments and looking for ideas there too. Lots of the time, it doesn't seem practical or takes too much time.

 Reply  0


Emily Koo

Nov 05 · Edited: Nov 05 

Do you have access to WIDA standards? I show my students the can-do indicators at their level and then the level up and grade them on that. I can share my student-friendly one, but that's only for 6-12 to just give you an idea.

 Reply  T

Missy Slaathaug

Nov 05 

@Emily Koo that's a fun idea - I found a whole set of student-friendly Can-do descriptors online somewhere. I'll try to find and post the link.

 Reply  0

Missy Slaathaug

Nov 05 

OK - this link is for teachers to use for 'report cards' - when they have no idea how to evaluate the kids. <https://docushare.esboces.org/dsweb/View/Collection-960> Not quite

Members Chat

what you are looking for - but very cool none the less. I will keep looking...

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Theresa Hsu

Nov 05 

Wow! That looks cool. TY

 Reply  0

Theresa Hsu

Nov 05 

I am so gladdened I posed this question! Thank you so much.

 Reply  1

Missy Slaathaug

Nov 05 

Me too! It is great to share. Where do you teach, Theresa? how many ELs?

 Reply  1

Mary Ellen Bahrenburg

Nov 05 

@Missy Slaathaug, she's in 3 schools I'm in one. We are both in Dickinson, ND.

 Reply  1

Theresa Hsu

Nov 05 

@Missy Slaathaug haha, thanks ME. And I have 28 students.

 Reply  0

Theresa Hsu

Nov 05 

@Missy Slaathaug Where are you from and how many do you have? What is your role.

 Reply  0

Missy Slaathaug

Nov 05 

I am in Pierre SD - and I am an ESL Instructor/Coordinator for the district. We have about 25 district wide - I teach mostly in high school and middle school and I support the paraprofessionals who work the ELs in the elementary schools. Many hats!

 Reply  1

Members Chat

Erica Boomsma

Nov 06 ⋮

Hi, All!!

What Social and Emotional Learning programs do you use? Are there any programs geared more toward EL students?

🗨️ Reply ❤️ 0

Mary Ellen Bahrenburg

Nov 06 ⋮

@Erica Boomsma, Heart River has Mindfulness Monday, but I don't have students during SEL time. Here's a link sent to staff. <https://youtu.be/QtqNnVlK9gM>

🗨️ Reply ❤️ 0

Mary Ellen Bahrenburg

Nov 06 ⋮

During your session I thought of one kindergarten student i have and how he struggles. You're comment about story problems causing flight / fight issues clicked. I wonder if something like that is interfering with letter sound recall. I want to start talking to my kids about the brain as well.

🗨️ Reply ❤️ E

Missy Slaathaug

Nov 06 ⋮

Erica mentioned in the adult ed session that she uses podcasts for listening practice - I am so interested in this! Does anyone else do this? She recommended these:

wow in the world

past and the curious

circle round folktales around the world

mystery recipe

kids listen podcast home

Does anyone else have podcasts to recommend? Erica, how do newcomers do with this? Do you have summarizing or discussion or any other structured activity after you listen?

🗨️ Reply ❤️ E

Dakota Breen

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