

ENGAGING LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Professional Learning Processing Guide

This processing guide is designed to provide teachers with a self-moderated professional learning experience through deepening their understanding of Learner Engagement.



Engaging learners is critical to the success of any learning environment. We must capture students' interest and attention before meaningful learning can occur. The *Teacher Effectiveness for Language Learning Framework* identifies the characteristics and behaviors exhibited by a model world language teacher and supports the need for *Engaging Language Learners*.

This Professional Learning Processing Guide will take you on a growth path that will lead to a better understanding and a plan for implementation of effective strategies. You will be interacting with the following resources designed to support your professional learning. As you progress through this guide, you will explore your initial understanding of the topic, dig a little deeper into the topic, explore and try a new strategy or two, and see what it could look like in a classroom.



Overview Document

This overview document written by world language expert, Greg Duncan, provides background from both language and general education and outlines strategies designed to keep learners engaged.



Video Vignette

This overview video features classroom vignettes, as well as interviews with teachers and students reflecting on the impact of engaging learning experiences.



Teacher Presentation

This video presentation developed by a practicing Spanish teacher provides an explanation of strategies that allow language learners to be engaged by "talking, moving, and playing."



At-a-Glance Infographic

This visual representation summarizes important concepts and key strategies shared in the overview document and other resources in this module.



Additional Resources

This link collection includes scholarly readings, journal publication, videos and other online resources selected to support additional professional learning on the topic.

As you engage with the resource and complete the posed questions, think deeply about your current practices, use evidence to support your opinions, and engage critical friends who can give you meaningful feedback and expand the discussion.



PROCESSING GUIDE: Engaging Language Learners

Getting Familiar



Consider what you already know about "Learner Engagement" and the type of activities that you currently use that keep all learners engaged. Then review the *At-a-Glance Infographic* and answer the questions below. Be honest in your reflections and allow yourself room for professional growth.

TIME TO REFLECT

How often are the activities you design for learners truly engaging? How do you know that your students are motivated and engaged and not just compliant learners? What behaviors do your students exhibit to indicate engagement to you? What is your favorite activity?

What do you know already about
Learner Engagement?

TELL ME MORE!

What more do you want to
learn about *Learner Engagement*?



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Explore More



Learn how to *Engage Language Learners* by reading through the overview document and viewing the video vignette. Then reflect on your learning by answering the questions below.

WHAT I LEARNED ...

List some of the larger lessons or principles you learned both from what you read and viewed.

HOW DO YOU FEEL?

What is your emotional response to the new learning?

I THOUGHT SO!

What understandings did you have validated as a result of your reading?

AH-HA!

What surprised you in your reading/viewing or what "ah-ha" moments did you have?



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Digging Deeper



Now that you have gotten an introduction to *Learner Engagement*, learn some more specific strategies from a practicing teacher. While interacting with the teacher presentation video, consider these questions and then take a moment to reflect on your learning.

LET'S GET SPECIFIC

Which specific strategies mentioned in the teacher presentation caught your attention? Why?

WHAT IF?

Consider how you might apply what you've learned in your own teaching situation.

Commitment Time

Consider what actions you'll take next as a result of your learning. Identify at least one next step you will take in your teaching situation. Consider how you will know that you have been successful in your implementation of a new idea. Review the feedback form for strategy specific ideas you may want to focus on in your work.

WHAT'S NEXT

How do you want to apply your learning going forward?



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Extend Your Learning



If you still have questions about *Learner Engagement* or want additional information explore the resources listed below. These professional learning resources include scholarly readings, journal publications, videos and other online resources that will support your learning.



Differentiated Instruction: A Guide for World Language Teachers

Deborah Blaz

ISBN: 1138906182



Making Language Fun: How to Have a More Engaging Language Classroom

Calico Spanish

<http://calicospanish.com/making-language-fun-how-to-have-a-more-engaging-language-classroom/>



Mix It Up! Authentic Activities for the World Language Classroom

Sarah Wike Loyola

<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/authentic-activities-world-language-classroom-sarah-loyola>



The Highly Engaged Classroom (The Classroom Strategies Series)

Robert Marzano

ISBN: 0982259247



Creative Language Class: Stations & Centers

Kara Parker and Megan Smith

<http://www.creativelanguageclass.com/stations-centers/>



21st Century Skills Map: World Languages

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

https://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/21stCenturySkillsMap/p21_worldlanguagesmap.pdf



www.TELLproject.org/STARTALK

Funding for this product was provided by the United States government through STARTALK, a program of the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland.