

Resources & Strategies for Active Literacy Lessons

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Group Norms

- Stay on _____.
- Follow _____.
- Take care of your _____ quickly & quietly.
- What is _____ here, stays here!
What is _____ here, leaves here!
- It's okay to have _____.
- Be _____! Mutual _____ for all!
- When processing, engage _____ with partner –

Signal for _____

When you see someone in the room with both hands raised:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Our Forecast

- What is _____ learning?
- Six _____ Science Principles
- Promoting Higher-Level _____

What are three goals that you have about active literacy lessons that you hope are achieved by the end of the professional development?

My Goals	My Progress
1.	
2.	
3.	

Stand Up, Sit Down vs. Raising Hands

- Better Nourishment for the Brain
 (_____ & _____)
 - _____ rate increases
 - _____ increases
- Brain Attends to _____
 _____ = _____



Learning Pyramid

Put the following instructional methods in order from the least effective to the most effective:

___ Reading ___ Teach Others ___ Practice by Doing ___ Audio-Visual
 ___ Lecture ___ Discussion Group ___ Observing a Demonstration

Instructional Method	Retention Rate

Alphaboxes

- Ask each individual or pair to write down, for each letter of the alphabet, a word that's related to the topic of study.
- BEFORE
- REVIEW

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X Y	Z

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Name _____

Topic _____

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
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Kinesthetic Vocabulary

1. Create a phonological imprint by repeatedly _____ the word.
2. Discuss the word's _____.
3. Practice a _____ that represents the meaning while reading the word.

Looks Like	Sounds Like	Feels Like
<i>What will I _____?</i>	<i>What will I _____?</i>	<i>What will I _____?</i>

I'm _____ on this!	This is still _____ in my head . . .	This _____ me in the direction of . . .

Six Brain Science Principles: Certain ways of *learning*, meaning to be able to _____ and _____ information, trump other ways of learning.

1. _____ trumps longer!

The human brain learns best when content is divided into smaller _____ and when facts are _____ into larger concepts or information is _____.

John Medina: "The way to make long-term memory more reliable is to incorporate new information gradually and _____ it in timed _____ intervals" (*Brain Rules*, p. 147).

2. _____ trumps reading!

Writing is a whole-brain task – it's almost impossible to _____ about one thing and _____ about something else at the same time. Writing is _____ - _____ – kinesthetic, visual-spatial, and tactile. Learners cognitively _____ information a second time when they write it after hearing and/or seeing it.

Jay Cross: "Taking notes is a valuable form of _____ information... known to increase the likelihood of _____ and _____ material" (*Informal Learning*, p. 78).

3. _____ trump words!

The human brain remembers _____ better than words.

Patricia Wolfe: "The capacity for long-term memory of _____ seems almost unlimited" (*Brain Matters*, p. 153).

Stories engage all parts of the brain because they touch on the learner's experiences, _____, and actions. Sousa, p. 145; Schank; Scott-Simmons, Barker, & Cherry

4. _____ trumps listening!

When learners _____ what they've heard or seen, they process the information three times: first, by listening to or viewing it; second, by _____ about it; and third, by _____ it using their own words or _____ the words of others.

Jay Cross: "Learning is _____. We learn from, by, and with other people" (*Informal Learning*, p. 63).

Patricia Wolfe: "The best way to learn something is to _____ it" (*Brain Matters*, p. 185).

5. _____ trumps sitting!

Sitting for extended lengths of time makes _____ and _____ more difficult to do because the oxygen levels in the body decrease. Movement – any kind of motion – increases _____ to the brain, thereby giving the brain a cognitive boost.

Standing speeds up information processing __ – __% compared to sitting down.

6. _____ trumps same!

The human brain is hardwired to notice _____ in the learning environment and to _____ sensory data that remains predictable or the same over time. Eric Jensen: “Any stimuli introduced into our immediate environment, which is either new (novel) or of sufficiently strong emotional intensity (high contrast), will immediately gain our attention” (*Brain-Based Learning*, p. 122).

Window Panes

1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	6.

Coded Reading

! : That got my attention.

? : I have a question about that.

☺ : I'd like to talk about that.

Consider This:

"Students we label *reluctant learners* are anything but reluctant to learn some things. They commonly expend prodigious intellectual energy on whatever engages them." – Kieran Egan & Gillian Judson, 2008

"Reluctant learners are reluctant for a reason." – Kirsten Olson, 2008

"I feel that the vast numbers of readers who move through our classrooms unmotivated and uninterested in reading are as troubling as the developing ones. But in many cases, whether these students read is not a concern as long as they pass the state test every year." – Donalyn Miller, *The Book Whisperer*

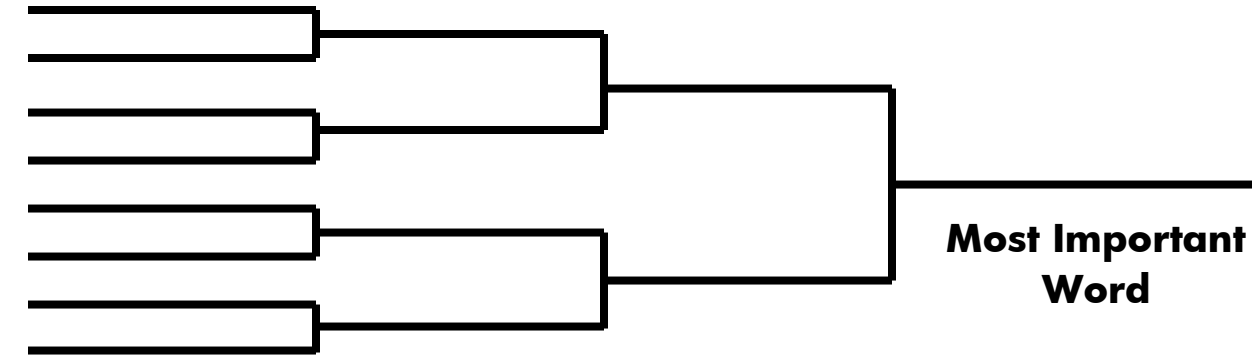
"We cannot group all reluctant readers together, for there are many different reasons for their difficulties, many stumbling blocks to their growing as readers: their background experiences, how they feel about themselves as learners, their interests, the context of the classroom." – David Booth, *Even Hockey Players Read*

In 2006, the Gates Foundation released a report on the reasons students drop out of school.

- 47% report that school was "uninteresting"
- 70% state that they didn't feel "inspired" at school
- two-thirds said that they would have worked harder if more was demanded of them (higher academic standards, more studying, more homework)
- 70% were confident they could have graduated if they had tried.

"Many of the greatest joys in life are related to our learning. Unfortunately, most of that joyful learning takes place outside of school." – Steven Wolk, 2008

Students work harder and persist longer when they perceive the purpose of learning as self-improvement or achievement of personal goals. – Richard Sagor, 2008



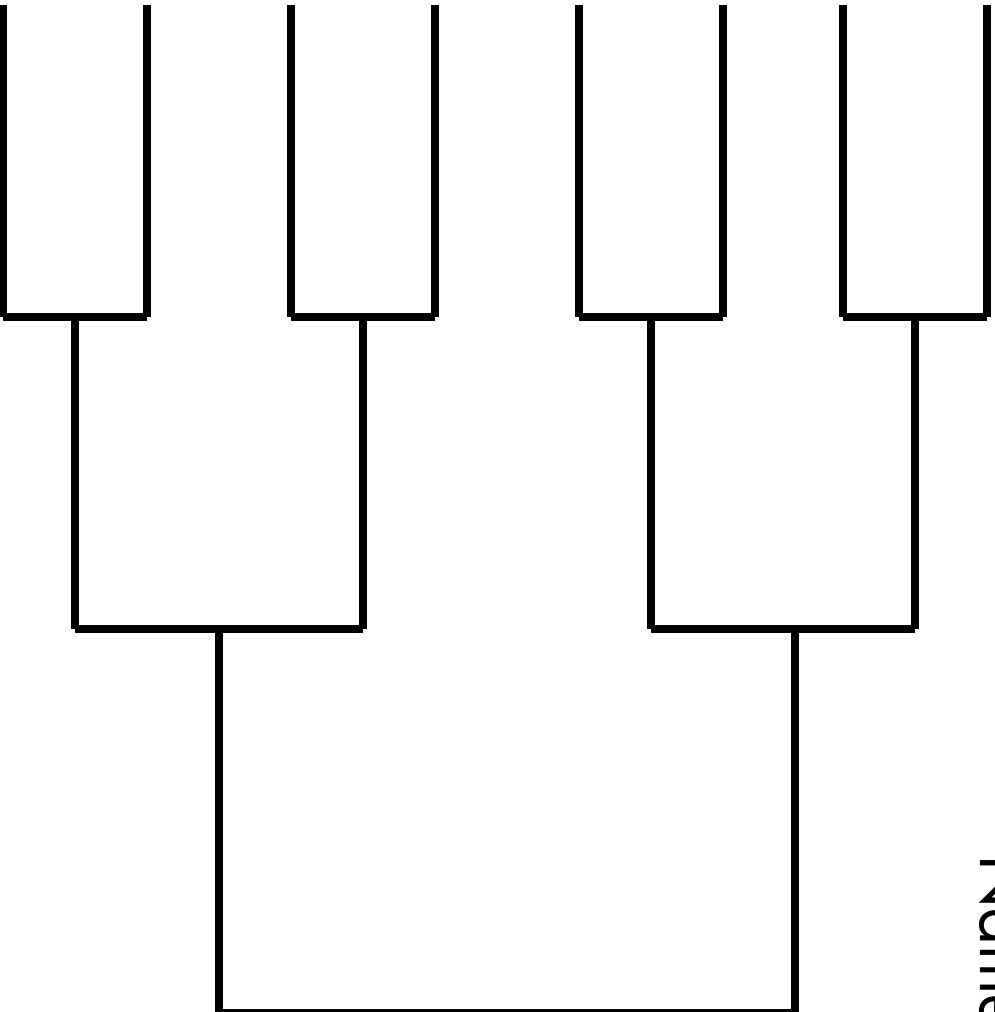
C:
O:
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Strategies for Reluctant Learners

- Planted Questions & Planted Answers
- Head Start
- Closed Fist
- Miracle Question
- Five-Minute Focus Group
- Two Times Ten Method

The Word Tournament

Name _____



Most Important Word



Comprehension Levels

: Readers evaluate and make critical judgments about their readings. They express opinion rather than fact, and apply the knowledge gained from the text in other situations.

: Readers deal with and understand the writer's ideas. They make generalizations about text, understand the writer's purpose, and anticipate and predict outcomes.

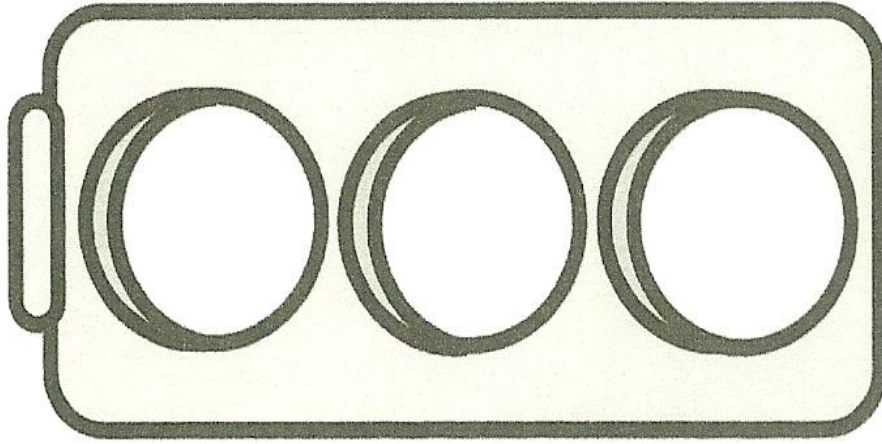
: Readers supply answers based on information directly stated in the text.

Basic Literary Elements:

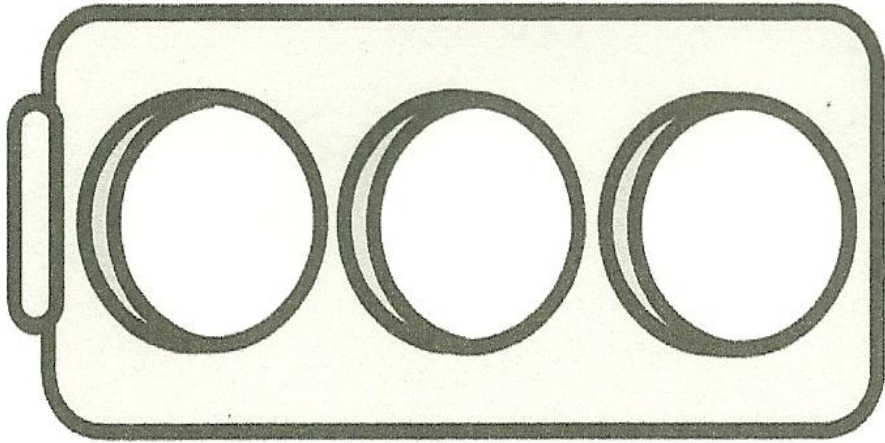
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-
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Characters	Setting	Problem
Events	Resolution	Unknown Vocabulary
Gist Statement:		

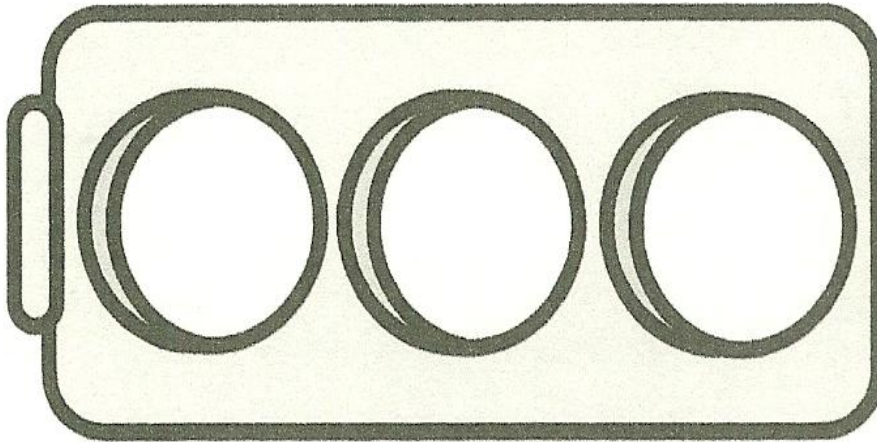
Characters	Setting	Problem
Events	Resolution	Unknown Vocabulary
Gist Statement:		



Definitely
YES



**Not
Sure**



Definitely
NO



A Toolbox of Ideas to Make Your Class More Engaging, Active, and Memorable

Tools	Notes: How Would You Use It?
Absent Student	
Acrostic Topics	
Agree – Disagree	
Alpha-Boxes	
Chain Reaction	
Closed Fist	
Coded Reading	

Corners	
Create the Test	
Exit Cards	
Fifty-two Things to Do	
Gallery Walk	
Give One – Get One	
Head Start	
Inside – Outside Circle	

Individual Answer Boards	
Keepers and Wishers	
Kinesthetic Vocabulary	
Line Up!	
Looks Like, Sounds Like, Feels Like	
Miracle Question	
Most Important Word / Phrase / Sentence	
My Top 10 List	

Oh Yeah Stickers	
Pass Around	
Personalized Goals	
Placemat Consensus	
Planted Questions & Planted Answers	
Probable Passage	
Quiz – Quiz – Trade	
Quiz Show	

Rally Conversations	
Sentence Starters	
Six Words or Less	
Snowball Fight	
Square, Circle, Triangle	
Stand Up, Hand Up, Pair Up	
Stand Up, Sit Down	
Stump the Teacher	
Three Truths and a Lie	

Timed Pair Share	
Touch Seven	
Traffic Light	
Twenty Questions	
Txt Message	
Wear-a-Word	
Who Am I? What Am I?	
Window Panes	

Word Tournament	
Word Splash	
Yup, Nope, Maybe	

My Top 10 List

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.