Creating Professional Collaboration:

Tools for Bilingual/ESL Advocates

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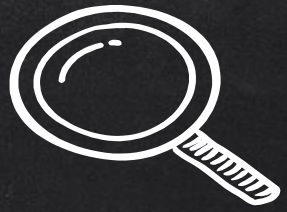
Dr. Rachel Lella
K-12 ESL Supervisor, Wall Township Public Schools
@RLellaEdD

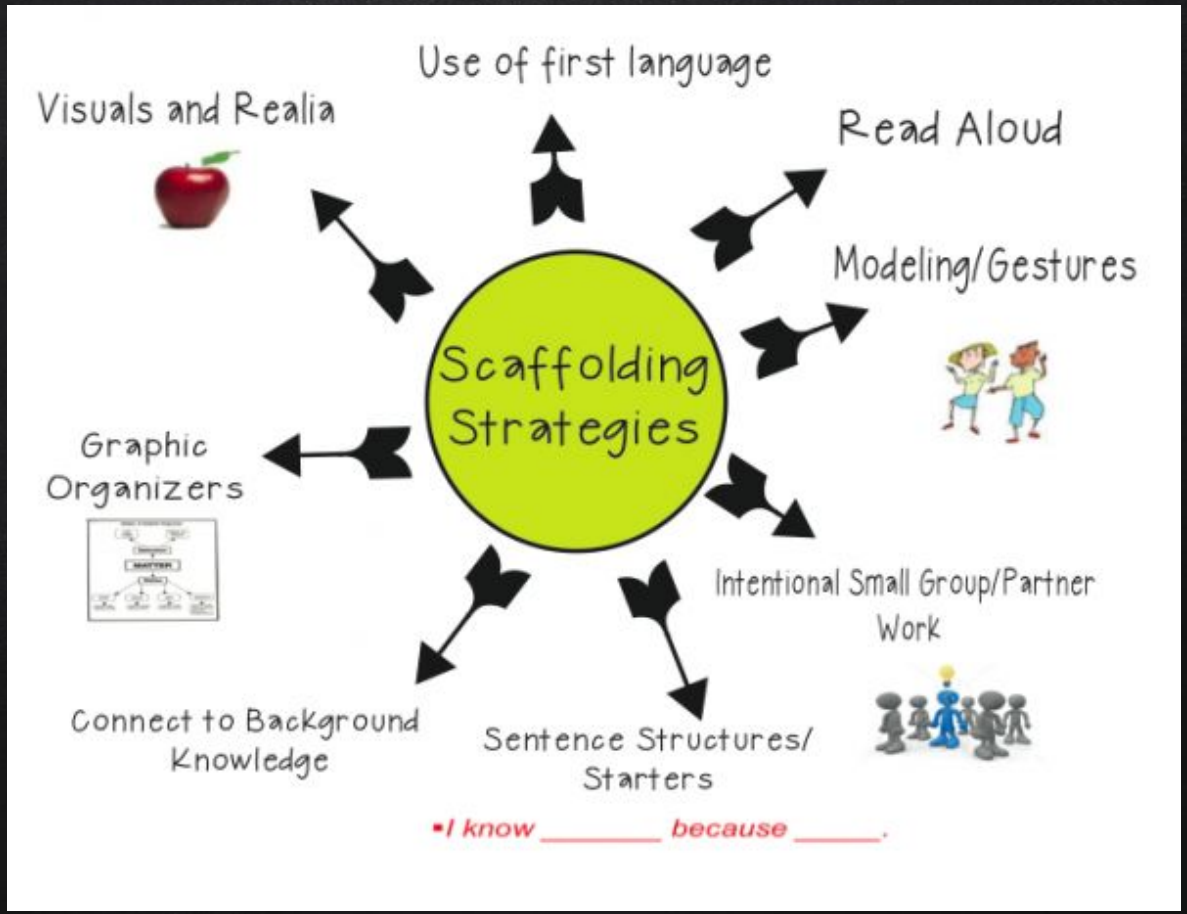


What does learning and assessment typically look like to ELs in content area classes?

Excerpt From 'Immersion' by Richard Levien

Full video available at: www.immersionfilm.com

What CAN it look like?



You don't know what you don't know.

Content area teachers don't necessarily speak the language of ESL!

What are scaffolds, and how do they lower the affective filter?

How do we get there?

Open Minds

- ✘ Culture
- ✘ Work
- ✘ Unfamiliar Territory

Professional Development

- ✘ Required by Bilingual Code
- ✘ Consistent
- ✘ Attended by admins

Collaboration

- ✘ ESL & content area teachers MUST WORK TOGETHER

“

Change is hard at first,
messy in the middle,
and gorgeous at the end.

-Robin Sharma

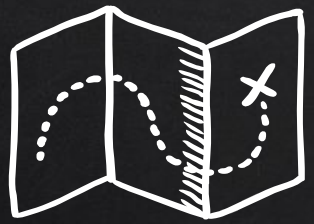
Which tools are helpful to content area teachers?

- ✘ WIDA Can Do Statements
- ✘ ACCESS Score Reports **AND APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE**
- ✘ Anecdotal information
- ✘ Grading policies and charts

Make ESL Comprehensible For content area teachers

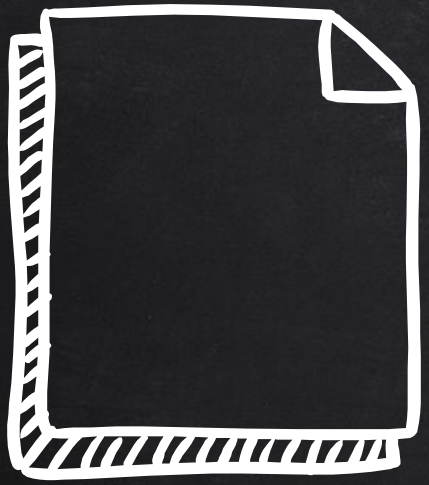
How can we put this all together?

- ✗ Student Language Portraits
  - Comprehensive
  - Easy to read
  - Students "At a Glance"
  - Living document



What will teachers realistically use?

What does this actually look like?

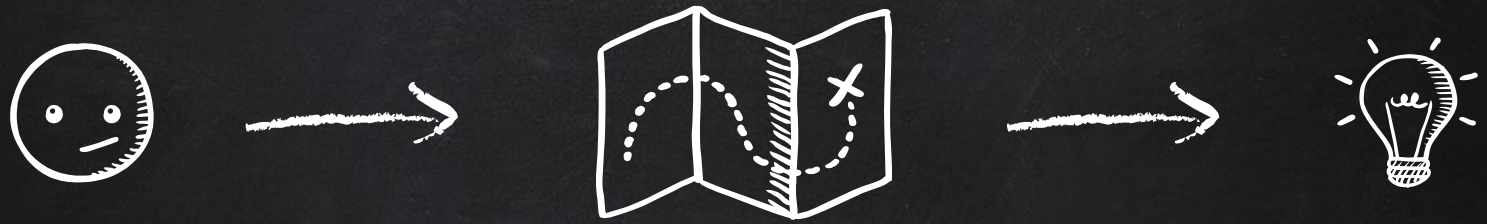


Template

Sample SLP

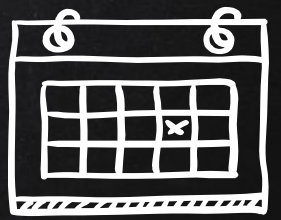
SLP Resource Folder

Explaining SLPs to Content Area Teachers



- The SLP is a roadmap to your students
  - Design instruction and assessments based on Can Dos
  - Strategies and scaffolds that work – Less Guesswork
  - Whole child is represented

When Can SLPs Be Used?



- ✘ When Lesson and objective planning
- ✘ When creating and/or modifying assessments
- ✘ During parent/teacher conferences
- ✘ When conferring with students on goals
- ✘ During articulation between ESL & Gen Ed teachers

Anecdotal Information on SLPs

- Why is it important?
  - Quantitative data = Good
  - Qualitative data = Good
  - Quant + Qual = Whole Child

- Using professional judgement to protect students
  - SLPs are school documents

When & How Can We Make This Happen?

- ✘ Make your students a priority for EVERYONE
- ✘ Leverage the effect SLPs will have on instruction
- ✘ Design end-of-year teacher recommendation forms to include SLP data
- ✘ Advocate for PD and/or release time
  - General Ed professional development and staff meetings
  - Common planning/PLC

What are some of the challenges you face?

How could an SLP help you approach those with teachers and students?

What are some of your successes in advocating for students?

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@RLellaEdD

rlella@wall.k12.nj.us

Presentation

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