

# CISPG LEARNING

Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George

*"ALL learners thriving in inspired Catholic Learning Communities"*

Hello everyone!



Wishing you the very best during the Christmas Season and in the New Year!



*Frances Roch, Principal of Learning Services*

We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Indigenous nations in which we live, work and play. The Lheidli T'enneh Nation in Prince George. The Tsimshian Nation in Prince Rupert. The Haisla Nation in Kitimat. The Wet'suwe'ten in Smithers. The Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta in Dawson Creek.



IN A WORLD WHERE  
YOU CAN BE ANYTHING



BE KIND

You need 3 daily wins:

**A physical win.** Walking, running, lifting, swimming...

**A mental win.** Reading, writing, creating, learning...

**A spiritual win.** Praying, meditating, studying, growing...

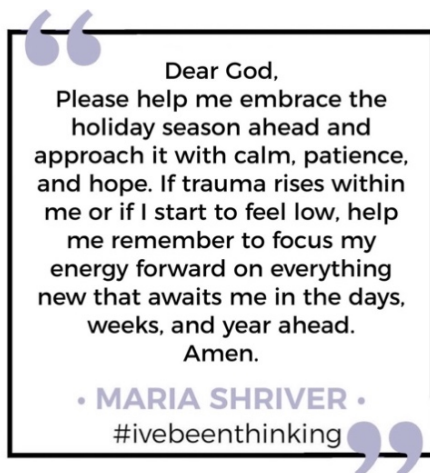
## RESOURCES

All resources mentioned in this newsletter have been collected from school districts and educators across the province. Please be advised that the links embedded within this document are meant to provide examples of “strong practice” across BC. They are not meant to overwhelm, but rather to support CISPg educators with a repository of rich resources. I am grateful to school districts and educators across BC who so generously share their learning with us.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Melodie Van Der Meer is our amazing Christian Education Consultant. Melodie can be reached at the following email: [mvandermeer@cispg.ca](mailto:mvandermeer@cispg.ca)

- **January's Catholic Social Teaching focus is the Common Good.** The Primary and Intermediate CST/Core Competency reflection sheets are attached. They are also available to make your own copy and edit on Canva. Visit the following link for the accompanying slide deck to support your planning and instruction. [https://www.canva.com/design/DAF2-Tu0iAg/JxrYLzre5C55iCb\\_mtsaxg/view?utm\\_content=DAF2-Tu0iAg&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link&utm\\_source=editor](https://www.canva.com/design/DAF2-Tu0iAg/JxrYLzre5C55iCb_mtsaxg/view?utm_content=DAF2-Tu0iAg&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=editor)
- January ends with **Catholic Education Week!** For some resources and ideas about how to celebrate in your classroom and school, check out the CISPg Christian Education Padlet. <https://padlet.com/melodievandermeer/cispg-christian-education-resources-cug8dsv8m0alnyu0>



- From Sr. Amata Christi - **Resources for The Travelling Rosary.** In her note to parents, Sister writes, “This month, we will be learning about the rosary at school, so your child should be familiar with it. The time commitment is about 20 minutes ... On your family’s day, your child will bring home a special bag with a rosary book, journal, rosaries, and instructional card. On the card, there are QR codes and instructions. You may pray the rosary in any language. There are links if you would like to just listen and pray along, or a book, if your family is comfortable leading it on your own. Feel free to invite all members of your family to join. The rosary is powerful, and it will transform your family’s life.”

For more information on this wonderful project, check out this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12wVkzmj-1WmLNgScd0bxZKG89qsmi9fS?usp=sharing>

## LITERACY

- K-5 Teachers - Follow **POPEY** and check their website frequently ☺



- Shared by **Nell Duke** @stand4children @nellkduke - "Put together a new website, finally. Hoping it will be easier to navigate and more useful. I posted links to the two videos I have shot so far about early literacy instruction at a distance, along with a bunch of other mostly free resources": Nell K Duke



### Practice Research Policy.

<https://www.nellkduke.org/>

- From **edutopia** @edutopia - **5 Ways to Support Students Who Struggle with Reading Comprehension** - These strategies can help students who are able to decode well but have difficulty understanding what they read—and they're beneficial for all students:  
<https://www.edutopia.org/article/5-ways-support-students-who-struggle-reading-comprehension/>
- Shared By **Jennifer Serravallo** - We cover just about everything in this research-packed, inspirational, sensible episode. This is one you won't want to miss! **A Conversation with David Pearson** "how to design an ideal literacy block aligned to research." <https://t.co/DWzhYmHyMy>

- And again, from Jennifer Serravallo, @JSerravallo - **Dr. Graham and I talk writing!** Did you know that students in classes that balance writing and reading instruction (at least 60/40) do better in writing...AND READING? This and much more, plus a great post-interview convo with colleagues Lea and Macie: <https://www.jenniferserravallo.com/blog/steve-graham>
- Check out Serravallo's **"To the Classroom"** podcasts here: <https://www.jenniferserravallo.com/podcast> and consider subscribing to her newsletter ☺
- Shared by **edutopia** @edutopia - Don't let common misconceptions discourage you from implementing evidence-based reading and writing instruction. **Check out 4 myths it's time to dispel about literacy education**—and what cognitive psychology says you should be doing instead:  
<https://www.edutopia.org/article/evidence-based-reading-strategies-early-grades/>
- And again, from edutopia @edutopia - Want to captivate your students from the start of class to the end of it? Edutopia's @borywrites shares **opening and closing activities** to ignite curiosity and consolidate knowledge: <https://edut.to/47ADqoo>
- From Aaron Grossman @ClassroomD4 - Leveraging ideas and the work of @ChaseJYoung1 and @TimRasinski1, **8 new Readers Theater scripts** about the planets, and one about Endor, have been posted. Download for free from <https://justtwoteachers.com/earth-sun/>
- From katemessner @KateMessner - **World Read Aloud Day** with @litworldsays is coming up on February 7, 2024, and hundreds of authors & illustrators have volunteered to Zoom into classrooms & libraries for virtual read-alouds on that day! Want one to visit your readers? Here's all the info:  
<https://katemessner.com/zoom-with-an-author-or-illustrator-for-world-read-aloud-day-2024/>

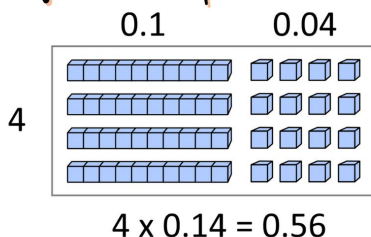


- And finally, from edutopia @edutopia - **Reading out loud** to students doesn't need to stop once they've become independent readers. The practice benefits students of all ages, research shows: <https://www.edutopia.org/video/why-reading-aloud-never-gets-old>
- **Tim Rasinski** @TimRasinski1 - **Singing-Reading Develops Fluency!** If you're looking for a FREE Holiday Songbook you can find one at my website: <http://timrasinski.com> - Click on Resources - Tab Scroll down to "Useful Materials" - 7th bulleted item. (25 songs w lyrics)
- Check out this **"Cult of Pedagogy"** podcast on **Untangling the Debate Over Reading Instruction** with Dr. Kelly Cartwright and Jen Serravallo: <https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9jdWx0b2ZwZWZhZ29neS5saWJzeW4uY29tL3Jzcw/episode/NjBmZDhlOWMtODQyZS00MTQ1LTgzMDgtYTIjODZiYzU0OGFi?ep=14>

## NUMERACY

- From Ashley Aoki @MissAshleyAoki - The **SNAP (student numeracy assessment & practice)** has provided me a window into my learners' strengths and stretch points in math. I feel like I have a clear roadmap for where we're going and how to make it visible to learners: <https://snap.sd33.bc.ca/>
- From BCAMT @BCAMT - **Check out the Coast Metro Elementary Project:** <https://coastmetro.ca/> For Math teachers by Math teachers. An amazing resource!

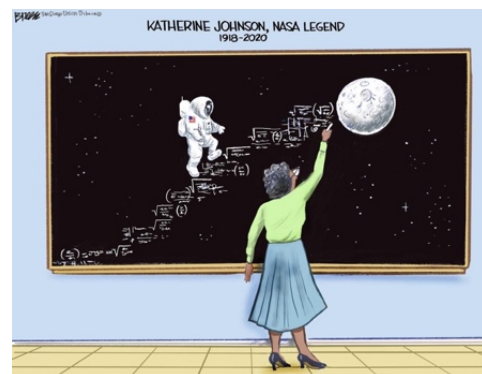
### BUILDING UNDERSTANDING for math operations



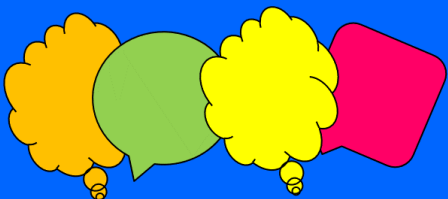
- Shared by Donna Boucher @MathCoach Corner - Check out these awesome videos that take you step by step through the **progressions of math operations and fractions!** <https://bit.ly/3LTcjvT>

- From **Math Lady Hazel** @mathladyhazel - If someone asks me why we are learning math, I will print this image (see right) ...

- From Cathy Marks Krpan - In my book I discuss my research on **think alouds**. Teachers found that they rendered the rich, unspoken math self-talk accessible to Ss, improved math thinking, & reduced math anxiety. You can learn more from my website: <https://markskrpan.com/why-use-mathematical-think-alouds/>



## Mathematical Think Alouds



### Something to Think About....

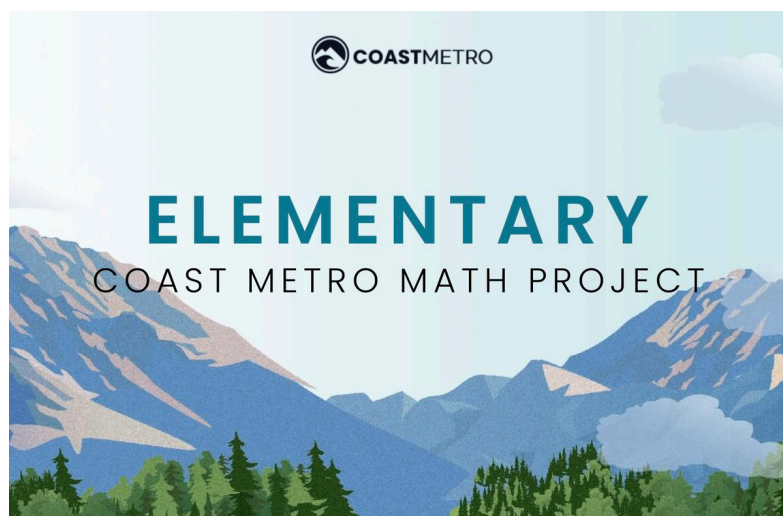
Using manipulatives, visuals, and providing lots of opportunities to use mathematics vocabulary in meaningful contexts, full of rich mathematical discourse, are effective practices needed to support ELLs in learning mathematics. But wait, hold up.... These approaches should already be taking place in our mathematics classrooms for ALL of our students, regardless if they are ELL or not.

- From Dan Shuster @DanShuster - I have been working on a collection of math tasks that I am calling **"180 Days of Math Tasks."** So far, I am one-third of the way with 60 tasks completed. I am hopeful to also include extensions and other add-ons. The collection is here:

<http://bit.ly/180daysmath>

- Shared by Marc Garneau@314 Piman - I'm happy to announce that data and probability have now been added to <https://coastmetro.ca/elementary-math-project/> We hope to have measurement and geometry ready by late January or early February.

**PLEASE CHECK OUT THIS EXCELLENT SITE!**



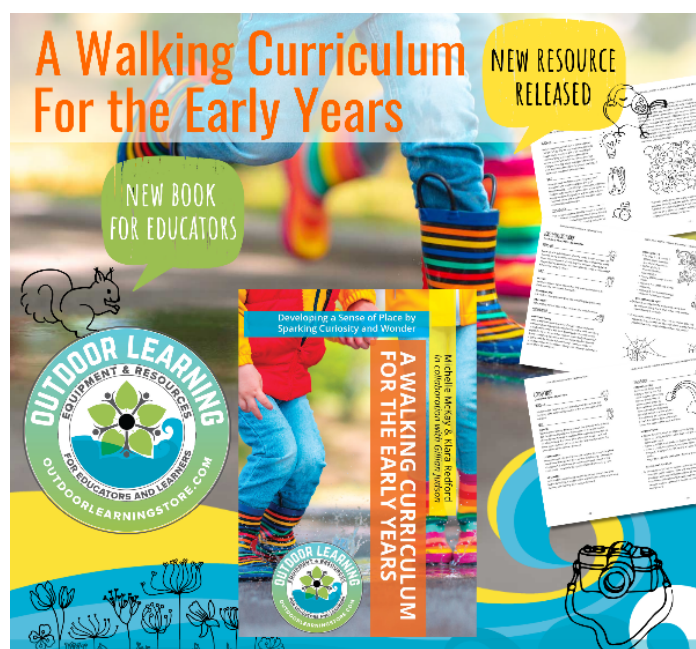
## EXPLORATIONS

- Shared by Janice Novakowski @jnovakowski38 - I tried out the new coding app from @OctoStudioApp which was developed by the researchers at the MIT Media Lab who are behind the **Lifelong Kindergarten** project.

- From **Gillian Judson** @perfinker - **NEWS! "A Walking Curriculum for the Early Years"** is now available! Learn more here:

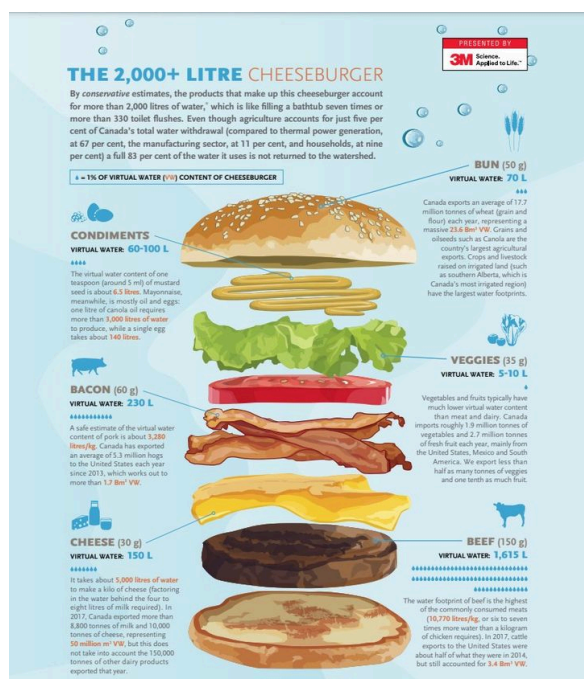
<https://ow.ly/QWJb50Q67HR>

[This new resource book](https://ow.ly/QWJb50Q67HR) for educators includes **33 walking themes** paired with cognitive tools to engage emotion and imagination in learning. These are very accessible and can be undertaken in any outdoor setting. This innovative & interdisciplinary resource outlines an imaginative and ecological approach to taking student learning outside school walls. It was developed as a partnership between Dr. Gillian Judson, author of our best-selling book, [A Walking Curriculum](#), and authors Dr. Michelle McKay and Klara Redford.



- From **techlearning** @techlearning - **Kahoot! vs Blookit: Which is Best for Teaching?** <https://trib.al/rd8QIXr>
- FREE!** The new **FireSmart BC Education Program** is an all-in-one teaching resource to introduce students to FireSmart concepts: <https://firesmartbc.ca/educationprogram/>

- Shared by **Canadian Geographic Education** @CanGeoEdu - Did you know that the ingredients that go into a cheeseburger account for more than 2,000 litres of water? That's as much as seven bathtubs full of water! Check out this infographic and accompanying activity to learn about the water we eat:



<https://bit.ly/3wLRn17>

- Project Zero's Thinking Routine Toolbox** – This toolbox highlights thinking routines developed across a number of research projects at Harvard. A thinking routine is a set of questions, or a brief sequence of steps used to scaffold and support student thinking. Project Zero researchers designed thinking routines to deepen students' thinking and to help make that thinking "visible":

<https://pz.harvard.edu/thinking-routines>

- From Dr. Catlin Tucker @Catlin\_Tucker - There's something super satisfying about seeing your students

Peer Feedback Choice Board		
Directions: Select TWO prompts from the peer feedback choice board to provide specific, meaningful, and kind feedback.		
<b>Greatest Strength</b> Identify the strongest aspect of this assignment. I liked how you _____. The strongest part of this assignment was the _____. The way you _____ added _____ to this assignment.	<b>Tiny Tweaks</b> Identify one aspect of this assignment that would benefit from a minor adjustment, modification, or tweak. One thing you may want to rework or spend more time on is _____. _____ would benefit from more detail and development. I think you could improve this by _____.	<b>Celebrate Surprises</b> Celebrate one aspect of this assignment that was interesting or surprising. I thought _____ was surprising because _____. I enjoyed how you _____. It was really interesting how you _____. I liked that you _____.
<b>Hungrily for More</b> Identify an aspect of this assignment that you wished was developed or explained further. I would have enjoyed knowing more about _____. I think you could add more detail to _____. I suggest going deeper in your _____.	<b>Mind Blown</b> Focus on an aspect of this assignment that was so innovative that you had not considered before. I love how you _____. After seeing how you _____, I want to _____. I thought it was interesting how you _____. _____ it made me want to _____.	<b>Clarifying Confusion</b> Identify an aspect of this assignment that wasn't clear and ask for clarification. After reviewing your assignment, I wasn't sure about _____. I'd love to know more about _____. Can you explain what you meant when you said _____. I think _____ would benefit from a clearer, more detailed explanation.
Choice Board Selection		Write your feedback below. Please be specific and kind.
Title of Feedback Prompt #1:		
Title of Feedback Prompt #2:		

Dr. Catlin Tucker ✨ CatlinTucker.com ✨ @Catlin\_Tucker

- From **Canadian Geographic Education** @CanGeoEdu - Our Giant Floor Maps are one of our most popular resources, but did you know that you can find most of these maps on our website as tiled maps? Can Geo Education's tiled maps are free, downloadable, and printable pdfs that come in a variety of themes: <https://bit.ly/3ks8ShX>

## PHE/SEL

- From **PHE Canada** @PHECanada - Resource alert! Want to support students with a disability in your school community and enhance the inclusivity and accessibility of your everyday physical activity programming? Download the **All Abilities Guidebook and Poster for free** <https://phecanada.ca/activate/all-abilities>
- Shared by **PHE Canada** @PHECanada - Our **Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS) Series** supports teachers and recreational leaders in teaching fundamental movement and sports skills in an effective, fun, and interactive way. You can purchase it on Human Kinetics website: [canada.humankinetics.com](https://canada.humankinetics.com)



### 3 Fundamental SEL Practices

VIA CASEL

1. Open each class period, meeting, or professional learning experience with a welcoming inclusion activity, routine or ritual
2. Embed engaging strategies, including brain breaks to anchor thinking and learning
3. Close each experience in an intentional way

#T2T

- From Teacher2Teacher @teacher2teacher - Our friends at @caselorg break it down - check out their **3 signature practices** here:

<https://schoolguide.casel.org/uploads/sites/>

- Also, from Teacher2Teacher @teacher2teacher - Looking to boost Student communication and conversation in your classroom? **Check out these reflection questions**, from Andy Milne: <https://slowchathealth.com/2023/10/17/back-pocket-questions/>

## INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

- From Janice Novakowski @jnovakowski38 - The recording of our first session of our webinar series, **"Centering Indigenous Pedagogies in Mathematics**

**Education"** is now shared on the @EdithLandoVLC website here:

<https://elvlc.educ.ubc.ca/2023/08/30/centering-indigenous-pedagogies-in-mathematics-education/>

Registration is still available for the next three sessions.

- **LAST CALL for CISPG BOOK STUDY: Please join us in a Book Study of Jo Chrona's book, Wahi Wah** - Read this review: <https://thebcreview.ca/2023/11/06/1983-favrholdt-chrona/>  
All participants will receive a free book 😊

### Book Study Dates:

- Thursday, **January 18**, 2024 - Chapters 1 & 2
- Thursday, **February 1**, 2024 - Chapter 3
- Thursday, **February 29**, 2024 - Chapter 4
- Thursday, **March 14**, 2024 - Chapter 5
- Thursday, **April 11**, 2024 - Chapters 6, 7, & 8

**Deadline for Submissions - Friday, December 15, 2023**

**Please complete the attached form to register:**

<https://forms.gle/g6E7jx342a3U8FkR7>



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

**Five  
Moore**  
— MINUTES —

**From Dr. Shelley Moore**

@tweetsomemoore - IT'S NOVEMBER! And a perfect day for a BRAND NEW Five Moore Minute video! AND a perfect time of year to remind ourselves that **WE CAN DO**

**HARD THINGS!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyowxPM84DU>




- From Lee Ann Jung @leeannjung - **Self-regulation** is not something students have or lack—it is something we develop over time, and some of us need targeted instruction to acquire.
- Also, from LeeAnn Jung - **Conferencing** with a student to reflect on progress and co-construct feedback and next steps is some of the finest assessment we can engage in. And it IS instruction, not time away from instruction.



## ASSESSMENT/REPORTING

- From Katie Novak @KatieNovakUDL - The **"Glow and Grow"** approach is a great strategy for students to share their progress (make a copy of the template here <https://bit.ly/3uPBFVY>) Use the template, build a routine for students to reflect on their progress and then share it with families. <https://outdoorlearningstore.com/workshops/> Read the research: <https://bit.ly/41dck48>

**DID YOU KNOW?**



Extending your waiting time after asking a question makes room for methodical thinkers and shy students—and **can improve class participation rates by as much as 30%.**

*Meanwhile, asking students to think-pair-share before soliciting answers can boost participation rates up to 70%, compared to immediately calling on students.*


Sources: Mundelsee & Jurkowski, 2021; Rowe, 1986

My students give me feedback when I give out report cards.

I ask 3 questions:

- What is one thing we do in class that **helps you learn**?
- What is one that is **getting in the way of learning**?
- What should we **add to improve learning**?

—LAURIE WALSH, TEACHER



## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- Shared by Tammy Renyard @TammyRenyard - **Engaging All Learners in the Middle Years** - We are back folks!! Please register here. Looking forward to continued conversations: <https://elvlc.educ.ubc.ca/2023/08/31/engaging-all-learners-in-the-middle-years-2024/>
- Our multi-part webinar series is led by Dr. Leyton Schnellert and Tammy Renyard, featuring special guests every session.
- **Tuesday, Jan 30** – Angela Stott, Jennifer Eddie, Rebecca Labonville
  - **Tuesday, Apr 23** – Nikki Lineham, Kendra Jacobs

**The four webinars will be recorded. Register once and attend any or all of the sessions!**