

# CISPG LEARNING

Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George

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

## february TO-DO LIST

@POSITIVELYPRESENT



LOVE  
YOURSELF



LOOK FOR  
BEAUTY



CREATE  
MORE LOVE



REST AND  
RECHARGE



IGNITE NEW  
IDEAS



EMBRACE  
DIFFERENCES



WRITE YOUR  
FEELINGS



CELEBRATE  
FRIENDSHIP



WISH ON  
THE STARS



RELEASE  
THE PAST



AFFIRM  
YOUR TRUTH



PREPARE FOR  
CHANGE

Hello everyone!

And Happy Groundhog Day ☺ Wishing you all the best as the days grow longer and we begin to turn our thoughts to Spring, renewal, and the contemplations of the Lenten Season.



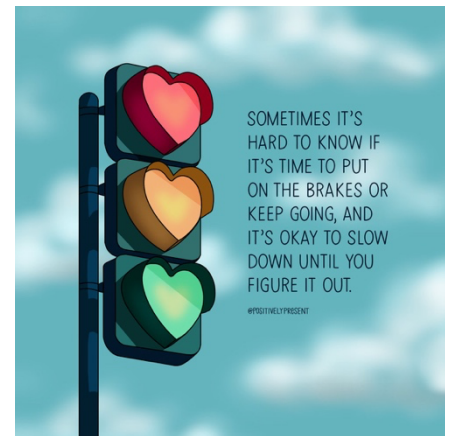
*Frances Roch, Principal of Learning Services*

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I respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Indigenous nations in which I 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. The WSANEC in Sidney.



## 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)

On the **CISPg Teams Christian Education site** are many links and documents that were used during a recent collaborative session, and some that will be helpful as teachers continue to plan year and unit plans. Melodie’s plan for the next couple of weeks is to digitize the work that occurred and share it out. As well, check out her padlet: <https://padlet.com/melodievandermeer/cispg-christian-education-resources-cug8dsv8m0alnyu0>

Please see the **EDITABLE** Canva Links for **Catholic Social Teaching/CC Slides and Reflections for February** (keep an eye out in the CISPg Learning Updates for monthly links, and **PLEASE MAKE A COPY** if you intend to edit the Reflection Worksheets)

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAF6RO2fDgE/cuXqs7Orts723ypAqg1s7Q/edit>

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAF6RLtLB8A/9Jh6-nBQYo0fYjzEYYbS-Q/edit>

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAF6RJCyBus/eH0xm57J-l6fxsBBPyajiQ/edit>

## LITERACY

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



- From Dr. Sam Bommarito @DoctorSam7 - My message for the new year: Let's empower teachers by letting them use all the research-based resources they need, using those resources within a well-designed district curriculum. <https://doctorsam7.blog/2023/12/30/thought-for-the-new-year-empowering-teachers-is-the-key-to-solving-literacy-problems-by-dr-sam-bommarito/>

- Shared by Zach Groshell @MrZachG - This is the best standalone guide to **Turn and Talks** that I am aware of [https://meadowscenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/TurnAndTalk\\_TeacherGuide1.pdf](https://meadowscenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/TurnAndTalk_TeacherGuide1.pdf)

**Turn and Talk:  
An Evidence-Based  
Practice  
Teacher's Guide**

Authors: Alicia A. Stewart and Elizabeth Swanson



## Why Read-Aloud to Students?

Before age 13, students' listening comprehension surpasses their reading comprehension.

Read-alouds are a way to access complex texts before students can read them independently.



-Molly Ness  
Episode 170

@natwexlerin "Developing Knowledgeable Readers." <https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/developing-knowledgeable-readers>



- 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/>

- EXPLORE the ready-to-use resources and more for **World Read Aloud Day** - Wednesday, February 7, 2024: <https://www.litworld.org/worldreadaloudday>

- From EL Magazine @ELmagazine - **Building students' background knowledge** in the early grades can prevent them from hitting a comprehension wall later, advises

- From EL Magazine @ELmagazine - **How do literacy tasks deepen student learning?** @NancyFrey and @DFISHERSDSU describe four ways to effectively leverage literacy across the curriculum:

<https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/transforming-literacy-tasks-to-deepen-learning>

- From **Edutopia** @edutopia - How did a school with a large population of #ELLs who start kindergarten with little or no English get

kids reaching proficiency by 3rd or 4th grade? **Watch to learn the strategies they used:**

<https://www.edutopia.org/video/tailoring-english-language-learner-instruction>

- From edutopia @edutopia - 2023 **#EducationResearch Highlight**: To make real reading comprehension gains, kids need more exposure to rich content in subjects like science and history, new research suggests.

- From Mrs. Morrow @MrsMorrow07 - Did you know that you can access games through the **@UFLiteracy Blending Board**?! You can select specific lessons from UFLI for words to be used on the game boards or create custom word lists!

<https://research.dwi.ufl.edu/op.n/file/pd7py49630t41lba/>

- From edutopia @edutopia - **Grade-level texts or higher** are \*the most\* beneficial for students. Here are 3 strategies you can use in your classroom to have students engage with complex texts effectively: [https://www.edutopia.org/article/how-to-help-readers-grapple-with-challenging-texts?utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_campaign=Winter+24&utm\\_id=Winter24&utm\\_term=winter+school+season&utm\\_content=challenging+reads](https://www.edutopia.org/article/how-to-help-readers-grapple-with-challenging-texts?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=Winter+24&utm_id=Winter24&utm_term=winter+school+season&utm_content=challenging+reads)

If you're not  
teaching  
**vocabulary**,  
you're not  
teaching  
**comprehension.**

CAMPBELL creates  
E.O.R.

- From edutopia @edutopia - **How to support #ELLs in the science classroom**, from thecraftyscienceteacher on Instagram: "Keep key terms/vocab accessible to students, place a flip chart on their desk every day, hang a word wall, or both! Images help with word walls as well."  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1735103858286739599>
- From POPEY - With the launch of our new website, we are now able to post upcoming workshops on our [Events Page](#), and have just added the information and registration links for **five free workshops** we are offering in **February**.

## Upcoming Workshops

### February 2024 Workshops

#### POPEY's February Learning Series



- Wednesday, February 7 (3:15-4:15pm PST)
  - Supporting Playful Literacy Learning Through Story Workshop
- Wednesday, February 14 (3:15-4:15pm PST)
  - Communicating Student Learning: A Focus on Descriptive Feedback
- Wednesday, February 21 (3:15-4:15pm PST)
  - Exploring Vocabulary Instruction in Primary Classrooms

#### POPEY's Professional Development Day Sessions

- Friday, February 16 (9:00-11:00am PST)
  - A Comprehensive Framework for High Impact Reading & Writing Instruction
- Friday, February 16 (12:30-2:30pm PST)
  - We Are All Writers! Building K-3 Students' Identity as Growing Writers

Info and registration at  
[popey.ca/calendar#list](https://popey.ca/calendar#list)

**POPEY**  Provincial Outreach Program  
for the Early Years

- Note the session on Descriptive Feedback above: **Communicating Student Learning: A Focus on Descriptive Feedback**. We will explore how to: create descriptive feedback for reporting purposes using strength-based language connect descriptions of learning to the curriculum and plan for future learning. It is on Wednesday, February 14th from 3:15 - 4:15 pm
- What's **morphology** got to do with reading and writing? EVERYTHING!!! (30-page PDF)  
<https://www.literacyimpact.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Morphology-Resource-kit-updated-20.02.23-MS.pdf>



# NUMERACY

- Shared By **Janice Novakowski** @jnovakowski - An amazing resource by **Tamara Shand and Cassidy Cooper: Gifts from The Earth - Lessons and Resources for Primary Environmental Education** <https://bajantomorrow.wixsite.com/gifts-from-the-earth>
- Shared by **Donna Boucher** @MathCoachCorner - Let's ditch the tricks and focus on understanding! Teaching kids the place value basis for subtracting with regrouping is key. <https://bit.ly/48szFRR>. Check out this awesome video on teaching subtraction with regrouping using base-10 blocks! It's a great way to grasp the concept and bridge the gap between concrete and abstract thinking. Don't miss it! <https://bit.ly/3RAcPAV>
- **FREE Building Thinking Classrooms: The Little Things That Matter**
  - Presented by Dr. Peter Liljedahl (SFU)
  - Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 - 3:30PM PT
  - Duration: 60 minutes

In this session, Peter Liljedahl will look at the micro-moves—the little things we do—that make big differences in how students experience a thinking classroom. Each micro-move will be linked to a specific Building Thinking Classrooms macro-move.

In another time zone? We wish we could bring all of us together at a convenient time. If you're not able to make it, just register and we'll send you the recording afterwards:

<https://us.corwin.com/events/webinars/building-thinking-classrooms--the-little-things-that-matter>



Join us!

## BUILDING THINKING CLASSROOMS: THE LITTLE THINGS THAT MATTER

February 12, 2024 | 3:30pm PT / 6:30pm ET

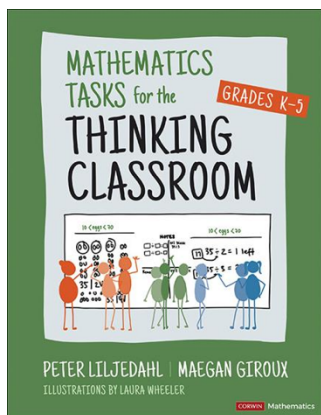
**REGISTER NOW**

**CORWIN**

Presented by



**Peter Liljedahl**

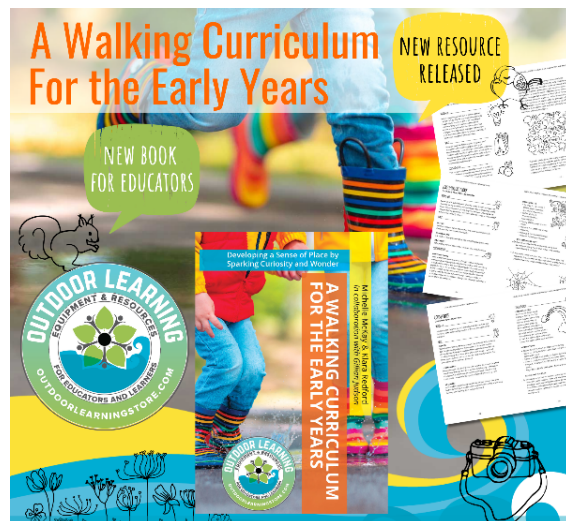


- From **Jordan Rappaport** @JRappaport27 - Really excited for this. Set to be published in the spring, but ready for pre-order now. @CorwinPress

## EXPLORATIONS

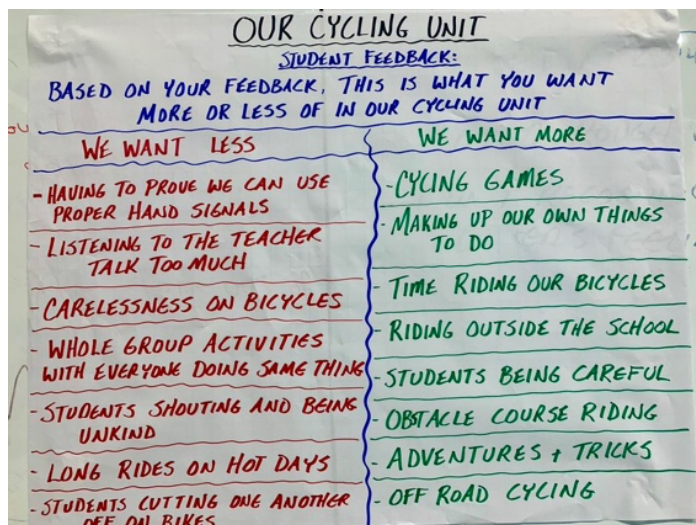
From **Gillian Judson** @perfinker - **NEWS! "A Walking Curriculum for the Early Years"** is now available! Learn more here: <https://ow.ly/QWJb50Q67HR>

This new resource book 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.



Shared by "be fit for life network" @bfflnetwork - Lesson plans created in partnership with @OrienteeringAB to introduce kids ages 5-12 to #Orienteering & outdoor adventure skills! **FREE download:** <https://shop.everactive.org/products/be-fit-for-lifes-orange-marks-the-spot>

## PHE/SEL



- From **Run Your Life Podcast** @andyvasily - Activating student voice/feedback is super useful in helping to better plan our units/lessons in #physed. Letting them know we've listened matters. Will use their feedback in our upcoming cycling unit to help plan the most meaningful learning experiences possible @meaningfulPE.

• **FREE from PHEBC:**  
**Critical Conversation: Daily Marks in PHE.**  
 Join us on Tuesday, March 05, 2024, from 7-8 pm PST as we chat about this topic and explore possibilities for our PHE classes. This Critical Conversation is open to everyone,

and it will not be recorded.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbOG3bhj0QFVnvD2MNUKKfD1F8xgKaDmaEqAxEDWUXrizzrw/viewform>

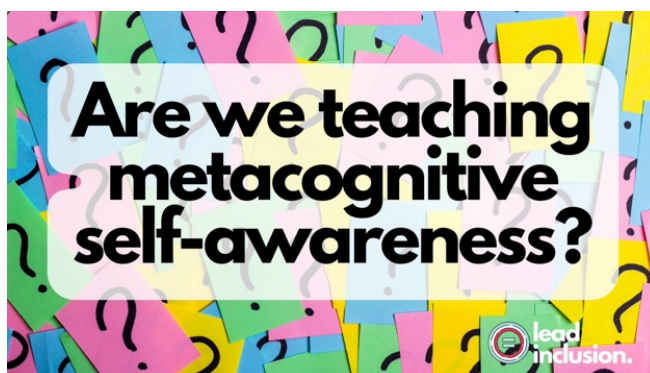
## INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

- From Ashley Aoki @MissAshleyAoki - Last year I read this beautiful piece about the power of circle. I do a lot of circle work, but hadn't done it at the end of the day. After reading it, I embedded it into our daily routine. On the days I forget, my students request it.  
<https://www.edutopia.org/video/60-second-strategy-appreciation-apology-aha/>



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- From Lee Ann Jung @leeannjung - **Metacognitive self-awareness** helps students understand their own learning process. Are we teaching it?



## ASSESSMENT/INSTRUCTION/REPORTING

- Shared by Rose Pillay @RosePillay1 - **Yukon Framework for Writing Descriptive Comments for Reports:** [http://lss.yukonschools.ca/uploads/4/5/5/0/45508033/appendix\\_l\\_comment\\_framework.pdf](http://lss.yukonschools.ca/uploads/4/5/5/0/45508033/appendix_l_comment_framework.pdf)
- 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
- From edutopia @edutopia - Our super popular series of 1-minute videos that break down effective classroom practices for every grade level is now in *\*one\** place.



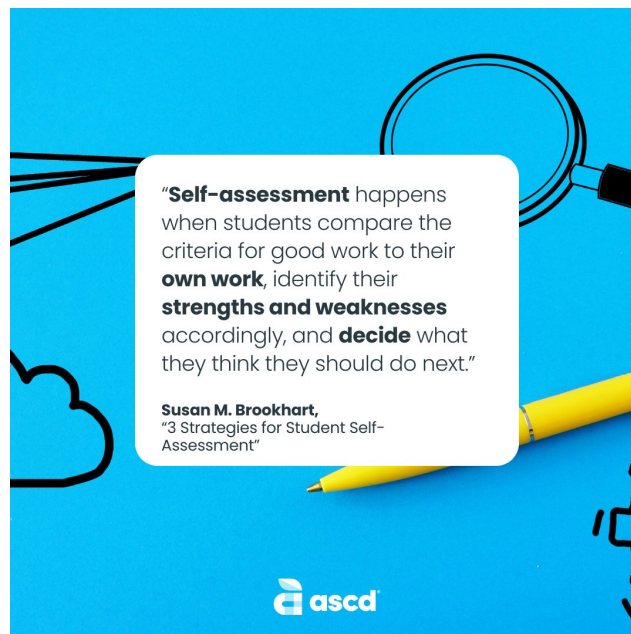
Check it out! (see link below) ☺



[https://www.edutopia.org/60-second-strategies-for-educators?utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_campaign=Winter%2B24&utm\\_id=Winter24&utm\\_term=winter%2Bschool%2Bseason&utm\\_content=60ss%2Bpage](https://www.edutopia.org/60-second-strategies-for-educators?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=Winter%2B24&utm_id=Winter24&utm_term=winter%2Bschool%2Bseason&utm_content=60ss%2Bpage)

- Shared by Kath Murdoch @kjinquiry - **Information, Explanation, and Celebration: Wall Documentation in an Inquiry Classroom**

<https://www.kathmurdoch.com.au/blog/2023/12/21/information-explanation-and-celebration-wall-documentation-in-an-inquiry-classroom>

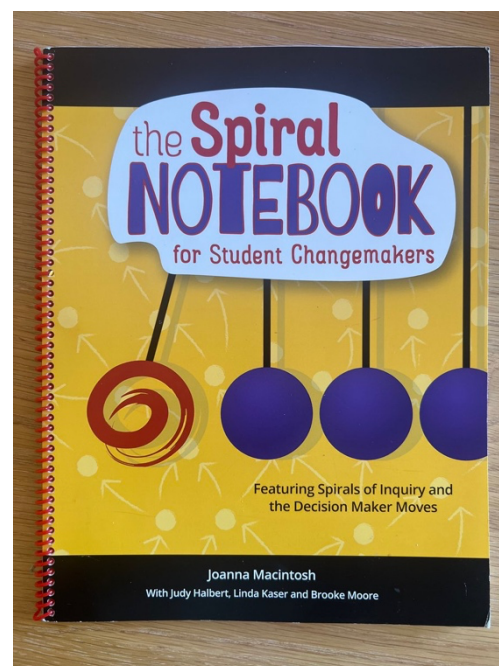


## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- 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, Apr 23** – Nikki Lineham, Kendra Jacobs  
**The webinars will be recorded. Register once and attend any or all of the sessions!**

- Shared by **Kath Murdoch** @kjinquiry - REALLY love this resource which adapts @kaser\_linda and @jhalbert8 's wonderful Spirals of Inquiry Model to students wishing to be change makers in their school and community. Fabulous for secondary students but easily adapted to upper primary. Get it at <http://noii.ca/resource>







# 2024 NOIE SYMPOSIUM

## *Connections & Community:*

### PEOPLE, PRACTICES, PROMISES



**Friday, May 10 | 8:30 – 4:30pm**  
**Saturday, May 11 | 8:30 – 12:30pm**



**The Westin Wall Centre, Richmond, BC**

***Make connections and  
strengthen community with  
colleagues committed to  
ensuring every learner crosses  
the stage with dignity, purpose  
and options.***



**REGISTER NOW**

For more information:  
[www.noie.ca/symposium](http://www.noie.ca/symposium)



#### **WITH A FOCUS ON...**

- Improving transitions for Indigenous learners
- Numeracy and literacy
- Language and culture revitalization
- Self-regulated learning
- Student agency & decision-making



**NETWORKS OF INQUIRY & INDIGENOUS EDUCATION**