

# CISPG LEARNING

Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George

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

Hello everyone!

Thank you to all for a very successful start-up in the first few weeks of September. I am very excited to be embarking on another year of learning together across our CISPG Diocese! I would like to wish a very warm "welcome back" to all CISPG employees who are returning to their former roles and a huge heartfelt thank you to all employees who are embarking on a new journey with us. Please know that I am here to support you as we create communities where all learners can thrive.

The CISPG Learning Update is a collection of curated resources and educational "wisdom" gathered primarily from across BC. Please share widely with your learning teams/cohorts. As well, let me know if you are looking for resources in a specific area of learning and I will do my best to accommodate.

All the best in 2024-2025!



## *With Gratitude ...*

Welcome and thank you to the CISPG Learning Services Team "LEADS" who have graciously stepped forward to connect and communicate with educators and schools across our Diocese:

**Medalana Jardim** - Annunciation

**Emma Scantland** - IC

**Jenna Gilbertson** - Notre Dame

**Tony Royan** - Sacred Heart

**Maria Lagunas** - St. Anthony's

**Shannon Wellington** - St. Joseph's

**Melissa Murrin** - St. Mary's

As well, welcome back to **Melodie Van Der Meer**, our wonderful **Christian Education Consultant**.

Melodie can be reached at the following email:

[mvandermeer@cispg.ca](mailto:mvandermeer@cispg.ca)

## october TO-DO LIST

POSITIVELY PRESENT



Living,  
**CELEBRATING,**  
and Proclaiming  
**OUR FAITH**

*Frances Roch, Principal of Learning Services*

Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George

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T: 250.964.5642 E: [frsch@cispg.ca](mailto:frsch@cispg.ca) X: @frances\_roch

I respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Indigenous nations in which I live, work, and learn. The Lheidli T'enneh Nation in Prince George. The Tsimshian Nation in Prince Rupert and Terrace. The Haisla Nation in Kitimat. The Wet'su'wen in Smithers. The Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta in Dawson Creek.



## 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

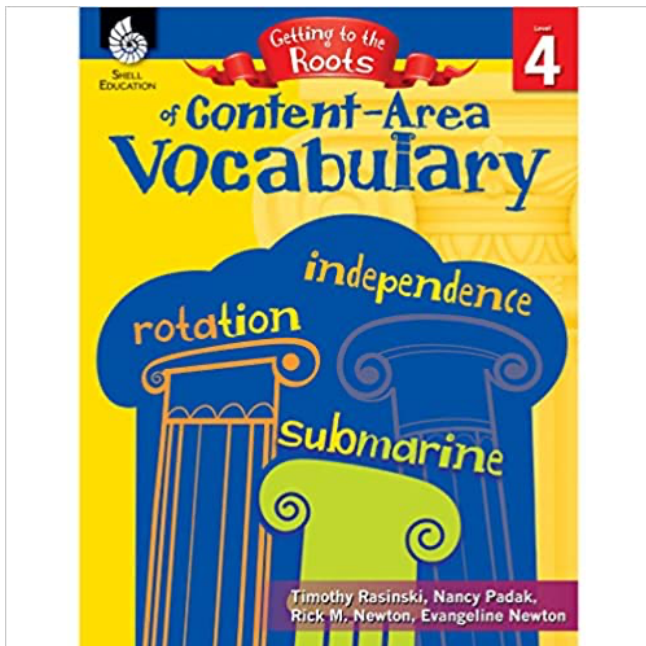
**Melodie Van Der Meer**, our amazing **Christian Education Consultant**, can be reached at the following email: [mvandermeer@cispg.ca](mailto:mvandermeer@cispg.ca). Here is a link to the channel on Teams which contains the links from our September 20th Co-Missioning Day including the slides, the CISPg Directory, the Core Competency/Catholic Social Teaching Reflections, and much more!

[CISPg CHRISTIAN EDUCATION | Co-Missioning Day 2024 Links and Docs | Microsoft Teams](#)

## LITERACY

Shared by **POPEY BC @POPEYBC** - POPEY is very excited to be a part of BC's first-ever **POPConference**, jointly presented by the province's 9 Provincial Outreach Programs, on the October 25th professional development day. Each POP will offer three sessions throughout the day, and registration is free. For more information and to register visit the event website:

<https://events.zoom.us/j/81234567890>



**POP Conference 2024**

A VIRTUAL DAY OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CURATED AND DELIVERED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION & CHILD CARE'S PROVINCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS (POPs)

**Session 1**  
Supporting K-3 Literacy Instruction

**Session 2**  
How We Learn to Read: The Reading Brain and Foundational Literacy Skills

**Session 3**  
Evidence-Based Tools for K-3 Literacy Assessment

**Join us for a day of learning!**

- Friday, October 25, 2024
- 9:00am - 2:45pm PST
- Virtual on Zoom
- Free entry

**REGISTER NOW!**

**POPEY** 

- From **Tim Rasinski @TimRasinski1 - Morphology Monday!** Autumn began recently with the Autumnal Equinox in the northern hemisphere. Thus, this week's morpheme/word root focus is EQUI-- which means equal/even/fair. Morphology/Word Root instruction is a great way to build vocabulary & comprehension: <https://www.teachercreatedmaterials.com/teachers/series/getting-to-the-roots-of-content-area-187/>

- From **TCM @tcmpub** via @timrasinski1 - **5 essential principles for impactful word study and vocabulary instruction** over on the TCM Blog! [https://blog.teachercreatedmaterials.com/5-principles-for-meaningful-word-study-and-vocabulary-instruction?utm\\_content=301816142&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter&hss\\_channel=tw-29306974](https://blog.teachercreatedmaterials.com/5-principles-for-meaningful-word-study-and-vocabulary-instruction?utm_content=301816142&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&hss_channel=tw-29306974)
- From Tim Rasinski @TimRasinski1 - **Poetry for Fluency!** New blog piece on the use of poetry to promote fluency and more (Using Poetry & Repeated Readings to Promote Fluency – June 2024). (10-minute read). <https://timrasinski.com/blog.html>
- Great visual shared by @MmeLockhartLDSB via @sstollar6 - Strong Tier 1 instruction reduces the need for extra interventions, ensuring students who need intensive support get it. Let's prioritize **strong foundational teaching for every student**
- Adrienne Gear - <https://www.readingpowergear.com/> **This is a must-use website for great reading information and resources.** Check out Adrienne's Webinars, Blog and Book Lists, e.g., **Top Ten Tuesday, Favourite Books About Gratitude** (and Thanksgiving): <https://readingpowergear.wordpress.com/>. Adrienne's Webinars are also a great place to start when exploring various literacy strategies, e.g., **Intermediate Novel Studies and Lit Circles**: <https://adriennegear.com/product/intermediate-novel-study-lit-circles-webinar-series/> **Adrienne's GearPicksPack** may be useful to schools in purchasing quality books. View the video here: <https://youtu.be/9fmA1aK1hX0?si=UENrYN0oLbBFQQu>



## NUMERACY

- From **Dan Finkel @MathforLove** - **Stupidity in Mathematics** -Subtraction Roundup -Curriculum PDFs and more! - <https://mailchi.mp/mathforlove/stupidity-in-mathematics>
- Shared by **Greg Tang @gregtangmath** - **SAT A.M. Math MeetUp!** Every month, we'll cover a major topic. We will start by making math visual & concrete by choosing manipulatives strategically. Later, number sense, operations, word problems, fractions, geometry, M&D, and algebraic thinking. Join us! <http://TangMath.com/freepd>
- From **Edutopia @edutopia** - A research-backed way to improve math skills \*and\* scores: **more practice with the fundamentals**: <https://www.edutopia.org/article/how-decreased-practice-time-plays-into-historic-math-declines>
- From **Denise Gaskins @letsplaymath** - **Math Game Monday** - This simple game gives children experience with probability and with addition in the hundreds. With a variation for more risky play. <https://buff.ly/4dXdTSZ>
- Shared by **Robert Kaplinsky @robertkaplinsky** - If you've also used worksheets to teach your students math, then I've recorded a webinar you'll want to check out. It's called **Why We Should Reconsider Using**



**Worksheets (And What We Should Be Doing Instead)**, with K-5 & 6-12 versions.

<https://robertkaplinsky.com/worksheets>

- From **Eric Milou @drMi** - **How to Get Kids Thinking Instead of Mimicking in Math Class**  
<https://kqed.org/mindshift/64539/how-to-get-kids-thinking-instead-of-mimicking-in-math-class>  
 Explicit instruction does play a role in a thinking classroom.

- From @AshleyPTaplin - Are there any questions" ---> "What questions do you have?" A little rephrase can make all the difference in prompting student thinking.

## Rephrasing Questions

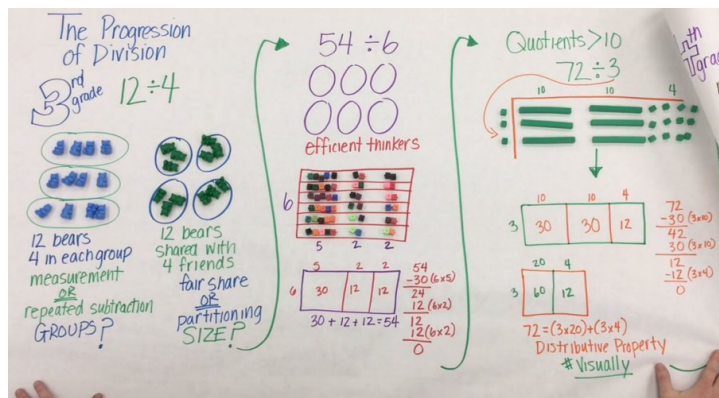
	From this...	To that...
In the Classroom	Are there any questions?	What questions do you have? (Trinity grad school)
		Who has the first question? (Kristen Damman)
		Ask me two questions about... (Howie Hua)
	What did you get?	How did you start? Talk through your thinking. (Thom Gibson) What makes you say that? (Miss Mathematical Mindset)
	Can someone in your group explain what you did?	Can someone <i>not</i> in this group explain what they did? (Building Thinking Classrooms)
	Where were you?	We missed you. Is everything okay? (Howie Hua)
	What don't you get?	What do you know? (Marcie Abramson)
		Explain the parts you do understand. (Thom Gibson)
		What do you wish you knew? (Chelsea O'Leary/John SanGiovanni)
	What are you doing? (When talking with students/observing)	What are you learning? (John Hattie)

- Check out **Ashley's amazing Math blog** for many more excellent resources and to join her email list:  
<https://ashleytaplin.com/resources/>

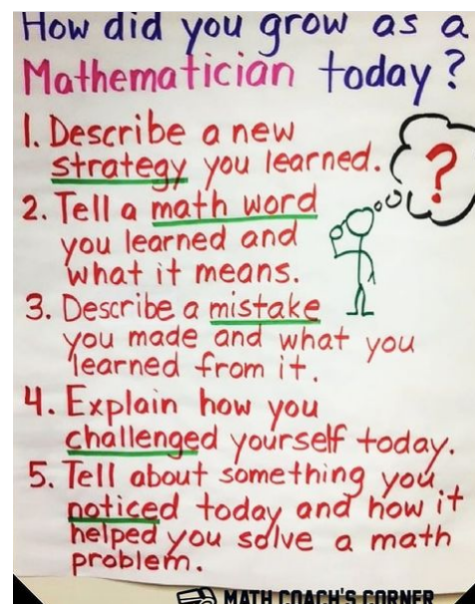
- Shared by **Mathigon**  
**@MathigonOrg** - Tangram was invented around 1700 in China. Using just 7 simple tiles, you can form a wide variety of different shapes or figures. We have 40 puzzles for you to explore. How many of them can you solve? Which one do you find the most

challenging? Explore them all at <https://polypad.amplify.com/tangram>

- Shared by **Robert Kaplinsky @robertkaplinsky** - This video from @gfletchy makes me realize that I never REALLY understood division as a kid. I was just a good robot: <https://gfletchy.com/2016/01/31/the-progression-of-division/>



- Sign up for Steve Wyborney's excellent blog and many free, outstanding resources: <https://stevewyborney.com/>**





# EXPLORATIONS

- From **Take Me Outside @takemeoutside** - Take Me Outside Week is a FREE weeklong event that runs from **October 21-25**! Join us for our BIGGEST year yet! From ready-to-use activities across all grades to virtual field trips that will take you and your learners around the world (maybe even out of this world). Sign up here: <https://takemeoutside.ca/tmoday/>

- Let's Talk Science is an excellent STEM resource:** <https://letstalkscience.ca/>

Check out **Projects for Students:**  
<https://letstalkscience.ca/projects>

And **STEM Storytime:**  
<https://letstalkscience.ca/events/stem-storytime>

And **many more learning opportunities** ☺  
Our 100+ [Outdoor Learning Partners](#) offer exceptional professional learning opportunities:

- Oct 1-Nov 15**, Virtual: [Fall 2024 eeCourse: Universal Design for Learning in Environmental Education](#) with California Association for Environmental & Outdoor Education (AEOE)
- Oct 3**, Virtual: [Gathering STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math Projects for the Garden](#) with Kids Gardening
- Oct 4-6**, Grand Rapids, MI: [MAEOE 2024 Conference](#) with the Michigan Alliance for Environmental & Outdoor Education
- Oct 4-6**, Annandale, MN: [2024 MAEE Conference - Inspire Together](#) with the Minnesota Association for Environmental Education
- Oct 5**, Saskatoon, SK: [Get Outside 101](#) with SaskOutdoors
- Oct 7-10**, Victoria, BC: [Adaptive Foundations Program](#) with Outward Bound & Power to Be
- Oct 8 & 10**, Virtual: [Grant Writing 101 virtual workshop](#) with the Arkansas Environmental Education Association
- Oct 9**, Virtual: [The Adventure Gap: Changing the Face of the Outdoors](#) with Outward Bound Canada
- Oct 9-10**, Toronto, ON: [The Evergreen Conference 2024](#) with Evergreen
- Oct 14-Nov 15**, Virtual: [Eco-Anxiety to Eco-Action Micro Credential](#) with Earth Rangers
- Oct 16-Dec 4**, Virtual: [Nêhiyawêwin \(Cree\) Language Course](#) with Natural Curiosity
- Oct 17**, Virtual: [Climate, Water and Resilience \(Gr. 6-12\)](#) with Project WET Canada
- Oct 21-Nov 18**, Virtual: [Naturally Inclusive - Engaging Children of all Abilities Outdoors](#) with Dr. Ruth Wilson & Karen Lai
- Oct 22**, Virtual: [Climate Connections: Climate Change Education in Outdoor Learning](#) with Outdoor Learning Partners
- Oct 23**, Virtual: [Take Me Outside Day](#) with Take Me Outside
- Oct 23-Dec 4**, Virtual: [Michif Language Introductory Course](#) with Outdoor Learning Partners



17. **Oct 24-26**, Wisconsin Dells, WI: [Connect, Explore, Engage: Education for the Next 50 Years](#) with the Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education
18. **Oct 25-26**, Vancouver, BC: [Rooted in Relationship Conference](#) with C2C
19. **Oct 29**, Virtual: [FutureMakers: Resources to Inspire Students for Sustainability](#) with Outdoor Learning Partners
20. **Oct 31-May 31**, Virtual: [4 Seasons of Indigenous Learning 2024-2025 Course](#)
21. **Nov 1-2**, Kananaskis, AB: [Camp GEOEC](#) with the Global, Environmental & Outdoor Education Council
22. **Nov 5**, Virtual: [Virtual Book Launch! Sitting with Nature: An Educator's Guide to Sit Spots](#) with Lauren MacLean
23. **Nov 13-15**, Morehead State University: [2024 KAAE Conference: Forging Paths for Environmental Education](#) with KAAE
24. **Nov 14**, Boise, ID: [Sustainability Leadership Academy](#) with Green Schools National Network
25. **Nov 15-17**, Randle, WA: [Washington's Outdoor, Environmental, and Sustainability Educators' 2024 Conference: Growing Together](#) with E3 Washington
26. **Nov 19**, Virtual: [Virtual Book Launch! Whispers of the Earth: A Journey through Indigenous Wisdom](#) with Launa Purcell and Carl Sam
27. **Jan 15-Mar 5**, Virtual: [Kanien'kéha \(Mohawk\) Introductory Language Course](#) with Natural Curiosity
28. **Feb 19-Mar 12**, Virtual: [The Classroom Gardener](#) Course with Megan Zeni
29. **May 2-4**, Petaluma, CA: [Annual Statewide Conference 2025](#) with California AEOE
30. **May 8-10**, Banff National Park, AB: [2025 Outdoor Learning Conference](#) with Take Me Outside
31. **Ongoing**, Virtual: [Outdoor Learning Certification Program](#) with Take Me Outside
32. **Ongoing**, Canada-wide: [Forest and Nature School Practitioners Course](#) with Child & Nature Alliance of Canada

## PHE/SEL

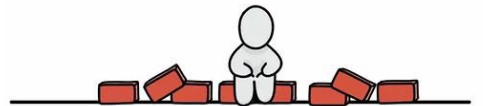


- Shared by **PHE Canada @PHECanada** - Whether you are on the way to school or need something to listen to during your workout or admin hour, check out our Podcast episodes from the first season! They are available wherever you get your podcast.
- From **Josh Ogilvie @joshogilvie4** - How can we meaningfully embed Self-Assessment in our PE classes to bring Ss into the learning & assessment processes & go beyond daily scores or How I Feel measures? Excited to share strategies @ the **@PHEinBC conference Oct 25 Session 2** (11 - 12pm) #PHE Reg: <http://tinyurl.com/2amynrgh>

## 66 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



IS BETTER THAN



DELAYED PERFECTION 22

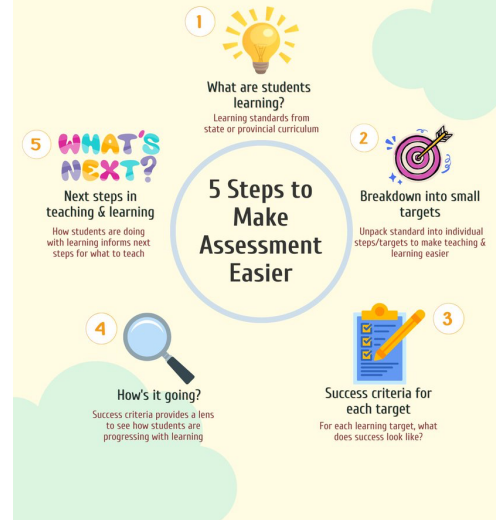
- MARK TWAIN -

@melodie\_tld

## ASSESSMENT IN PE

"one of the most fraught and troublesome issues physical educators have had to deal with over the past 40 years or so."

(López-Pastor et al. 2013)



Shared by **Action for Happiness** @actionhappiness -

Optimistic October 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 <b>1</b> Write down three things you can look forward to this month	<b>2</b> Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	<b>3</b> Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	<b>4</b> Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	<b>5</b> Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	<b>6</b> Remind yourself that things can change for the better	
<b>7</b> Look for the good in people around you today	<b>8</b> Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	<b>9</b> Share an important goal with someone you trust	<b>10</b> Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	<b>11</b> Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	<b>12</b> Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	<b>13</b> Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing
<b>14</b> Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation	<b>15</b> Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	<b>16</b> Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	<b>17</b> Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	<b>18</b> Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	<b>19</b> Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	<b>20</b> Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time
<b>21</b> Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you	<b>22</b> Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	<b>23</b> Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	<b>24</b> Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	<b>25</b> You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	<b>26</b> Find a new perspective on a problem you face	<b>27</b> Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time
 <b>28</b> Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?	<b>29</b> Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	<b>30</b> Identify three things that give you hope for the future	<b>31</b> Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month			

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**

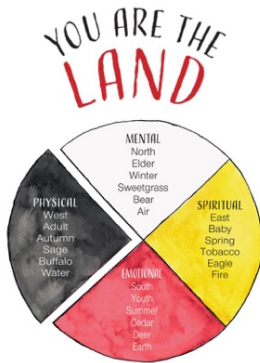
**Happier · Kinder · Together**



# INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

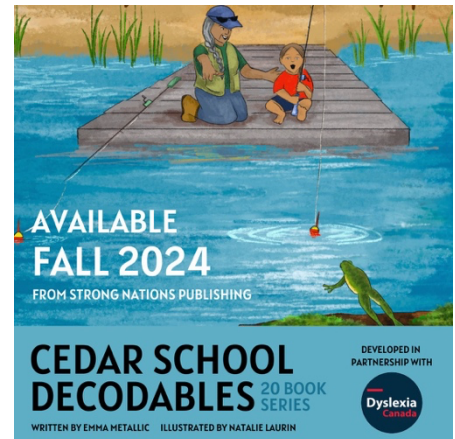
- **Subscribe to the Strong Nations @strong\_nations newsletter -** <https://www.strongnations.com/>
- Shared by Strong Nations @strongnations - **Available fall 2024 from Strong Nations Publishing!** We're excited to announce our

Coming soon from Strong Nations Publishing ...



The second book in the **ALL THAT YOU ARE** series!

upcoming **decodable reading series**. These books were developed in partnership with Dyslexia Canada. We're so grateful for their generous support & expertise! More updates coming soon on our website!



- A new book in the **All That You Are** series is coming soon from Strong Nations Publishing! Find the first book in the series, You Are Sacred, here:

[https://www.strongnations.com/store/item\\_display.php?i=10700](https://www.strongnations.com/store/item_display.php?i=10700)

# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- **Shared by Dr. Shelley Moore @tweetsomemoore**  
Friends. We have been busy. Over the last few months, me and my team have been dreaming. And then we kept dreaming. And then I talked to @KatieNovakUDL who makes you feel like you can do anything. And all of a sudden, these dreams have come to life.

<http://drshelleymoore.com/outside-pin>

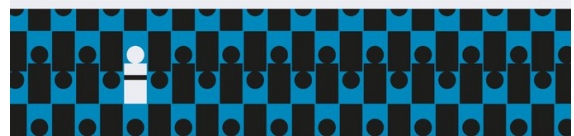
**Check out this site and subscribe to the newsletter!**

May I present to you our new inclusion passion project - **Outside Pin Consulting**. A collection of speakers and facilitators for learning and professional development events with a common goal...supporting students, families, and educators.

We all know that no one person knows everything... or has the lived experience to understand everything. We also know that inclusion relies on the multiple perspectives and the expertise of many. I have been so fortunate to be able to connect with and learn from many and I want to share these learning opportunities and lived experiences with you.

Over the next few weeks I will be announcing our new Outside Pin Team. Incredible people whom I have learned from and who each have a unique and important perspective to offer. We are working together to share our stories and ideas based on our experiences to form a collaborative collective that models what inclusive education relies on.

**outside pin consulting**



- From Lee-Ann Jung @leeannjung - **Summative assessments** don't have to be a formal test or project. In fact, formal assessments are often the least valid representation of learning. Our informal assessment, even conversations with students, can and should be used to summarize learning.
- From Lee-Ann Jung via Teacher2Teacher - With detailed roadmaps to help reach their goals, Ss are more prepared to navigate the journey!

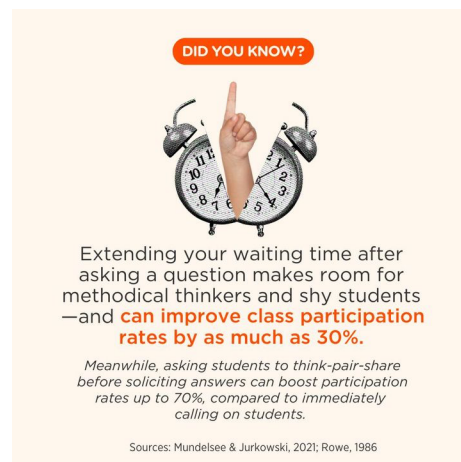
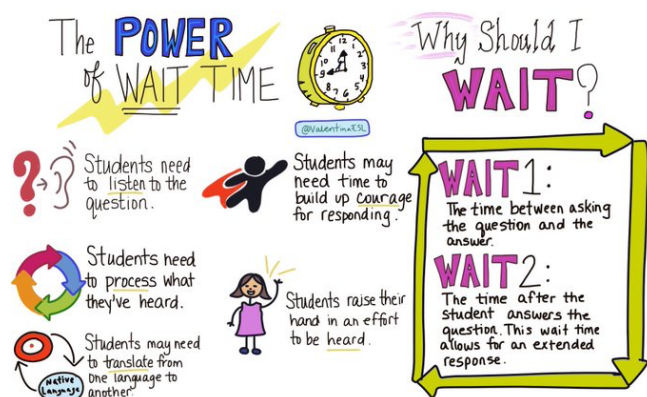
Check out the Goal Worksheet above -

[https://leadinclusion.org/files/ugd/5c0950\\_643401c0a0ea4f8a912a66a818d84383.pdf](https://leadinclusion.org/files/ugd/5c0950_643401c0a0ea4f8a912a66a818d84383.pdf)

- From **Colorin Colorado @ColorinColorado** - Using Visuals with ELLs -- strategy & slide deck for free PD: <https://colorincolorado.org/teaching-ells/ell-classroom-strategy-library/using-visuals>

## ASSESSMENT/INSTRUCTION/REPORTING

- Shared by edutopia @ edutopia - "The thoughtful use of underlining, highlighting, and arrows to call attention to crucial ideas can boost student retention by 36%," writes Edutopia's @YoukiTerada. For more research-backed tips for scaffolding lessons, read on: <https://www.edutopia.org/article/6-foundational-ways-to-scaffold-student-learning>
- Shared by Rose Pillay @RosePillay1 Via **POPEY BC @POPEYBC** - **Communicating Student Learning: A Focus on Descriptive Feedback** [https://youtu.be/laJg2B4oy14?si=EAXHSc\\_GFXe60YYt](https://youtu.be/laJg2B4oy14?si=EAXHSc_GFXe60YYt)
- Also shared by Rose Pillay @RosePillay1 - **Report Card sample from SD #35** (Langley): <https://instructionalservices.sd35.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/76/2021/11/FIRST-TERM-Grade4ReportCardExample4.pdf>
- From **edutopia @edutopia** - **Our resource collection for new teachers** is here! Educators—both veteran and new—share what they wish they knew on day one about classroom design, assessment, working with families, and more. Check it out and pass it on! A Starter Pack of Resources for new teachers: [https://www.edutopia.org/package/edutopia-resources-new-teachers?gad\\_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwgf3BhBeEiwAFxrGwZhaxtnCwOZdUH6uLbqSOq69sDceFRW0Pe13j8JbkC6ewJ6r9bi2hoCO90QAvD\\_BwE](https://www.edutopia.org/package/edutopia-resources-new-teachers?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwgf3BhBeEiwAFxrGwZhaxtnCwOZdUH6uLbqSOq69sDceFRW0Pe13j8JbkC6ewJ6r9bi2hoCO90QAvD_BwE)
- Shared by MindShift @MindShiftKQED - Wait time between asking a question and calling on someone for an answer – as well as waiting to respond to an answer – is an important strategy to include for all learners. Sketchnote via @ValentinaESL



- From **Shane Safir @ShaneSafir** - Don't miss today's NEW episode where **Jo Chrona @luudisk** shares what needs to be said about student voice and agency in these complex times. (Hint: It starts with us educators listening to students and exploring our own biases!) Subscribe and leave 5 s: <http://streetdata.podbean.com>

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- Shared by **Book Creator Team @BookCreatorApp** - Looking for innovative ways to check for understanding? Dr. Monica Burns shares creative strategies in her updated ebook on formative assessment with Book Creator. Explore audio responses, graphic organizers, and more! <https://hubs.la/Q02NwK-J0>
- Registration for the 63rd annual **Northwest Mathematics Conference on October 24-26 at Whistler** is now OPEN! For more info and to register - <http://bcamt.ca/nw2024>
- **November 15 - November 17, 2024 - 2024 FREE Make Math Moments Virtual Summit**  
1 Free Virtual Conference Weekend = 180 Days of Math Lessons, Resources, ideas, and Inspiration!  
K-12 Educators: Empower your pedagogical practice and deepen your **mathematics** content knowledge, while enjoying every minute of it: <https://summit.makemathmoments.com/>
- Just in case you need some additional inspiration as to what teaching is all about, watch this short **Ted Talk**: <https://youtu.be/SFnMTHhKdkw?si=6psm14FaMgUZCMwd>

