

# CISPG LEARNING

Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George

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



**30 RESOURCES & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH**

June

June 21

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY**

*Every Child Matters*

[outdoorlearning.com/indigenous-resources-canada](https://outdoorlearning.com/indigenous-resources-canada)

**teacher**

[teach-er] • noun

(n.) the profession that creates all other professions.

TEACHER GOALS

Hello everyone! At this time, I would like to thank you for all you do for CISPG learners! I hope that you spend some time this summer engaged in "beautiful moments" with those who are special to you. Happy Summer ☺

In celebration of National Indigenous History Month in June and National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, the Outdoor Learning School & Store is sharing these **30 resources and learning opportunities** recommended by Indigenous staff, advisors and partners, and developed by Indigenous authors, educators and organizations. Please review this link and the many helpful resources in anticipation of September 2025 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation: <https://outdoorlearning.com/indigenous-resources->

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

*Frances Roch, Principal of Learning Services*

Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George  
 6500 Southridge Avenue, Prince George, BC, V2N 5P9  
 T: 250.964.5642 E: [froch@cispg.ca](mailto:froch@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'suwe'ten in Smithers. The Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta in Dawson Creek.

More kindness. More laughter. More looking up at the stars. More long walks. More deep conversations. More good books. More coffee dates. More art. More music. More delight. More curiosity. More getting lost in a beautiful moment. More ordinary, every day magic.



*Nanea Hof*

# 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).

As you begin planning for next year, you can find all of the **Catholic Social Teaching/Core Competency Reflections** in one place here! Updates include **Indigenous and Faith-Based Book lists**:

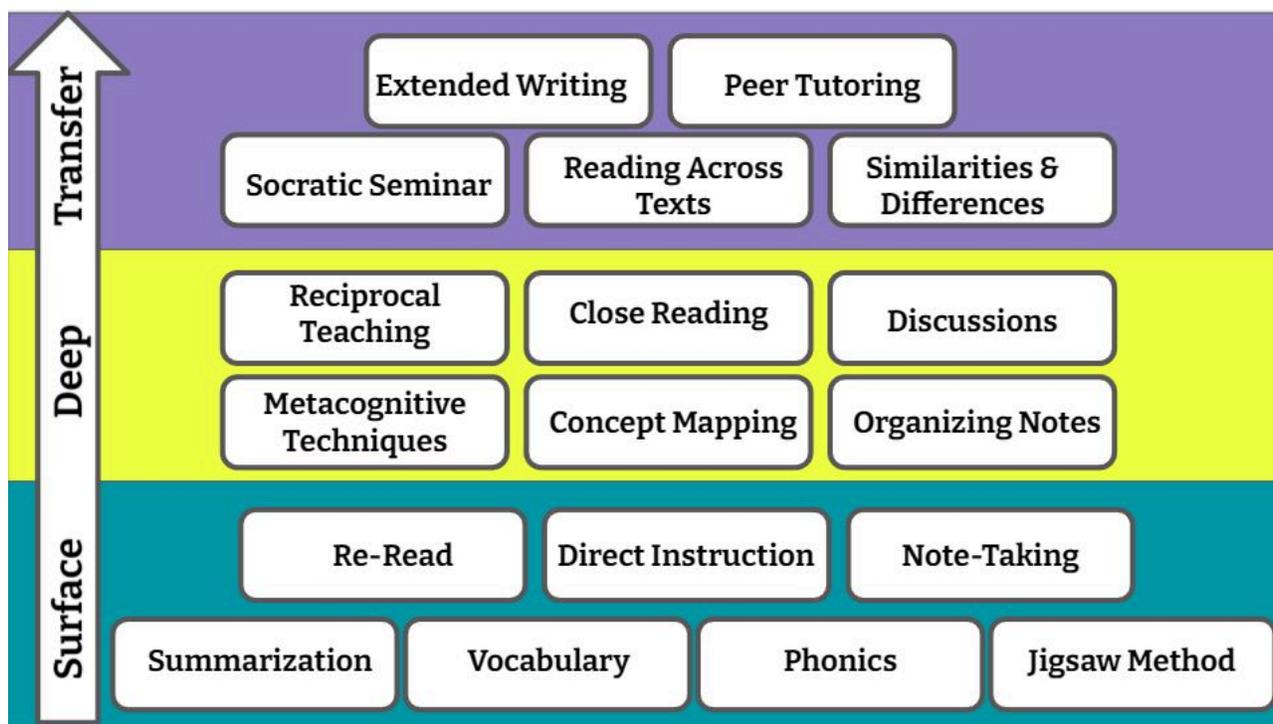
<https://padlet.com/melodievandermeer/breakout-room/ZNL0qanPLZpQvP1d-DI7yzEoZPrQvnAmK>

May you have a peaceful and joy-filled summer break! If you can, take a few minutes of prayer and meditation each day to fully embrace your well-deserved rest. Check out **Hallow's prayers for teachers**:

<https://hallow.com/pages/53/>

## LITERACY

- Shared by **Regie Routman** @regieroutman - Learn practical, easy-to-implement strategies and actions for more effective teaching and learning such as the power of storytelling, poetry writing, teaching with empathy, the reading-writing connection. See video session on my homepage at <http://regieroutman.org>
- From **TCEA @TCEA** - Looking to enhance student reading comprehension across all subjects? Discover 18 explicit reading strategies, designed to be integrated into any classroom setting. These strategies are backed by research and provide clear examples to help educators model reading skills effectively. <https://buff.ly/A0iH3R5>



## Fluency in Perspective: Grade 7



ONlit

- Shared by **ONlit.org @ONlit\_social** - **Fluency resource for Grade 7** - This collection of passages supports fluency while highlighting diverse, underrepresented voices and encouraging critical thinking—rooted in Canadian contexts. Learn more <https://onlit.org/resource/fluency-in-perspective-grade-7/>

- From the **Florida Centre for Reading Research @TheFCRR** - Coaches: Want to boost **adolescent literacy**? Dr. Kevin Smith highlights 4 key strategies + a free infographic from FCRR. Engagement, vocabulary, comprehension, and discussion! Watch here: <https://youtu.be/ho7kuFHazYk>

- From **Melissa & Lori Love Literacy Podcast @literacypodcast** - Want every podcast episode we've done on fluency—all in one place? Now you've got it. We pulled together 12 incredible episodes featuring

leading fluency experts—plus a detailed blog post packed with classroom strategies. Tap to read now: <https://literacypodcast.com/blog/everything-you-need-to-know-about-fluency-in-12-podcast-episodes>



- And again, Melissa & Lori Love Literacy Podcast @literacypodcast - Want a book to help you teach phonics and decoding? Here's one of our favorites! Reading Above the Fray by Julia Lindsey **Tap the link for ALL of our phonics and decoding book recommendations!** <https://literacypodcast.com/blog/5-of-our-favorite-books-for-phonics-instruction>
- Shared by **ONlit.org @ONlit\_social** - **Please note that these resources correspond to the Ontario ELA curriculum. However, they provide many specific examples of practice and current resources that can be adapted to the BC curriculum at the teacher's discretion 😊**

### 17 Principles of Effective Instruction

The following list of 17 principles emerges from the research discussed in the main article. It overlaps with, and offers slightly more detail than, the 10 principles used to organize that article.

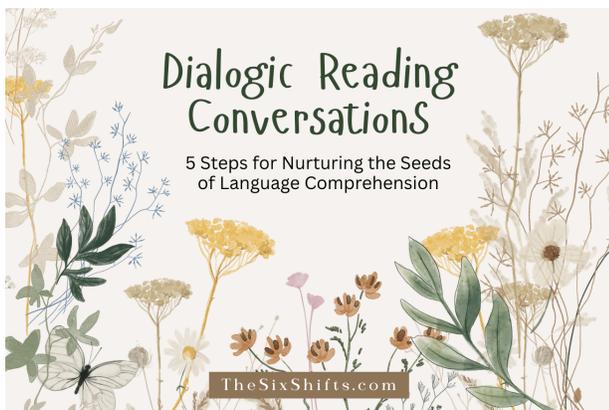
- Begin a lesson with a short review of previous learning.
- Present new material in small steps with student practice after each step.
- Limit the amount of material students receive at one time.
- Give clear and detailed instructions and explanations.
- Ask a large number of questions and check for understanding.
- Provide a high level of active practice for all students.
- Guide students as they begin to practice.
- Think aloud and model steps.
- Provide models of worked-out problems.
- Ask students to explain what they have learned.
- Check the responses of all students.
- Provide systematic feedback and corrections.
- Use more time to provide explanations.
- Provide many examples.
- Reteach material when necessary.
- Prepare students for independent practice.
- Monitor students when they begin independent practice.

—B.R.

- **Grade 1 Guide** is packed with key learning goals and a peek into what students will explore this year! Find the resource - <https://onlit.org/grade-guides/grade-1/introduction-to-grade-1/>
- **Grade 2 Guide** – packed with high-quality, standards-aligned literacy resources, lesson plans, and support for diverse learners. Perfect for boosting reading skills! Bookmark for later! <https://onlit.org/grade-guides/grade-2/grade-2-introduction/>
- **Grade 3 Guide** - <https://onlit.org/grade-guides/grade-3/introduction-to-grade-3/>

- Also shared by **ONlit.org @ONlit\_social** via Pam Kastner: “What incredible instructional resources offered freely by @ONlit\_social! The webinar begins with Dr. @unamalcolm expertly sharing the **research for embedded picture mnemonics**, followed by practitioner implementation tips from Kate Winn @thismomloves & Melissa Smith. Don't miss the webinar AND the resources! Print files to download: <https://onlit.org/resource/embedded-picture-mnemonics-print-files/> Webinar recording: <https://youtube.com/watch?v=KyYsuX>

- From Pam Kastner @liv2learn - Explore 67 PD sessions & a national resource hub to support upper elementary - high school. **Dive into PaTTAN & The Reading League resources!**  
Padlet: <https://bit.ly/Kastner-SSS-SecondaryLiteracySuccess>
- Shared by Doug Lemov @Doug\_Lemov - Starting next week I'll be co-hosting the **@KnowledgeMatsr podcast** with @dylanwiliam & @natwexler, pursuing topics on how the science of learning can better guide literacy instruction. I'm VERY excited New episodes drop here:  
<http://knowledgematterscampaign.org/podcast/> <https://pic.x.com/sODTikxgYy>
- From Jan & Kari: "We're thrilled to share the fully expanded Blending Magic—now developed into three full libraries of meaning-rich tools designed to support blending, spelling, and vocabulary instruction. **From a single collection focused on CVC words to a suite of tools spanning the phonics continuum**, this resource has grown to meet your real classroom needs ... Now, your students can experience the magic of blending, decoding, spelling, and (YES!) vocabulary building—all with even more essential phonics patterns across 9 collections"— **Complements your current phonics program:** <https://blendingmagic.com>



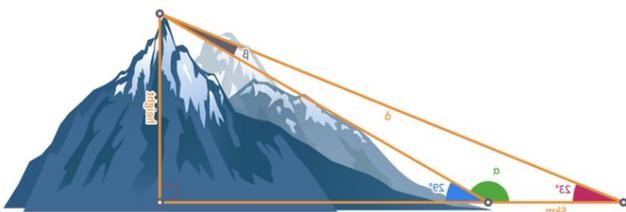
- Also, from Jan & Kari - "In our newest blog post, we're diving into the power of dialogic conversations—those every day, meaningful exchanges that help children grow the language they need to understand what they read.

With a research-backed framework and loads of real-world examples, we'll show you how simple conversation patterns can become some of your most powerful instructional tools.

Whether you're reading aloud to a kindergartner or coaching a fifth grader through deeper discussions, this is

about growing a reader's vocabulary—one powerful conversation at a time. **Read the Full Blog Post:**  
[https://thesixshifts.com/2025/06/dialogic-reading/?utm\\_source=convertkit&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Did+you+know%3F+Vocab+accounts+for+up+to+80%25+of+reading+comprehension%21+-+17965755](https://thesixshifts.com/2025/06/dialogic-reading/?utm_source=convertkit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Did+you+know%3F+Vocab+accounts+for+up+to+80%25+of+reading+comprehension%21+-+17965755)

## NUMERACY



- From **Mathigon@MathigonOrg** - 72 years ago, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay reached the top of Mount Everest. More than a century earlier, mathematicians used trigonometry to calculate its precise height. Learn more at <http://math.fit/mountains>

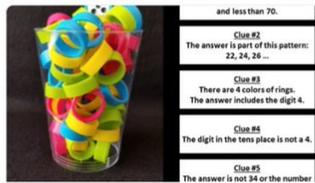
- From Robert Kaplinsky @robertkaplinsky - Have you seen <https://samedifferentimages.wordpress.com> from **@bstockus**? **Same or Different?** is a routine that provides students opportunities to construct arguments when

comparing objects, such as numbers or shapes.

- If you are looking for some fantastic images for students to practice estimation, check out **Steve Wyborney's Esti-Mysteries**. Very sharp! <https://stevewyborney.com/category/esti-mysteries/>

# Steve Wyborney's Blog

Sharing Thoughts About Education



and less than 70.  
 Clue #2  
 The answer is part of this pattern:  
 22, 24, 26...  
 Clue #3  
 There are 4 colors of rings.  
 The answer includes the digit 4.  
 Clue #4  
 The digit in the tens place is not a 4.  
 Clue #5  
 The answer is not 34 or the number

October 7, 2024

**110 New Esti-  
Mysteries**



is one of these numbers: 50, 52, 54...  
 Clue #2  
 The answer is not between 61 and 81.  
 Clue #3  
 The answer does not include the digit 2  
 or the digit 4.  
 Clue #4  
 The digit 6 is not in the answer.  
 Clue #5  
 The answer is not 50 or the number

October 15, 2023

**100 New Esti-  
Mysteries**



1700 is between 100 and 200.  
 Clue #2  
 The answer is less than 41.  
 Clue #3  
 The answer is part of this pattern:  
 22, 24, 26...  
 Clue #4  
 The answer does not include  
 the digit 3.  
 Clue #5  
 ... ..

October 2, 2022

**170 New Esti-  
Mysteries**

**10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BASIC FACT FLUENCY**

- 1** DEFINITION: EFFICIENCY + ACCURACY + FLEXIBILITY = FACT FLUENCY
- 2** ACCURACY MEANS STUDENTS KNOW THE CORRECT ANSWER AND CAN EXPLAIN IT.
- 3** FLEXIBILITY MEANS STUDENTS CAN THINK ABOUT PROBLEMS IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS.
- 4** EFFICIENCY MEANS THAT STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE THE MOST EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR A GIVEN PROBLEM AND APPLY THEM CONFIDENTLY WITH UNDERSTANDING.
- 5** AUTOMATICITY COMES OVER TIME. BEING FAST DOES NOT = FLUENT. WE DO WANT STUDENTS TO DEVELOP INSTANT RECALL EVENTUALLY.
- 6** FLUENCY DEVELOPS THROUGH UNDERSTANDING. FIRST, STUDENTS SHOULD UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPTS AND RELATIONSHIPS BEHIND FACTS BY DOING PURPOSEFUL ACTIVITIES AND PLAYING GAMES BEFORE FOCUSING ON RECALL. MEANING COMES BEFORE INSTANT RECALL.
- 7** STRATEGIES ARE CRUCIAL. STUDENTS NEED TO LEARN ABOUT NUMBER RELATIONSHIPS, CONNECTIONS AND PATTERNS.
- 8** PRACTICE MAKES PERMANENT: REGULAR, DISTRIBUTED PRACTICE OVER TIME IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN CRAMMING EVERYTHING INTO 1 MATH UNIT. SHORT, FREQUENT PRACTICE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IS HOW STUDENTS MASTER THEIR MATH FACTS!
- 9** INDIVIDUAL TIMELINES: STUDENTS DEVELOP FLUENCY AT DIFFERENT RATES. MOST CHILDREN ACHIEVE ADDITION/SUBTRACTION FLUENCY (WITHIN 20) BY THE END OF 2ND GRADE AND MULTIPLICATION/DIVISION FLUENCY BY THE END OF 3RD GRADE (WITHIN 100).
- 10** ASSESSMENT SHOULD BE DIAGNOSTIC: TESTING SHOULD IDENTIFY WHICH FACTS STUDENTS KNOW FLUENTLY VERSUS WHICH NEED MORE WORK, NOT JUST PROVIDE AN OVERALL SCORE. USE MATH RUNNING RECORDS TO GET STARTED.

CONTACT US: 347-888-4927 | drnick@mathfactfluencyplayground.com | www.mathfactfluencyplayground.com  
 WE DO PD, WORKSHOPS, COACHING AND COURSES

- Shared by **Illustrative Mathematics @IllustrateMath** - Overwhelmed by wordy math problems? Look at the access strategies built into IM<sup>®</sup> Math. This week's blog post highlights a routine for tackling complex problems without simplifying the language. Read "**Tackling Wordy Problems**" now <http://knowim.org/wordyproblems>
- From David Petro @davidpetro314 - **Ontario Math Links** - My favourite #math related links from this week: <https://ontariomath.blogspot.com/2025/06/math-links-for-week-ending-june-6th-2025.html>
- Shared by Denise Gaskins @letsplaymath - **Math Game Monday: Krypto** This game gives older students practice consolidating everything they've learned about number relationships. <https://denisegaskins.com/2025/06/09/math-game-monday-krypto/>
- From Mathigon @MathigonOrg - **Deck 6 of Addition and Subtraction by Heart 2**, uses number bars to provide the most abstract representation of subtraction within 20. Try for yourself and learn more about the free fluency practice resource at <http://fluency.amplify.com>
- Shared by Nicki Newton <https://linktr.ee/drnicki> @drnickimath - Have conversations about **math fact fluency** at your school! <https://bit.ly/43z9UQe> (see graphic to the left.
- From **Box Cars & One-Eyed Jacks** <https://boxcarsandoneeyedjacks.com/> - "We're having a **Summer Warehouse Sale** which means you have an opportunity to save with clear out prices until August 31st, 2025."

We will be closing our warehouse as of March 2026. Get your Box Cars Materials now while supplies last!

## EXPLORATIONS



From **TCEA @TCEA** - Ever find yourself with 10 minutes left at the end of class and nothing to do? Shake Up Learning's Make-Break idea has you covered! Kasey Bell shares quick and creative mini-makerspace challenges—perfect for boosting engagement, creativity, and critical thinking in just one short session. Easy to prep, tons of impact.

[buff.ly/J1UYNuA](https://buff.ly/J1UYNuA)

## PHE/SEL

- **Assessment in Physical and Health Education Teacher Resource Book** by Josh Ogilvie via Chilliwack SD #33: <https://learningservices.sd33.bc.ca/sites/learningservices.sd33.bc.ca/files/2022-11/Assessment%20in%20PHE%20Teacher%20Resource%20Handbook.pdf>
- From **JoshOgilvie @joshogilvie4** - I'm launching a new membership for #PhysEd Ts focused on clarifying & making #assessment & #grading meaningful & impactful & helping them feel more confident, clear, & empowered in their teaching. It's called **The #PE Assessment Blueprint**. More information in the Fall.

## INDIGENOUS EDUCATION



- Shared by **Carolyn Roberts @mcarolynroberts** - Check out our website for this meaningful discussion on ways you can include Indigenous education into your teaching practice. <https://www.carolynroberts.net/single-post/how-to-transform-classroom-practices-for-meaningful-indigenous-inclusion>



### Sign-up by June 30 for this incredible [Indigenous Learning Opportunity!](#)

If you are just starting your Indigenous learning journey, we invite you to join us for:

- **[Season 1: Foundations of Knowledge - Canada](#)**

Or, if you already have a strong foundation of knowledge, we invite you to join us for:

- **[Season 2: Learning from the Land](#)**

These Indigenous-led learning opportunities are **open to ALL adults**. They **start in the Fall and run until the Spring**, with Summer for reflection.

## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- From **ColorinColorado @ColorinColorado** - We have added a new #ELL strategy and slide deck to our strategy library! **Building Background Knowledge** | <https://colorincolorado.org/teaching-ells/ell-classroom-strategy-library/building-background-knowledge>
- Also, from **ColorinColorado @ColorinColorado** - Updated! **12 Tips for Supporting ELLs' Vocabulary Development** | <https://www.colorincolorado.org/article/12-tips-supporting-ells-vocabulary-development>
- <https://buff.ly/VTIZOUP> via **ESL Kids Games**

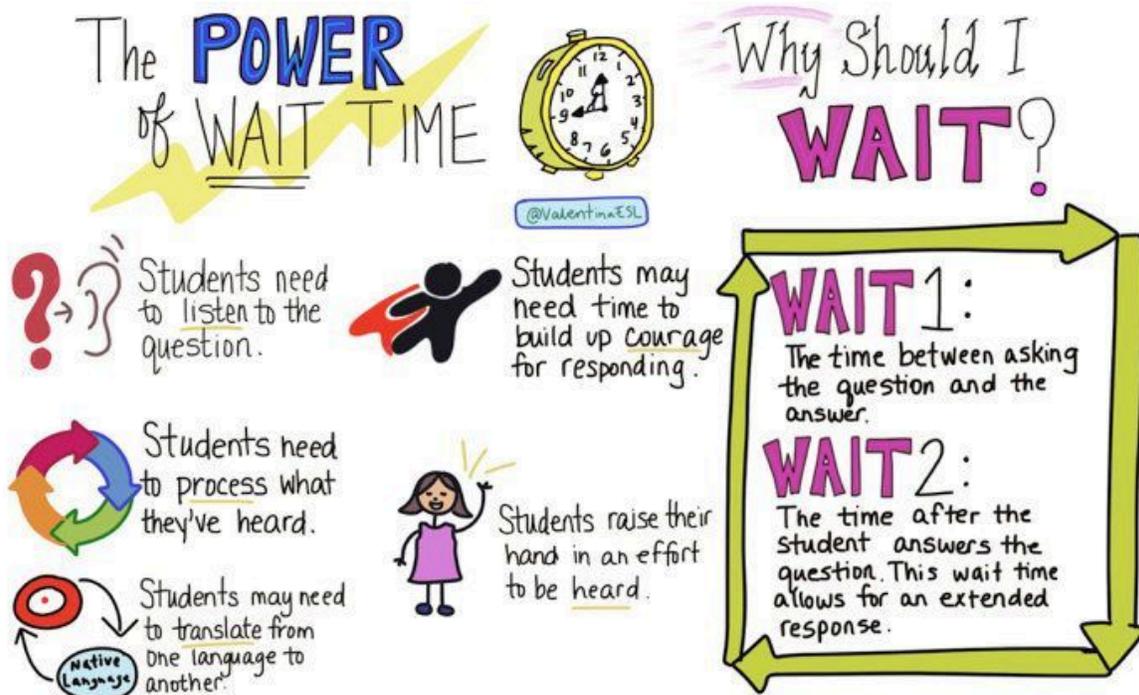


Inclusion isn't just *inviting* someone to sit at your table.

It's *believing* they belong there.

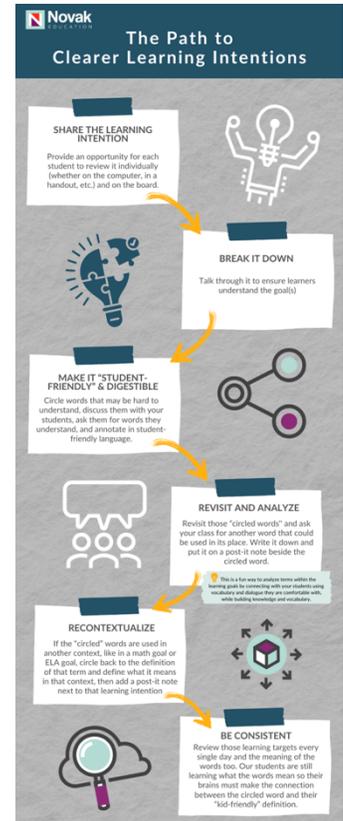
## ASSESSMENT/INSTRUCTION

- From TCEA @TCEA - **Wait Time: The Silent Catalyst for Deeper Learning** - In the rush of classroom instruction, it's easy to overlook the power of a simple pause. Research reveals that extending wait time to just 3-5 seconds after posing a question can significantly enhance student responses—making them longer, more accurate, and more thoughtful. <https://buff.ly/Dzhx4rq> via ValentinaESL



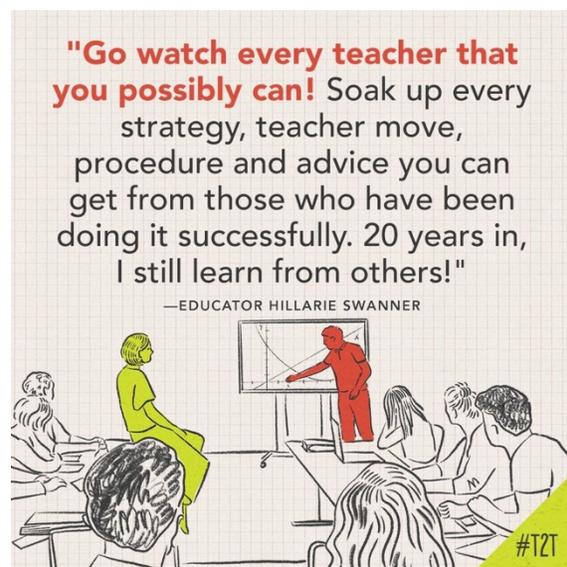
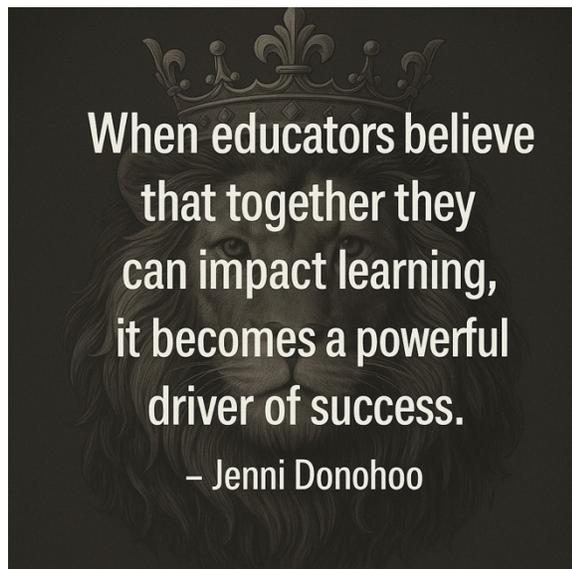
I Used to Think..., Now, I Think...	
 <p>I used to think...</p>	<p>My initial impression of [topic/issue] was...</p> <p>When I first encountered [topic/issue], I thought...</p> <p>Before I explored this, I believed...</p> <p>At the outset, I used to think...</p> <p>Initially, my understanding of [topic/issue] was...</p> <p>When I considered [topic/issue] for the first time, my perspective was...</p> <p>In the beginning, I held the idea that...</p> <p>Before my learning deepened, I assumed...</p> <p>My original notion about [topic/issue] was...</p> <p>When this was new to me, I thought...</p>
 <p>Now, I think...</p>	<p>After learning more, I now believe...</p> <p>With a deeper understanding, I've come to realize...</p> <p>Now that I've explored this further, my perspective is...</p> <p>My current thinking about [topic/issue] is...</p> <p>In light of new information, I've come to think that...</p> <p>As I've gained more knowledge, I now hold the view that...</p> <p>With a broader perspective, I now see that...</p> <p>Having considered different viewpoints, I've come to the conclusion that...</p> <p>Based on my learning, I now have a different perspective on...</p>
	<p>My thinking shifted because...</p> <p>I've reconsidered my stance due to...</p> <p>What changed for me was...</p> <p>I started to see things differently when...</p> <p>My perspective evolved as I learned...</p> <p>The turning point in my thinking was...</p> <p>I began to understand more when...</p>

- From Dr. Catlin Tucker @Catlin\_Tucker -**Learn how to use the “I Used to Think, Now I Think” thinking routine** to help your students engage in deeper reflection about their evolving thoughts & understanding of complex subjects. + a free resource! <https://bit.ly/4dDg0kK>



Shared by Katie Novak - Novak Education @NovakEducation - Noticing a lack of student motivation? Help is here! Read on to find some real-life teacher trench ideas and easy-to-apply **UDL strategies** in action from educators who have seen their classrooms transform by applying this simple but powerful UDL strategy:

[https://www.novakeducation.com/blog/how-clearer-learning-intentions-lead-to-deeper-learning?utm\\_content=334202998&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter&hss\\_channel=tw-1283748163132837888](https://www.novakeducation.com/blog/how-clearer-learning-intentions-lead-to-deeper-learning?utm_content=334202998&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&hss_channel=tw-1283748163132837888)



**2025 -2026**

# CISPG LEARNING ESSENTIALS

Everyone welcome! Join us to learn about the CISPG organization and explore what it means to be a Catholic educator. You will be introduced to:

- CISPG Literacy Frameworks
- Numeracy Essentials
- Reporting Information
- Planning Expectations
- Inclusive Environments
- Universal Design for Learning

Connect on your own or as a group! We hope you will leave with a sense of encouragement, collaboration and excitement for the year ahead.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27  
8:45 AM - 12:30 PM**

**VIRTUAL ON TEAMS**

**FREE BOOK TO  
FIRST 20  
REGISTRANTS -  
“REACH ALL  
READERS”**

**FOR ALL  
TEACHERS  
NEW TO  
TEACHING  
IN BC**

