2021
Optimism and Opportunity for All!

Leading Change, Teachers' Institute, & School Counselors' Institute

Building Background in the Virtual Secondary ELA Classroom

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Arizona Department of Education

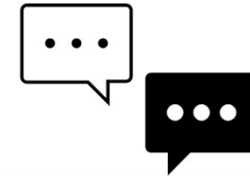Educate Empower Elevate

Your Session Presenter

- Lauren Spenceley, M. Ed
- Secondary English Language Arts Specialist
- English Language Arts Team
- Arizona Department of Education

Email: lauren.spenceley@azed.gov
Website: https://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/secondary-literacy-middlehs

Let's Chat...

- We will be using the Chat feature primarily to communicate, as well as other modes
- Who's here?
  - In the chat, say hello!
  - Share your name and location
  - Which track of the conference are you following?
    - 1. Teacher's Track (Teacher, Parent, Paraprofessional)
    - 2. Leader's Track (Administrator, Coach, Specialist, Leader)

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Today's Session:

Building schema and background knowledge is one of the best ways to raise reading comprehension for our students. Background knowledge and vocabulary are the two key drivers in reading comprehension, if decoding is not an issue. One of the most effective ways to improve comprehension is activating students' schema before, during, and after reading. This can be done through discussion, reading simpler texts on the topic, or having new, relevant experiences. In our new reality, teachers may feel like they are losing some of the collaboration or fun of these types of experiences. This session will explore some easy and fun ways to build background knowledge and schema in the virtual/hybrid secondary ELA classroom.

Outcomes:
- Participants will gain a better understanding of the importance of knowledge-building during the reading process through the research base, and a better understanding of how building background and surfacing schema will help their students become better readers.
- Participants will learn new strategies for building background
- Participants will add new virtual tools to their teacher toolbelt.

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The importance of background/schema building

From Ted Education "Mysteries of vernacular: Quarantine" - Jessica Oreck and Rachael Teel

The importance of background/schema building

Mysteries of vernacular: Quarantine - Jessica Oreck and Rachael Teel

Waterfall Activity:

- Look at the thoughts that you jot down during the video.
- In the CHAT box, answer the question: <mark>"What knowledge did the video "unlock" in your brain?"</mark>
- DON'T click "Enter" just yet.
- I will count to three and everyone will hit enter at the same time.
- As everyone's ideas come through, read them through.
- Feel free to comment back to someone you agree with.

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The importance of background/schema building

SCHEMA — Everything You Know

BOX 8.9

Types of Knowledge

These overlapping categories provide a way to think about the challenges and opportunities a given text provides: What will students know and need to know? How might their learning experiences be focused?

Knowledge of Content and the World	Knowledge of Texts	Knowledge of Language	Knowledge of Disciplinary Discourse and Practices
A learned and lived knowledge base	Text genres and text structures; visuals; formatting features	Words and morphology; syntax and text signals	The particular ways members of a subject area community communicate and think

From *Reading for Understanding: How Reading Apprenticeship Improves Disciplinary Learning in Secondary and College Classrooms* by Schoenbach, Greenleaf, and Murphy

"Through discussions, reading simpler texts on a topic, or having new, relevant experiences, readers can activate existing or create new background knowledge." *– Mosaic of Thought* by Keene and Zimmermann

Activities for Building Background in Virtual Classroom

Virtual Scavenger Hunts/Webquests

Ancient Rome Webquest   Name: _____   Date: _____

Over the centuries since the collapse of the Roman Empire, Roman ideas, literature, art and architecture have influenced many people around the world. **Go to** https://www.salariya.com/web_books/gladiator/index.html **to find** answers for webquest task #1. This will help you to gain an understanding of the importance of the Roman Empire and its influence.

Task #1: The Roman Gladiator

The ancient Romans are often seen as bringing civilization to the western world, but they regarded the slaying of gladiators as a normal form of entertainment.

1. List four reasons why you wouldn't want to be a *Roman prisoner*. What would be your fate?

   a) _____

   b) _____

   c) _____

   d) _____

2. Describe how prisoners were bought and sold. Include information about sick or diseased prisoners.

   _____

   _____

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Activities for Building Background in Virtual Classroom
Anticipation Guide via Kahoot
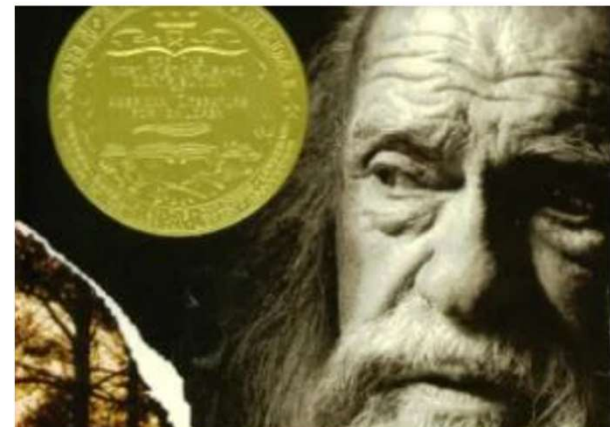
The Giver Anticipation Guide

15 favorites   69 plays   1.9k players

Play   Edit

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Activities for Building Background in Virtual Classroom
Give One, Get One (via Jamboard)

Share Out Your Reflections

https://padlet.com/mz_ess_az/pv3qaj86w1jvllg5

1. Use QR code or click the link in chat to open the Padlet.
2. You do not have to log into Padlet if you don't have an account, but you will want to sign your name. BOOKMARK IT TOO!
3. The first column has ALL the links and information on the strategies I shared.
3. Click on the plus sign under columns 2-5 to share your reflections.
4. Feel free to like (click the ♥) and comment on others' posts.
5. You will have access to this Padlet even after the webinar to stay in touch and get ideas. All of the resources from today's presentation are also on the Padlet.
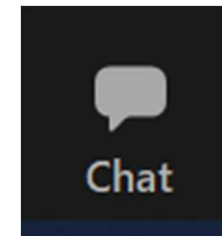
Final Thoughts

Now that we've discussed and processed:

- Type one sentence in the chat that answers this question: **How can we help our students build background and surface schema in the virtual classroom?**

Chat

Thank you!

- Recorded sessions will be loaded to the Teachers' Institute & Leading Change webpage on the ADE website ~ one week after the live conference closes.

- https://www.azed.gov/leadingchange

- Recordings will not be archived through the CE21 platform.

- Survey – link at the top

Thank you!!

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