

Making Language More Comprehensible



Effective teaching practices to incorporate in your daily teaching...

Teaching Practice	What it could sound/ look like in your classroom...
Use consistent language when teaching or giving directions.	When giving directions use the same language for consistency (ex. Line up at the door)
Use controlled vocabulary and simple language structures	When writing story problems for the math 4 block, include only relevant details. Use present tense when possible.
Limit the number of new terms or vocabulary you use (limit the new vocabulary to 2 or 3 words)	When introducing geometry as a new focus unit in math you might map out which vocabulary you will teach each day.
Use sensory, graphic and interactive supports	*Refer to charts on the back for ideas*
Paraphrase or repeat difficult concepts	When teaching a new game in gym, you will explain the directions using varied language multiple times.
Speak slowly	Use in all interactions and content areas
Enunciate clearly	Use in all interactions and content areas
Avoid idiomatic expressions	When it is lunch time you might say " I am hungry" instead of " My stomach is growling."
Define words that have double meanings or synonyms	In math, explain and show how a word like "quarter" has different meanings.
Check for student understanding <u>frequently</u> by eliciting requests for clarification and posing questions of <u>varying</u> levels of complexity.	After explaining a science experiment, you could ask students to turn and talk and tell their partner step-by-step what to do during the experiment.
Give ample amount of wait time for students to respond	General rule...give students at least 30 seconds to respond.

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Classroom Supports

General Examples of Supports

Sensory Supports	Graphic Supports	Interactive Supports
• Real-life objects (realia) • Manipulatives • Pictures & Photographs • Illustrations, diagrams & drawings • Magazines & newspapers • Physical activities • Videos & Films • Broadcasts • Models & Figures	• Charts • Graphic organizers • Tables • Graphs • Timelines • Number lines	• In pairs or partners • In triads or small groups • In a whole group • Using cooperative group structures • With the Internet (websites) or software programs • In the native language (L1) • With mentors

Supports are instructional strategies or tools used to assist students in accessing content necessary for classroom understanding or communication. Supports are important for ELLs to gain access to meaning.!



Content Specific Examples of Sensory Supports

Supports related to the language of Language Arts 	Supports related to the language of Mathematics 	Supports related to the language of Science 	Supports related to the language of Social Studies 
• Illustrated word/phrase walls • Felt or magnetic figures of story elements • Environmental print • Posters or displays • Bulletin boards • Photographs • Audio books • Songs/Chants	• Blocks/ Cubes • Number lines • Models of geometric figures • Calculators • Protractors • Rulers, yard/meter sticks • Geoboards • Counters • Compasses, clocks, sundials • Calendars • Coins	• Scientific instruments • Measurement tools • Physical models • Natural materials • Actual substances, organisms or objects of investigation • Posters/ Illustrations of processes or cycles	• Maps • Globes • Atlases • Compasses • Timelines • Multicultural artifacts • Aerial & satellite photographs • Video clips

