



Elementary Curriculum Connection

Oct. 21, 2020



What's New in EDGE?

Excellence and Diversity in Gifted Education

Staci Salzbrenner, our district's new High Ability Coordinator, has been meeting with EDGE students across the district working on logical thinking, associations, collaboration, and coding strategies.

Did you know that experts have linked thinking capacity and creativeness to riddles?

Experts recommend riddles for kids as something that helps to improve their thinking ability and creativity. Riddles are fun and also provide an opportunity to learn. It is necessary that the young minds get ample of opportunities to think and develop. When they start thinking, they will start reasoning and these give rise to geniuses as we had in past and the present and let us hope for great brains to conquer the world in near future.

-Kids World Fun

Check out these resources available to teachers for riddle fun:

-**The Insane Riddle, Code, and Secret Math Book**: Tommy Reddicks and Madeline Reddicks

-**Dr. DooRiddles**: John H. Doodlittle



Online Activities for ELLs

Here are some examples of activities for ELLs, with a focus on **oral language development** and **content development**.



1. Students can upload videos or recordings of themselves reading about the content being taught in the classroom.



2. Students can write and draw responses to a prompt (e.g., "Describe the path food takes in the digestive system."). Peers can leave questions or comments for each other.



3. Students can film or record themselves solving a math problem explaining how they solved the problem. Peers or teacher can provide feedback.



5. Teacher can create a presentation (slides) with a voice narration on a platform like VoiceThread. Students can respond orally or in writing to questions posed in the VoiceThread.



6. Teacher can provide a slideshow with visuals on a content topic and resource links for students. Then, different students are assigned a few slides to narrate for their classmates to learn about the topic. Teachers can have them create a group presentation on that topic to share with the class as well.

Seven Instructional Contexts

from Fountas & Pinnell

Each Content has a specific instructional purpose and has been designed to connect with and build upon each other in a cohesive manner across the year.

We have highlighted the first 3 in previous Curriculum Connections.

- Interactive Read Alouds (IRA)
- Shared Reading (SR)
- Phonics, Spelling and Word Study (PSW)
- Reading Minilessons (RML)
- Guided Reading (GR)
- Independent Reading (IR)
- Book Clubs (BC)

Whole Group	Small Group	Individuals
IRA	GR	IR
SR	BC	PWS
RML	PWS	
PWS		

Reading Minilessons (RML) At A Glance

from Fountas & Pinnell

During reading minilessons, the teacher presents specific explicit instruction to help children become independent readers for life.

- Whole group teaching
- 5-10 minutes
- Four types: Management; Literary Analysis; Strategies and Skills; and Writing about Reading
- Previously read books serve as mentor texts and as examples for generalizing the principle.
- Children practice and apply the principle during independent reading.
- Lessons offer Assessment alternatives and Link to Writing.

Scantron B 3 Nov. 4–Nov. 20
Thanksgiving Break Nov. 25–Nov. 29

