

Reading & Writing with ELs Alphabet Challenge

Audit your bookshelf- How well do the books in your classroom represent your student population? Take stock and make changes as necessary.	Build Bonds- Decrease the affective filter and create an inclusive learning environment by providing students time & space to share who they are & their stories.	Confer with English learners- Conferring with ELs during independent reading and writing builds relationships and can help students grow as readers and writers. P. 116	Develop Words - Use the Making and Breaking Words Activity to build words and word families with small groups. P. 120	Echo or Choral Reading- Label the classroom and echo or choral read all the labels daily. Then ask students to point to the word that starts with, or read the word that ends with the sound P. 115, 116
Find a Friend- Find a contact on your campus or in your district to help you when you have questions about supporting ELs in your reading and writing classroom.	Gather Groups- Gather ELs in small, flexible, and heterogeneous groups frequently to grow readers and writers. P. 117	Hearing and Recording Sounds in Words- Try the Elkonin Boxes activity in small groups with readers and writers. P. 119	Implications- Review students' language proficiency levels. Are they progressing in all language domains? What are their strengths and weaknesses? What will you do next?	Join a PLN- Find a group of educators committed to growing as teachers & meet frequently to share ideas, ask questions, & celebrate successes. This can be on your campus, district, Twitter, Facebook, etc.
Know your ELs- How well do you know your ELs? Take time this week to get to know English learners beyond academics. Find out about their hobbies, passions, and goals.	Language Experience Approach- Facilitate a shared writing using the LEA instructional method. P. 123	Model Writing- Write-Aloud in front of the class so students can see how a piece of writing is formed from beginning to end. Think-aloud the process and make writing visible for students. P. 91	Native Language- Provide access to word lists, glossaries, or related literature in students' native language and encourage students to read and write in native languages.	Oral Language- Learning is social. Include multiple opportunities for students to talk about their reading and writing experiences.
Pair up- Partner Reading gives reading texts a purpose, plan, & process. Students work together to read a section, chapter, or article. P. 118	QSSSA- Plan and implement a QSSSA during a mini-lesson or Read-Aloud. P. 114	Read-Aloud - Boost your read-aloud by incorporating opportunities for students to stop and draw, act, or discuss. P. 42	Sentence Patterning Chart- Create a Sentence Patterning Chart and guide students in making their own sentences. P. 124	Tents - Have students make strategy tents that they can use and refer back to as they read and write independently. P. 122
Uncover Assets- Among other benefits, multilingual students will know more words than monolingual learners. What assets do your ELs have?	Video- Record your Read-Aloud and review it through the eyes of a language learner. Find one way you will enhance read-alouds for ELs. P. 41-42	Word Sorts- Have students sort the words that are used in the PWIM. Sort by sounds, letters, or categories. P. 125	Examine Wait Time -When asking questions, provide slightly more time for students to answer. P. 34	Zone of Proximal Development- The goal is for students to become independent readers and writers. Keep a pulse on students' ZPD and set high expectations for growth! They CAN do it!

