

PDE - English Language Arts LEARNING COMMUNITY



WHO WE ARE

Welcome to the [PDE - English Language Arts Learning Community](#)! The Learning Community provides an avenue to connect with educators of all levels across the Commonwealth.

The Learning Community also provides a collaborative environment to extend and enhance the discussion of important issues with PDE staff and colleagues regarding teaching, learning, and assessing.

Please join us by discussing and sharing important issues, challenges, and ideas that promote the effective and successful teaching, learning, and assessing of ELA throughout the Commonwealth.

FEATURED VIDEO

Dr. Carolyn Strom shares how the brain learns to read, the concern of low proficiency in reading during primary school years and creating a particular focus on the Science of Reading in preschool and early years.

[Advancing Science of Reading in the Early Years - K-5 Literacy Program & Curriculum | Amplify CKLA - YouTube](#)

DID YOU KNOW ...

There are two new evidence-based studies in the TDA Toolkit under Research –

~ Text Dependent Analysis: Creating Systematic Change

~ Analyzing Science Exploratory Study 2022 (Science Analysis Learning Pathway Exploration Study Report)

[TDA Toolkit: Research - SAS \(pdesas.org\)](#)



JUNETEENTH RESOURCES

On June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas. He informed the enslaved African Americans of their freedom and that the Civil War had ended. This momentous occasion has been celebrated as [Juneteenth](#) — a combination of June and 19 — for over 150 years.

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/classroom/2022/06/lesson-plan-history-of-juneteenth-and-why-its-set-to-become-a-national-holiday/>

[Juneteenth | All About the Holidays | PBS LearningMedia](#)

[Search results for Juneteenth, Available Online | Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](#)

Forum Philly 2023 Juneteenth School Initiative

Forum Philly's 2023 Juneteenth School Initiative mission is to partner with school districts to build out student-led, faculty-supervised, and school-centered programming in support and affirmation of Juneteenth, the oldest holiday commemorating the formal end of American slavery, Juneteenth. Together we facilitate the funding, planning, and coordination of segmented student-led, school-based, and contextualized clustered Juneteenth Celebrations. Forum Philly is committed to partnering with the Philadelphia, William Penn, Chester/Upland, and Southeast Delco school districts in furtherance of Juneteenth education. Learn more [here](#).

REFLECTING on INSTRUCTION

Steve Barkley Ponders Out Loud –

“Are we giving students answers to questions they haven’t asked and solutions to problems they have never encountered?”

Author and consultant with an expertise in blended learning options, Catlin Tucker, explores bringing relevance, curiosity, and inquiry into our students learning opportunities. She describes “onboarding” students to learning opportunities.

[Podcast: What Are You Seeing Students Doing](#)



VALUE of SPEAKING and LISTENING SKILLS

Collaborative Conversations: Speaking and Listening Skills

Laura Beth, Kelly Meridith K. Ogden, Lindsey Moses share that -

Supporting meaningful conversations among young children can be challenging but is well worth the effort. Many studies have demonstrated the importance of developing speaking and listening skills in early childhood (Hall 1987; Clay 1991; Kirkland & Patterson 2005). As part of a collaborative study, we—a first-grade teacher and two university-based researchers—set a goal to facilitate meaningful, student-led discussions about literature. We began by having students bring books to whole- and small-group activities and encouraging them to talk. While this was a good start, we quickly realized that the children needed support to learn how to interact appropriately during conversations that were not led by the teacher. Figuring out what types of supports would be effective became the heart of our study.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/mar2019/speaking-listening-primary-grades>



FEATURED STUDENT OPPORTUNITY

A summer learning opportunity for your high school seniors, juniors, and sophomores before the school year ends

2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 HS grads are eligible

High school students can become future-ready with career exploration, industry certifications, and college credits 1 night a week this summer.

There is no cost for eligible students* in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Franklin, Lebanon, Perry, and York counties.

8 Weeks	NPTH 110: Foundations in Information Technology Certification: CompTIA IT Fundamentals College Credits: 2
10 Weeks	NPTH 120: Fundamentals of Productivity Software Certification: MOS Excel, MOS Outlook College Credits: 3

Upcoming courses start on June 19! Students can enroll in 1 or 2 courses.

Classes are held online via Zoom from 6-8 PM 1 night a week.

Email Faith Michaels at FMichaels@HarrisburgU.edu for registration and questions.

You and your students can learn more and review *Grant Eligibility at –

<https://enrichment.harrisburgu.edu/nupaths-2/>.

NOTE: Sites identified here have been reviewed by the content advisor; however, educators are advised to preview for appropriateness for their respective classrooms. The mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations does not imply endorsement by PDE.

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