

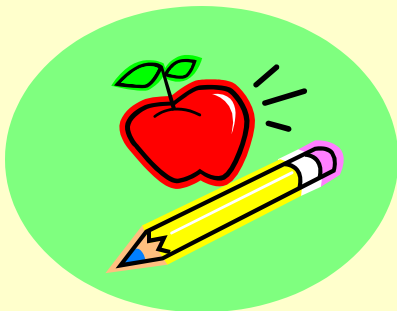


Mad River Local Schools
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ESL Newsletter

Study Skills for ESL'S

The ideal assessment for our ESL learners is through scaffolding. However, the second language learner must learn to survive in the real world of the content area class too. Here are some techniques you can teach your ESL students to be better prepared for content area tests: **1)** Teach them to study actively by writing or verbalizing the material. **2)** Make sure they comprehend what they are studying! Make time available so your ESLs can ask questions about the subject before studying for the test. **3)** Set reasonable goals by reducing complexity & increasing applicability. For example, shorten the list of



science terms &/or extend test taking time. **4)** Make sure students create their own examples when trying to understand & remember a general concept. **5)** Teach students to visualize what they're learning. Graphic organizers help with this. **6)** Help ESLs learn to concentrate on the main ideas. They need to learn to pay attention to the information that is important & you can help by writing this information on the board, repeating it or simply stating "This is important!" **7)** Teach your students to assess prior knowledge so they can connect new materials to something they already know. This connection fosters independent learners.

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Web Resources

For additional information on study strategies check out these web sites:

<http://www.studygs.net/> Here you will find (in several languages) a large list of subject headings for both the student & teacher.

<http://www.how-to-study.com/> 85 free, practical study skills articles

OTELA Testing

State and Federal law require an annual assessment of K-12 Limited English Proficient (LEP) students to measure their English language proficiencies in the areas of reading, writing, speaking & listening. Each of these 4 subtests will take approximately 1 hour. The window for these tests is from January 18th until March 12th. Liz and I will be administering these tests. We will work with you in choosing testing times that work best with your classroom schedule. More information about the OTELA can be found on the ODE website.

Chinese New Year 2012!

The first day of the 2012 Chinese New Year is on January 23, 2012. In Chinese tradition, each year is dedicated to a specific animal. 2012 is the year of the dragon. This is a time to welcome longevity, wealth & prosperity and to eliminate any negative chi from the past. This fourteen day celebration is very symbolic, & has many important do's & don'ts. Ask your ESL students to share their knowledge & how their family will celebrate this very important holiday. More information:

<http://chinesenewyear2012.net> and
<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays>