

Jump Starting a Learner Skills Curriculum

Sarah Lynn John Antonellis The Harvard Bridge Program

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Our Framework & Rationale

- Our program
- Our students
- Our challenges





The Learner Conference

- One time event: *Saturday morning*
- Community event: *Breakfast of Champions*
- Student choice: *Concurrent Sessions*

The Bridge Program Success in Learning Conference Saturday, October 26 8:00 – 10:45 am

8:00- 8:45	Breakfast with Champions			
8:45-	Time Management	Spelling	Vocabulary	Pronunciation
9:15	3313	3323	3311	3315
9:20- 9:50	Time Management	Spelling	Study Skills	Vocabulary
	3313	3323	3315	3311
10:05- 10:45	Time Management	Spelling	Study Skills	Pronunciation
	3313	3323	3311	3315

Concurrent Sessions

OUR PLANNING GUIDELINES

- 30 minutes each, each student attends three
- Handouts Posters
- Simple learning routine and student practice

Concurrent Sessions

- Pronunciation
- Spelling
- Vocabulary
- Study skills
- Time management

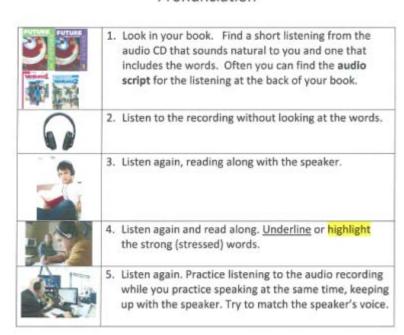






Pronunciation Practice Handout

How to Practice Shadowing at Home to Improve Your Pronunciation



Using headphones will make it a little easier to follow the speaker, but it's not necessary.

If you use your phone or any other recording device to record yourself speaking along with the audio, you can listen to your recording and see how you did. If not, ask someone to listen to you and tell you how you did.

If you have a computer, you can find many other listening activities to practice this activity at http://www.manythings.org/

Study Skills Session

Learn English Faster with Study Skills



Conference Follow-up

- Professional development: Refresher for teachers
- Conversations in classrooms:
 - What did you learn?
 - Explain it to your classmates.
 - Look at the posters.

Additional Initiatives

Bulletin board with online sites

- Portable cards with sites for students
- Invitation to add favorite apps to the board

Additional Initiatives

■ Pleasure Reading Campaign

- Book fairs with sign-out sheets: winter & spring breaks
- Report forms
- Bulletin board



Additional Initiatives

Summer Reading Challenge

- Book fair
- Teacher follow-up
- Prizes



Measuring Impact

- Interviews with teachers and students
- End of Year Evaluation
- TABE Clas-E





Impact Results

■ Teachers

- "I'm more mindful of students learning needs"
- "Every week we use the reading reports."
- "All my students use flashcards now."
- "My students are recording themselves with their phones."

Students

- "I learned I can use the calendar to plan my time."
- "I stay for after class for five minutes and look at my notes. I remember EVERYTHING!"
- "I read the book with my son."
- "Now I remember spelling."
- "I practice my flashcards on break."
- "I practice spelling words when I vacuum."

Challenges

- Time constraints
- Changing teaching routines
- Changing habits is hard
- Not a quick fix
- Survey literacy

Adapting this Idea to Your Program

Discuss in groups:

- What independent learning skills do your students need to develop?
- Where and when could you convene the most students in a conference?
- What are other ways to bring independent learning skills into your program?

Thank you!

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