



# Planning an Enrichment Unit with Centres

For Secondary Students

# Introduction

- This webinar will share a model that can be adapted for students of all fluency levels ...

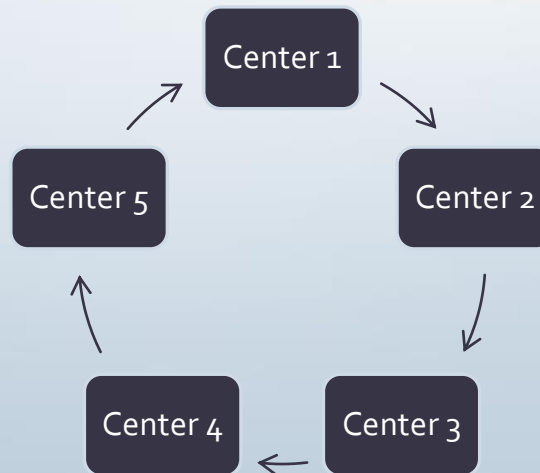


# Agenda

- Definition of terms: Centers Center Unit
- Rationale- Learning Outcomes- Why Centers?
- How to Get Started
- Examples and Possible Procedures
- A closer look at few centers

# Definition of Terms

- Learning centers are spaces set aside for small groups to work on a specific task together.
- In this model, the tasks at each center are designed to enrich literacy and language skills.



# Pre-Activity

1. Do you currently use centers? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your principal style of teaching now? (lecture, groups, combination...)

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you seen centers being used in other classrooms?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you think there are benefits to using centers?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Rationale: Why Use Centers?

- Create *authentic* language situations where students want to communicate: student-to-student instruction
- Create situations where students *collaborate* and *cooperate*
- Create a context where everyone can *participate* successfully
- Add *variety* to the classroom routine
- *Review* and *extend* the learning

# When would you use centers?

## Possibilities:

- Once or twice a year
- At the end of a unit
- At the end of a term/semester
- At the end of the year

*“The key to successful stations is in the teacher’s hands.”* Jackie Room 213


# The Teacher’s Role

Goals, Prepare Ahead, Circulate, Formative Assessment



# Possible Goals

- Create *authentic* language situations where students want to communicate: Student-to-student instruction
- Create situations where students *collaborate* and *cooperate*
- Create a context where everyone can *participate* successfully
- Add *variety* to the classroom routine
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Choose only  
**one or two**  
goals.

# The Set-Up: Considerations

- How much time will you use for this unit?
- How many centers?
- Which centers?
  - Goals
  - Space
  - Time
  - Equipment
  - Student Characteristics
  - Student Ability in English

# Choose your Centers

- A game center
- An art center
- A drama center
- A viewing center
- A writing center
- A listening center
- A reading center

*Why are the centers grouped by color?*

# Create your Centers

- The format: Baskets/ file folders/ envelopes
- Specific and precise directions
- Group Evaluation Forms

# The Week(s) Before

Student Preparation



Build-up anticipation

Choose/ announce groups

Explain roles

Teach vocabulary

Practice routines?

Discuss evaluation

# Student Roles and Routines

Student Preparation (continued)

# Student Routines

How to

- Enter the class,
- Collect the material,
- Distribute the material,
- Explain the task,
- Begin the task,
- End the session...

Students may need specific instructions for each of the above.



# Clear expectations

- Do your students understand effective participation?
  - Model with students
- Do students have the language they need?
  - I agree because... I disagree because...
  - What do you think?
  - That's an interesting point.
  - I really like your idea because...
  - I understand your idea but what about...?

# Student Roles

- Leader
- Secretary
- Runner
- Timekeeper...

(Students change roles when they change centers so that they will experience the responsibilities of each role.)

# Assessment and Evaluation

Collect Work at the End of Each Session

Collect Self and Center Evaluation Sheets at the end of each session

# A Closer Look

Reading, Writing, Listening

# A Reading Center

- Authentic documents
- Writing from other students
- Texts from...

# A Writing Center

A Story...

From a picture

A Letter...

How to...

# An art center

- Make a poster of vocabulary
- Make and illustrate a verb poster
- Illustrate a story that they have written
- Make a calligram
- Make a shape poem
- Design a labeled poster for the school or...

# A Game Center

- Board games
- Scrabble
- Bingo
- Pictionary
- Crossword Puzzles
- Word Searches...



# Next Steps?

Brainstorm,  
Collaborate,  
Share...

# Suggestions for Further Reading

1. Learning Environments: Learning Centers in the Secondary Classroom Source:  
<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/learning-centers-in-secondary-classroom-ted-malefyt>
2. The Effects of Learning Stations Technique on Academic Achievement: A Meta-Analytic Study  
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1221628.pdf>
3. Stations in the Classroom (YouTube video)  
<https://youtu.be/60oJg9M7s-4>

# Your Questions

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