Reformulating Vygotsky’s Principal Principles into Visual Representation: Newsletters from the Field
LeAnn Putney, Ph.D. and Joan Wink, Ph.D.
Tuesday, February 26, 12:00 to 1 p.m., Reno 1

Our purpose is...
• to examine and explain Vygotsky’s Principal Principles, HEAPS, & spiral staircase (30 minutes)
• to demonstrate how to integrate these constructs into classroom practice through newsletters (30 minutes interaction & Q&A)

ABSTRACT
This workshop demonstrates using visual material in the form of newsletters to make abstract concepts more relatable to learners. Utilizing Vygotsky’s theories, we first share his pedagogical concepts through graphic representations in PowerPoint to clarify and construct local meanings of his work. We then demonstrate how to turn complex information into a shareable newsletter format that we have found to be a conceptual bridge between the academic language of research and conceptual texts and oral lecture. The newsletter format links in-class lecture with outside of class readings and becomes a way of scaffolding learning among students. The newsletters also may become an outcome or product of project-based learning in K-20+ educational settings.

THREE PRINCIPAL PRINCIPLES

1. Language & Thought
   • Dynamic and reciprocal development
   • Transformation & new directions
   • Deeper & deeper structures grow
   • Enriched by linkages & connections
2. Sociocultural Context

Integrating All Three

SPIRAL STAIRCASE

As spontaneous concepts work upward, they clear a path for scientific concepts to become realized.

Where they meet defines the ZPD.

3. ZPD

HEAPS

VYGOTSKY’S PRINCIPAL PRINCIPLES RELATED TO CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT
INTEGRATING VYGOTSKY INTO YOUR CLASSROOM WITH NEWSLETTER EXAMPLES:

HOW TO CREATE A NEWSLETTER

To cite this presentation:

Previous References: