

A Blog for Busy Teachers

FREE LANGUAGE-BASED TEACHING STRATEGIES

Arranging Digital Spaces

The following are the best practices for making the arrangement of physical and digital spaces optimal for students with LBLD:

Workspace and classroom materials:

Implementing a clear seating arrangement and an organized classroom are important aspects of creating an equitable classroom. In a digital classroom, although it looks different, the same care needs to be given to organization and arrangement. Teachers should:

- Encourage students to have a clear and designated workspace with all the necessary materials.
- Review appropriate behavior and conduct in an online classroom.
- Explicitly teach students how to turn their microphones on and off.
- Create a consistent message about appropriate places to work.
- Frequently model and review how to access materials and protocol for submitting and turning in HW.
- Make saving, accessing, and organizing files an integral part of lessons.

Templates and other classroom visuals:

Providing familiar templates for writing and reading can help students manage the day-to-day language demands in the classroom by helping them organize the information they learn. The digital classroom can be even more language dense, so providing clear and consistent instruction and access to important templates and visuals is especially important. The teacher should:

- Create clear and consistent places for frequently used materials to live in the online classroom.
- Include a copy of important templates with each assignment or unit.
- Create a digital index or resource for often referred to vocabulary terms and explicitly teach students where to look to see these items.
- Use a variety of applications to create interactive visuals

