

Osoyoos Elementary School Plan – Developing Literacy Skills

Scanning

- Teacher feedback that initial steps last year showed promise but there is still work to be done
- Increase in overall achievement for FSAs but cannot compare low achieving literacy cohorts yet
- Year-end assessment data from PM Benchmarks and WCRA indicate that less students are fully meeting or exceeding expectations in reading.
- Trend - Student phonological awareness ability has decreased over the years and there is a disconnect between oral language, reading and written output.
- Students entering kindergarten are not showing the same level of literacy skills – Print Awareness, Language and Phonological awareness (Kindergarten Assessment).
- We have had a significant increase in English Language Learner Students, behaviour students and other identified categories.
- Students are struggling with writing techniques (conventions, sentence structure), grammar, creative and descriptive writing, written output, and confidence in their writing abilities.

Focusing

We will intentionally focus on fostering a literacy rich environment through which students will build their skills and confidence in oral language, reading and writing.



Developing a Hunch

What are we doing that is contributing to this situation?

- Our lack of progressive language between grades is detrimental to student learning
- Our resources (home reading, book room, etc.) have not kept up to reflect the needs of our students or their cultural experiences
- Growth within our school has resulted in not enough levelled books to support our growing population
- Intermediate reading assessment texts are outdated and may not be producing accurate assessment of student ability
- There are not consistent practice/approaches between classes/grades and this makes student transitions more difficult

Checking

To be updated throughout the year

Taking Action

- Social Emotional Literacy
 - Developing social emotional bins for common language and resources that will help develop social emotional literacy
 - Body image and identity, equality, emotions, family matters, being mean
 - Currently working developing bins with activities. Will be in staff room for easy access
 - Group consists of most of our EAs and work with students that can develop this literacy
- Primary – Oral Language Development
 - Oral Language Skills are lacking – practicing in class strategies and share back with group. Develop specific vocab (bins with items, name the items, talk about the items)
 - Story Workshop expansion – talk about story
 - Literacy blitz

Learning

- *Intermediate – writing strategies*
- *Social Emotional Literacy*
 - *Identify areas of need in the students and create targeted bins*
- *Primary – Oral Language*
 - *What is needed? Where are the shortfalls? What strategies work?*
 - *Story workshop*