Getting Started with Newcomers

Provide instruction and opportunities for practice with common and useful English phrases.

* My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I am from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I speak \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I go to school at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years old.

Additional topics for Newcomers include:

* Greetings
* Address
* Phone number
* How to ask to use the bathroom
* Numbers
* Colors
* Days of the week
* People and places in the school
* School supplies or tools
* Family
* Weather
* Basic verbs, adjectives, and nouns

# Instructional Strategies for Newcomers

* Provide extensive comprehensible input with actions, pictures, and gestures.
* Repeat and review.
* Begin with oral language, then quickly move to foundational literacy.
* Increase comprehension with Total Physical Response (TPR).
* Help students learn to write their names.
* Use sentence frames/starters to develop both speaking and writing.
* Use the home language as a temporary scaffold.
* Track progress and adjust instruction accordingly.
* Read aloud to newcomers every lesson to develop their listening vocabulary and oral language.
* Choose wordless books or books with very simple and repetitive text as well as alphabet books with clear illustrations.
* Read the same book several times to give the students multiple exposures to the language.
* Add gestures and facial expressions, point to pictures, and read clearly.
* Sing simple songs and chants.

# Instructional Tools for Newcomers

* Alphabet charts and cards, vowel charts, and magnetic letters
* Phonics material
* Vocabulary charts and flashcards
* Picture dictionaries
* Real or plastic items (such as food and animals)
* White boards, markers, pocket charts, and chart paper
* Puppets and stuffed animals
* Picture and wordless books

*These resources aim to bolster academic, student wellness, and college and career outcomes for Ohio's English Learners. Resources were created through a collaborative effort between the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce and The Ohio State University's Center on Education and Training for Employment along with a dedicated group of family advocates, community leaders, school district staff, and teachers.*