

# 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.*