



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

Ohio Literacy Resource Center

What does EFF look like in the classroom? Are you wondering about how to apply EFF concepts in your teaching and learning and how to get started using EFF in your classroom? This new publication **Classroom Connections** will share excellent resources and ideas that other practitioners have developed using the EFF framework and program practices. Our goal is to share as many different examples as possible because we know there are many different kinds of classrooms across Ohio. These first teaching and learning activities were developed for a Tennessee Job and Family Services classroom and are an excellent example of how the teachers structured their curriculum using the EFF standards and framework. Since goal-setting is an important first step in the success of your students, we have included the actual lesson used in this program as a way for you to begin your planning. The lesson plan is reproduced with permission from the Center for Literacy Studies <http://cls.coe.utk.edu>.

Learning Skills is a comprehensive orientation and study skills course designed for Tennessee Families First adult education classes, developed and written by Jim Ford, Jane Knight, and Emily McDonald-Littleton of Knox County Schools Adult Literacy Program (November 2001) and can be found online at http://cls.coe.utk.edu/curriculum/learning_skills.html. The twenty-seven lessons and various activities are presented as they would be used in a four-week orientation. These lessons can be used in sequence or individually, based on the needs of your students. All learner materials are presented in Appendix I and are reproducible. Teacher materials are in Appendix II and an Introduction to EFF is found in Appendix III. A visual overview of the curriculum is also provided as well as a synopsis of each lesson. The lesson plan model, key concepts and tools are also explained in the introduction. Orientation topics include:

| Motivation | Self-Discovery | Lifelong Learning | The Next Step |
|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introductions Thought for the Day Goal Setting Take Responsibility for Learning Why We Assess Reading Strategies Communication Process How We Learn What Have I Learned This Week? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Styles The Writing Process Johari Window Listen Actively Note-Taking Skills Research Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time Management Team Dynamics Thinking Skills Computer Lab Orientation Problem-Solving Process Stress Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test-Taking Strategies and Study Skills Speaking Essentials Next Steps What Have I Learned in This Class? Graduation |

Embedded within this orientation are three key components that contribute to successful teaching and learning:

- Student-Centered Learning and Responsibility** means that learning takes place in the student. Teachers use a variety of instructional methods (guided discussion and questioning) and balance curriculum with student learning needs. The classroom becomes a place where students can voice their opinions, beliefs, and what specific learning means for their lives.
- Motivated and Knowledgeable Teachers** create an atmosphere of excitement for education, becoming role models in the learning process. The classroom is an enjoyable, positive place to come and learn, and teamwork is also emphasized.
- Relevant Curriculum with a Common-Sense Approach** is taught using models to enhance retention, recall, and concept use. The EFF framework provides a wealth of ways to connect basic skills with real-life roles.

In order for teachers to share their successes with others across Ohio, **Classroom Connections** becomes a valuable way to share best practice throughout the field. If you have used EFF in your classroom and want to share with other practitioners or if you have questions about how to use EFF in your classroom, please contact Judy Franks at jfranks@literacy.kent.edu, or 800-765-2897 ext. 20753.

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Enhancing Adult Literacy in Ohio

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