

New from the Ministry of Education

Look out for the STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DIVISION SPRING 2014 RESOURCE PACKAGE now being mailed to schools, district school boards and faculties of education.

Here is what the spring package includes:

Focus on math ...

[The Math Forum Report](#)

“What has your research revealed about the effective learning and teaching of mathematics?” Eleven leading mathematics education researchers gave their answers to this question at the ministry’s recent Forum for Action: Effective Practices in Mathematics Education. This report shares their presentations and highlights board discussions on both promising practices and ongoing challenges. Online only.

[Paying Attention to Spatial Reasoning, Kindergarten to Grade 12](#)

Many curricula around the world – including Ontario’s – combine spatial sense and geometry into one strand, but it is spatial reasoning that is now widely acknowledged as an important predictor of success in learning all aspects of mathematics. This resource explains why spatial thinking is so vital and offers practical ways to help students deepen understanding and hone their skills.

[Linking Today’s Understanding to Tomorrow’s Learning – Proportional Reasoning](#) (Webcasts for Educators)

This resource takes the viewer through the phases of learning about proportional reasoning, from simply getting started to extending the learning into more sophisticated understanding. Viewers will be offered insight into the iterative processes that make up each cycle -- from planning to problem-solving in the classroom, from assessing student work to consolidating learning with students – and to how each phase links to the next.



Focus on literacy ...

[English Literacy Development](#) (*Capacity Building Series*)

“A lot of times when I cried I said I can’t learn English. She [my teacher] was there for me and encouraged me to learn the language ... “ This monograph puts the spotlight on promising ESL/ELD practices that build and accelerate the acquisition of literacy skills for English language learners with limited prior schooling.

Focus on student learning ...

[Culturally Responsive Pedagogy](#) (*Capacity Building Series*)

What does a classroom look like, sound like and feel like when it is inclusive and when instruction is responsive to the full range of student diversity? This monograph explores the particular set of dispositions and skills that enables educators to work creatively and effectively to support all students in diverse settings.

[“Living in a State of Inquiry” – Student Work Study Teacher Initiative](#) (*Webcasts for Educators*)

Think of a student who is currently experiencing challenges in the classroom. What strategies might be helpful in furthering his/her learning? This resource shares a collaborative inquiry approach to student work that enables educators to help students set learning goals and increase their sense of ownership and motivation for the task at hand.

From universities to classrooms and classrooms to universities ...

- [Supporting Struggling Writers](#) (*What Works?*) by Shelley Stagg Peterson OISE/University of Toronto
- [Assistive Technology Tools](#) (*What Works?*) by Dr. Steve Sider (Wilfrid Laurier University) and Dr. Kimberly Maich (Brock University)
- [Calling Upon Other Language Skills to Enhance Second Language Learning](#) (*What Works?*) by Dr. Callie Mady (Nipissing University) and Jordana Garbati (University of Western Ontario)
- [Performing Poetry: Using Drama to Increase the Comprehension of Poetry](#) (*What Works?*) by Dr. Kristen Ferguson (Nipissing University)

Unless stated otherwise, also available from [ServiceOntario](#). For more information, please contact us at studentachievement@ontario.ca