

# Integrating Contextualized Instruction into the Developmental Education Classroom

## Presenters:

Luann Walker, Grant Specialist

Ysabel Ramirez, Doctoral Assistant

TSI-PD Center

The Education Institute at Texas State University

San Marcos, TX

# Participant Materials

- Session Agenda
- PowerPoint Slides
- Resources
- Handouts and Posters
- References



The Education Institute  
Texas State University

<http://www.tei.education.txstate.edu/PD-Resources.html>

# Session Objectives

- Identify career-related activities, applications, and resources that can apply to instruction.
- Assess the modifications and preparation needed to fit type and level of class.
- Select at least one career-related “assignment” to align with broader curriculum standards and objectives.
- Share ideas and resources

# Agenda

- Ice Breaker
- Brief Overview of Contextualization
- Introduction to Contextualized Instruction
- Poster Walk: Sampling Activities and Applications
  - Cultural Context
  - Self-Exploration
  - Occupational Exploration
  - Career Awareness
- Planning Activity: Content and Skills
- Sharing
- Closing

# Ice Breaker

Brainstorm

What is Contextualization?



# Definition of Contextualization

“A diverse family of instructional strategies designed to more seamlessly link the learning of foundational skills and academic or occupational content by focusing teaching and learning squarely on concrete applications in a specific context that is of interest to the student” (Mazzeo, Rab & Alssid, 2003)

# Contextualized Instruction Stand-alone Classroom Model



- For use by instructors in the classroom
- Instructors can modify materials to best support their current instruction.
- Offers a flexible format
- This model infuses academic skill building courses and active learning
  - Serves to enhance the relevance of those skills to students
  - Compliments existing basic skills curriculum

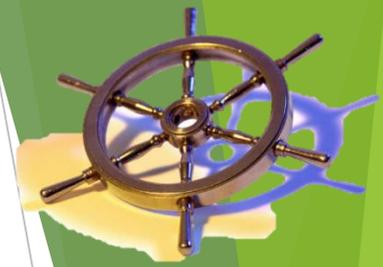
# Integrating Contextualized Instruction

1. Integrate basic IRW (reading & writing), math, and/or technology skills with career awareness
2. Extend the lessons to further integrate academic content and skills.

# Activity #1



- What Cross-Disciplinary skills are addressed in this activity?
- How could this activity be extended for further building of basic academic skills in your content area?
- What career awareness skills can be practiced with one of these activities?



# Researching

- Self-exploration
- Identifying one's skills, preferences, and values.
- Students engage in research in order to gather accurate, current and detailed information about a range of fields and occupations from a variety of sources.

# Technology

- Familiarize yourself with the technology you are implementing
- Assess and pre-teach
  - Basic Internet navigation skills
  - Vocabulary, reading strategies
  - Become familiar with the websites
- Engage students
  - Question prompts
  - Scenarios

# Career Planning Skills

- Goal setting
- Problem solving
- Networking
- Career Exploration



# Activity #2

## Lesson Planning Template

- How could use these types of sources in your classroom?
- Share ideas with the group



- Contextualized instruction:
  - Helps learners set goals = Persistence
  - Raises awareness of options and opportunities
  - Empowers adults learners to research options and take charge of their own futures
  - Teaches life skills in the process of career development and planning
- Rapidly changing labor markets necessitate transferable and adaptable skills

# Classroom Implementation

- After this session:
  - What activity or activities, resources, or applications will you attempt?
  - When do you plan to implement contextualized instruction resources in the classroom?



Thank you for joining  
us!