



Penn Literacy Network School Leaders' Video Guide:

Please link to the video on the PLN website: www.gse.upenn.edu/pln

By Dr. Morton Botel, PLN's Founder

The video, the outline below and the classroom observation guide on the last pages below are meant to inform school leaders as they support teachers who have taken (or are taking) PLN courses and workshops or teachers who are participating in PLN coaching programs.

The Central Common Language of The Penn Literacy Network is a guide to support the observation and evaluation of teaching and learning across the curriculum using PLN's frameworks--The Five Reading Writing Talking Processes and The Four Lenses of Learning:

- Thinking about facts and ideas yielding higher performance on local and state standardized tests
- Transacting with Text using the Before-During-After lesson approach
- Writing: Composing Texts
- Extending Reading and Writing through self selection (The Reading and Writing Workshop approaches)
- Investigating Language (The investigative process)
- Learning to Learn (The reflective process)

Research and Evidence from "The Plainer Truths by Dr. Morton Botel including meta-research from outstanding teachers and leaders in literacy and learning from 22 professional associations including ASCD, the International Reading Association (now called the International Literacy Association), The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

and international and national comparative and cross-disciplinary studies. A theoretical foundation: The interconnection of teaching and learning is a constructionist and observational process involving The Four Lenses of Learning and The Five Reading Writing Talking Processes. These frameworks form common language for school leaders, teachers and specialists.

The focus is on meaning making, social learning and language based learning with an emphasis on the human aspects of life-long learning—feeling supported, successful and nurtured.

(Please see the PLN classroom observation form below focused on The Five Reading Writing Talking Processes and The Four Lenses of Learning.)

PLN Classroom Template for Classroom Observations:

Date: _____

Lesson Observed: _____

Classroom: _____

Coach or Supervisor: _____

Using The Five Reading Writing Talking Processes and The Four Lenses of Learning to Develop and Observe/Support Classroom Instruction:

Which Reading Writing Talking Processes are present in the lesson?

Process #1: Transacting with Text

Process #2: Composing Texts

Process #3: Extending Reading and Writing

Process #4: Investigating Language

Process #5: Learning to Learn

Reflecting on the lesson:

How did the lesson reflect The Four Lenses of Learning?

Meaning making: How did students make meaning?

Language-based: How was language used?

Social: How did students work collaboratively?

Human: How did students experience success?