



VOLUNTEERING WITH ESL LEARNERS

## Whole-Part Whole Instruction and LEA

- Learners are introduced to concepts and language through meaning-rich experiences and highly supported personally-relevant stories in their whole form
- Learners spend time learning and practicing discrete skills to break down language and literacy tasks into their component parts.
- After ample practice of discrete skills, learners return to whole text work to apply their learning to previous texts and other new, meaningful contexts.
- The whole-part-whole sequence can also be framed as activation-analysis-application

## Sample “Parts” to Explore with Low Level ESL Literacy Learners

### Vocabulary

- classmates' & family names
- high interest content vocabulary
- high frequency sight words

### Basic Grammar

- parts of speech
- word order

### Decoding & Encoding

- locating/matching the same words
- word length and shape
- first sound phonics
- rhymes
- word families
- basic spelling patterns (e.g. double letters)

### Visual Literacy

- matching pictures/realia
- labelling pictures/realia with text
- sequencing pictures
- illustrating text with personal photographs
- illustrating text with supported drawing

### Layouts and Formats

- categorization
- classification
- left to right directionality
- top down directionality
- rows and columns