**Making Magic with Vocabulary: Strategies for engaging all students!**

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**STEP 1: ACTIVATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE**

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| * Have students brainstorm on a topic of study all the words they can in target language.
* Incorporate a KWL
* Give a language survey (see template for example)
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**STEP 2: TEACH VOCABULARY IN MANAGEABLE CHUNKS**

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| * Short term memory comfortably holds 7-10 items at a time
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**STEP 3: INTRODUCE | DEMONSTRATE | PLAY**

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| * What’s in the box/bag…Show and Tell: Show items one by one and review as you pronounce, then hide items and pull out items for students to name.
* Use visuals and pictures to establish meaning (see various templates and foldable)
* Concept attainment (see template for example): Have students sort vocabulary words by what belongs in category A and what belongs in category B and have students give a title for sorted words.
* TPRS: Total Physical Response Storytelling
* Mind Maps: Students categorize new ideas into groups and students can use graphic organizers.
* Play games like Jimmy Fallon’s Word Sneak or Password to promote language use (see template)
* Use Apps like Skitch or Study Blue and Quizlet for flashcards and practice.
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**STEP 4: MAKE CONNECTIONS**

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| * Connect words to others learned, cognates, prefixes, etc. (See template for example)
* Teach vocabulary in context with authentic materials and scenarios.
* Students draw or organize ideas on their own. (see templates)
* Students keep track of their personal words to create a personal dictionary.
* Implement word walls (see examples)
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**STEP 5: APPLY WORDS (CONVERSATION; WRITING; READING)**

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| * Immerse students in authentic situations.
* Develop performance tasks for students (see example)
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**STEP 6: REFLECT – WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO WITH WORDS?**

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| * Use ACTFL Can Do Statements to reflect on what your students are able to do with various tasks through the words and phrases they use. Allow time for students to self reflect and for teacher to give effective and meaningful feedback.
* How extensive and applicable is the language learner’s vocabulary? Will learner be understood?
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