Best Practices in the MS language classroom

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The Student

- At the center of what we do
- Developmental needs and interests
- Varied strengths and weaknesses
- Attention span of the learner is usually the learners’ age.
- Celebrate success
The Curriculum

- Dynamic
- Allow students to explore interesting topics
- Relevant
- Language Standards
- Differentiated instruction

http://community.wvu.edu/~lsm018/Articulate%20Blooms%20Wheel/blooms_wheel.html
The lesson plan

- Primacy-recency effect (learners learn best what is taught first and last)
- Input-guided practice-independent practice (20 minute cycles)
- Predictable routines
- English should be used with a clear pedagogical goal
Guided-Practice Activities

- Tic Tac Toe
- Word puzzles
- Cubes
- Game templates
- White boards
- Differentiated instruction
- Think-pair-share-think-write-pair
Independent Activities

- Writing: marble composition book
- Traditional worksheet/book exercise
- Mini-project (halloween invitation, el palacio de hierro, restaurant menus)
- Project (3 hoteles, go-animate, celebrities)
- Technology exercise (website, email, PowerPoint, etc)
Learning that lasts

1. Retrieval – Increase the amount of time students spend on retrieval
2. Spacing – Space out practice sessions over longer periods of time
3. Mixed Practice – Provide opportunities for mixed practice or interleaving
4. Growth Mindset – Abilities are not fixed