This presentation was prepared for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) under ED-IES-17-C-0009 by Regional Educational Laboratory Northwest, administered by Education Northwest. The content of the presentation does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of IES or the U.S. Department of Education nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

If you plan to use these slides to facilitate a training or professional development session, please retain this disclaimer at the beginning of the presentation, even if you choose to add your organization’s logo or make revisions to the slides to meet the needs of your audience. In the occurrence that changes are made, please add a note stating that: “Amendments to the original slides have been made as necessary in order to specifically address the purpose of this presentation.”
Welcome! As you settle in, please take a moment to reflect on this question and jot down your thoughts.

What is one remote learning technique you used in the past that you might want to build into your current practice?

Lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic: Evidence-based resources for professional development facilitators

Harnessing remote learning tools for in-person instruction, grades 6–12
Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Northwest
REL COVID-19 resources

- Researchers from the 10 RELs produced and curated resources to support teachers in response to the pandemic
- A total of 44 evidence-based resources addressing issues of remote learning are posted online for educators
- As in-person learning resumes, many of the evidence-based practices identified in these resources can be used to support in-person, hybrid, and fully remote instruction
REL COVID-19 resources website

REL COVID-19 resources website

Module overview

Definitions and context

Fostering teacher-to-learner connections

Fostering learner-to-learner connections
Module purposes

To help teachers share and learn about evidence-based remote learning practices that may be helpful to use in the coming year.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this module, participants will be able to identify, describe, and practice evidence-based strategies to foster teacher-to-learner and learner-to-learner connections using remote instruction practices.
Today’s agenda

● Background and context for remote learning

● Fostering teacher-to-learner connections
  ○ Rationale and evidence-based practices
  ○ Small-group breakouts: Using an evidence-based practice
  ○ Reflection and feedback

● Fostering learner-to-learner connections
  ○ Rationale and evidence-based practices
  ○ Small-group breakouts: Using an evidence-based practice
  ○ Reflection and feedback

● Feedback on the module

https://www.pexels.com/photo/shallow-focus-photo-of-road-2624031/
Definitions and context
What is remote learning?

1. **Remote learning**: “[D]escribes all learning experiences that happen outside the traditional classroom, including learning online and completing instructional workbooks using pen and paper.”

   a. **Synchronous remote learning**: “A teacher and students interact at the same time, such as by video, phone, or chat.”

   b. **Asynchronous remote learning**: “Students work on their own without simultaneous interaction with the teacher. Interaction occurs at different times for students and teachers, such as by email, classroom bulletin board, text message, or mailed instructional packets.”

   (REL Mid-Atlantic, 2020)
What differentiates an online environment* from “traditional” teaching?

1. The online curriculum is different from the face-to-face curriculum
2. The social dynamics are different
3. There are differences in assessment strategies
4. Technical challenges may interrupt the online classroom

* An online environment is one form of remote learning

(Natale, 2011)
Barriers and challenges

**Poll:** What are some challenges you faced in remote teaching and learning?

What we have learned from the research about challenges teachers faced with remote learning

1. Fostering social presence
2. Fostering connected relationships
3. Supporting productive peer-to-peer interaction
4. Strengthening interactivity/Interaction intensity
5. Providing equitable learning opportunities
6. Practicing effective behavior management strategies
7. Communicating with students
8. Supporting families
9. Creating a classroom feel in group online lessons
10. Making lessons culturally relevant
11. Monitoring student progress

(REL Midwest, 2020a; REL Pacific, 2020; REL Southeast, 2020; REL Appalachia, 2021; REL Appalachia, 2020b)
Remote learning connections and practices

**Foster teacher-to-learner connections**
- Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
- Provide feedback through video
- Engage in one-on-one interactions
- Use data from existing technologies

**Foster learner-to-learner connections**
- Organize small-group collaborations
- Model how students should engage and respond
- Engage prior knowledge and experience
- Engage peer feedback
Fostering teacher-to-learner connections

Rationale: Why teacher-to-learner connections are important

1. Strong teacher-to-learner relationships help support strong learner-to-learner relationships.

2. Having trusting and supportive relationships with students is a strategy to help students develop academic and nonacademic skills.

3. Students who are more emotionally engaged may see more value in learning activities.

(REL Southwest, 2020; Brindley, Walti, & Balschke, 2009; REL Appalachia, 2020a; REL Midwest, 2020a)
Rationale: Why teacher-to-learner connections are important

4. Emotional engagement can include a sense of belonging to the school, which can help students to feel more connected.

5. The extent to which students value schooling and feel more connected to the school is associated with greater student achievement.

6. Students who connect with at least one trusted adult in school are more resilient and have a stronger sense of well-being than students who do not.

(REL Southwest, 2020; Brindley, Walti, & Balschke, 2009; REL Appalachia, 2020a; REL Midwest, 2020a)
Evidence-based practices

**Foster teacher-to-learner connections**
- Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
- Provide feedback through video
- Engage in one-on-one interactions
- Use data from existing technologies

**Foster learner-to-learner connections**
- Organize small-group collaborations
- Model how students should engage and respond
- Engage prior knowledge and experience
- Engage peer feedback
Evidence-based practices

Foster teacher-to-learner connections

Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video

Provide feedback through video

Engage in one-on-one interactions

Use data from existing technologies

Strategies for using video to foster emotional engagement can include:

- Recording introductory messages in which teachers share information about themselves.
- Incorporating activities to engage students in navigating video platforms.
- Creating daily videos to jump-start students’ day and instill excitement.

(REL Appalachia, 2020a)
Evidence-based practices

Foster teacher-to-learner connections

- Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
- Provide feedback through video
- Engage in one-on-one interactions
- Use data from existing technologies

Providing asynchronous video feedback can:

- Help students to feel more positive about their work.
- Help make feedback feel more personalized.
- Save time compared to offering written feedback.

(REL Appalachia, 2021)
Evidence-based practices

Foster teacher-to-learner connections

- Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
- Provide feedback through video
- Engage in one-on-one interactions
- Use data from existing technologies

One-on-one online interaction offers opportunities for:

- Individualized instruction and feedback.
- Clearing up misconceptions.
- Building trusted relationships with an adult.

(REL Appalachia, 2021; REL Midwest, 2020a)
Evidence-based practices

Using data from existing technologies can help teachers:

- Monitor student progress.
- Offer insight into how students use time.
- Help to gauge student skill gains.
Small-group activity

Pick a small group to learn more about one of the teacher-to-learner evidence-based practices:

1. Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
2. Provide feedback through video
3. Engage in one-on-one interactions
4. Use data from existing technologies
Getting started

In your small groups:

→ Refer to your handout; it will be marked by the title and the graphic

→ Follow the directions under the first gold bar to identify a timekeeper
Follow the activity instructions

→ Read the activity explanation and start to scan the instructions

→ After one or two minutes of silent reading, the timekeeper points the group to the list of steps under the “activity instructions” gold bar

→ The timekeeper moves the group along according to the time allotted for each step
Time for reflection

Before you finish, each small group is asked to reflect on the activity and prepare to share with the rest of the large group.
Small-group activity

Now you should head to the small group of your choice:

1. Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
2. Provide feedback through video
3. Engage in one-on-one interactions
4. Use data from existing technologies
Small-group reflection and feedback

Please share in the poll what you looked at and whether it feels promising to you

https://pixabay.com/illustrations/feedback-group-communication-2044700/
Fostering learner-to-learner connections
Rationale: Why learner-to-learner connections are important

1. Access to education should not merely mean access to content, but also to a rich learning environment that provides opportunities for interaction and connectedness.

2. Collaborative learning processes assist students to develop higher-order thinking skills and achieve richer knowledge generation.

3. Fosters positive social interdependence by linking learners’ goals to one another.

(Brindley, Walti, & Balschke, 2009; REL Southeast, 2020; Peterson, Beymer, & Putnam, 2018)
Foster teacher-to-learner connections

- Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
- Provide feedback through video
- Engage in one-on-one interactions
- Use data from existing technologies

Foster learner-to-learner connections

- Organize small-group collaborations
- Model how students should engage and respond
- Engage prior knowledge and experience
- Engage peer feedback
Evidence-based practices

Creating opportunities for small-group collaboration entails:

- Evaluating learner readiness for group work.
- Providing scaffolding to effectively engage students in small-group work.
- Balancing structure and clarity of task with learner autonomy and flexibility.
- Ensuring that work is achievable, sustainable, and properly timed.

(Brindley, Walti, & Balschke, 2009)
Evidence-based practices

Foster learner-to-learner connections

- Organize small-group collaborations
- Model how students should engage and respond
- Engage prior knowledge and experience
- Engage peer feedback

Modeling student interactions can include:

- Demonstrating appropriate discussion behaviors.
- Scaffolding learning discussions with topic threads.
- Showing grace and compassion.

(REL Southeast, 2020; Martin, Wang, & Sadaf, 2020)
Evidence-based practices

Engage students’ prior knowledge and experience by:

- Creating learning opportunities that draw on students’ lived experience.
- Helping students to learn about one another's background.
- Encouraging students to recognize their own knowledge and strengths.

(REL Southeast, 2020; Martin, Wang, & Sadaf, 2020)
Evidence-based practices

- Foster learner-to-learner connections
  - Organize small-group collaborations
  - Model how students should engage and respond
  - Engage prior knowledge and experience
  - Engage peer feedback

Engaging peer feedback can:
- Position students as content resources and increase subject matter understanding.
- Expose students to different approaches to an assignment.
- Promote self-reflection and work motivation.
- Develop critical thinking and communication skills.

(Rel Southeast, 2020; Martin, Wang, & Sadaf, 2020)
Small-group activity

Pick a small group to learn more about one of the learner-to-learner evidence-based practices:

1. Organize small-group collaborations
2. Model how students should engage and respond
3. Engage prior knowledge and experience
4. Engage peer feedback
Small-group reflection and feedback

Please share in the poll what you looked at and whether it feels promising to you

https://pixabay.com/illustrations/feedback-group-communication-2044700/
Wrap-up
Evidence-based practices support students

### Foster teacher-to-learner connections
- Foster emotional engagement through asynchronous video
- Provide feedback through video
- Engage in one-on-one interactions
- Use data from existing technologies

### Foster learner-to-learner connections
- Organize small-group collaborations
- Model how students should engage and respond
- Engage prior knowledge and experience
- Engage peer feedback
Feedback on the Professional Development Session
Contact Us

REL Northwest at Education Northwest
1417 NW Everett Street, Suite 310
Portland, OR 97209

ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/northwest
@relnw
800-547-6339
Thank you!
References


References, continued


REL Mid-Atlantic (2020, March). Exploratory research review: Promising practices and approaches to support remote learning [Infographic]. Institute of Education Sciences.  

REL Midwest (2020a). Quick chat: Shifting classroom practices to a virtual environment.  

REL Pacific (2020). Supporting positive at home behaviors among elementary students.  