



Learning Principles

...that make LiteracyPlanet fun, meaningful, and most importantly, effective.

Click here to see
LiteracyPlant's
Logic Model*

*LiteracyPlanet's Logic Model is informed by its evidence-based learning principles.



Personalised Learning

Learning that is tailored to each student's needs, interests and motivations.

What is Personalised Learning?

A personalised approach to learning meets each student where they are, determining where they need to be and finding and scaffolding the right zone of proximal development to get them there (Subban, 2006). As a learner-centred approach to skill development, personalisation enables students to learn in alignment with their strengths, needs and interests - creating a learning experience that is specific to them (Bernacki et al., 2021). It allows students to learn at their own pace, choose when they want to learn and what they want to learn, thus encouraging agency and autonomy (Global Education Monitoring Report Team, 2023) and makes learning more accessible, impactful and engaging (Major et al., 2021).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

LiteracyPlanet's Student Experience personalises the learning journey by determining their starting point with a Literacy Check and then building upon their skills as they work at their own Learning Level (Loble & Hawcroft, 2022). The Student Experience further customises their experience by offering choice, providing feedback on progress and allowing them to learn at their own pace (Friend et al., 2017). Students can also choose when and where they learn, and with My Words and Intrepizine, they can choose what content they want to learn and what they want to do next (Priniski et al., 2017). They can work on a task until they have achieved proficiency, before moving onto the next skill, and they can repeat a task if they so choose.



Differentiated Instruction

Instruction that targets the literacy needs of different learners.

What is Differentiated Instruction?

Differentiated instruction is where educators adjust instruction to meet the varied needs and interests of students within a classroom (Tomlinson, 2014). It involves choosing meaningful activities that are appropriately levelled - not too simple but not too complex - and scaffolding these activities to help ensure that every learner reaches his or her potential (Gormley & McDermott, 2014). A differentiation approach to instruction enhances student motivation to learn whilst encouraging progress on their learning journey (Loble & Hawcroft, 2022). It also enables remediation by adapting instruction to students' learning levels on a continued basis (Major et al., 2021).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

With LiteracyPlanet's Assign a Task and Custom Word List tools, educators can build upon students' literacy skills at all stages of literacy development. Actionable progress data in the Reporting dashboard enables educators to pinpoint exactly what content will help students progress by meeting them within their own zone of proximal development (Loble & Hawcroft, 2022). Being able to group students by ability, need or interest also enables educators to ensure all students develop their literacy skills (Gormley & McDermott, 2014). Educators can quickly and easily identify where each student needs help, intervention, or extension, leading to a more equitable and engaging learning experience (Major et al., 2021).



Structured Literacy

Systemic, and explicit instruction of foundational to advanced literacy skills.

What is Structured Literacy?

Structured literacy is the most effective instructional practice to develop the literacy skills of developing readers, including those who learn and think differently (Spear-Swerling, 2018). It is the systematic, explicit instruction of literacy skills, from foundational skills (e.g. phonology, sound-symbol association, morphology and etymology) to higher-level literacy skills (e.g. syntax and semantics) (National Reading Panel, 2000; Breadmore et al., 2019). Addressing all strands of Scarborough's Reading Rope, a structured approach scaffolds the knowledge and skills needed at all stages of reading development (Ordetx, 2021), ensuring students build upon what they know in a sequential and systematic way (Castles et al., 2018; Spear-Swerling, 2018).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

LiteracyPlanet's Literacy Continuum scaffolds skill development in a sequential manner - from emergent (i.e. decoding, automaticity and spelling) to proficient (i.e. critical thinking) (Gillon et al., 2019). Educators can use this continuum to build upon each learner's prior knowledge or take confidence in program-assigned tasks provided in the student's learning sequence. The program-assigned tasks build upon each student's literacy skills in an explicit, systematic, and sequential manner. Both teacher-assigned and program-assigned modes ensure continued literacy growth and development, which may help to narrow the learning gap for all students (Global Education Monitoring Report Team, 2023).



Gamification for Learning

Use of game design elements to engage and motivate learners within a compelling learning experience.

What is Gamification for Learning?

Gamification for learning is a design process of adding game-like elements to stimulate learning and foster learners' motivation (Landers, 2014). These game-design elements include extrinsic motivators, like a fictional gameworld or story (fantasy narrative), feedback and scoring (points, tokens, trophies, leaderboards, etc.) and immersion (music and graphics) (Armstrong & Landers, 2017). They also include activities that encourage self-regulated learning, where students can complete other activities that will earn them even more rewards (Qiao et al., 2022). Extrinsic motivators like these lead to intrinsically motivated learners who have a "hunger for learning" and increased "self-worth, joy, intellectual growth, and curiosity" (Blass & Tolnai, 2019).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

LiteracyPlanet uses gamification for learning to encourage, motivate and reward students as they move from one curriculum outcome to the next. By providing learners with granular (i.e. points), sustained (i.e. gems) and cumulative feedback (i.e. achievement scores), students see learning as an opportunity for growth (Qiao et al., 2022). They can "do over" a learning activity, if they wish to improve their achievement score, or until they achieve mastery (Blass & Tolnai, 2019). They can also use My Words to earn more rewards and build their vocabulary. These game mechanics are enablers that increase confidence and determination within an environment that fosters literacy growth (Toda et al., 2019; Sailer & Homner, 2019).



Meaningful Content

Engaging and thought-provoking content that sparks students' curiosity and desire to learn.

What is Meaningful Content?

Storytelling, or narrative elements that are personal and relatable have the most powerful effect on learner motivation (Armstrong & Landers, 2017). Relatable characters and immersive storyworlds propel the learner to want to know more, to explore and to apply what they are learning to their own lives (Qiao et al., 2022). When engaged in highly interesting narrative or information texts they find personally relevant, novel and intriguing, students experience increased attention and meaning, increased self-efficacy, and a desire to read more frequently (Priniski et al., 2017). Furthermore, their reading comprehension improves, resulting in increased enjoyment of the learning process (van der Sande et al., 2023).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

LiteracyPlanet's Storyverse immerses readers in a fictional world that ignites their interest in a compelling narrative that is relatable, engaging and thought-provoking. The Storyverse unfolds as students progress, propelling them on their learning journey and improving their learning outcomes. Through meaningful and memorable stories, students are inspired to connect with their own writing in imaginative and creative ways (Armstrong & Landers, 2017). LiteracyPlanet's Intrepizine also fosters a life-long love of reading. Its high-interest tiered articles highlight the wonders of life and the world around them, with topics that students find intriguing, illuminating and inspiring.



Targeted Support

Specific, timely, and actionable feedback that helps students reach their learning goals.

What is Targeted Support?

Targeted support and feedback help students stay on track and make progress towards their learning goals (Dietrichson et al., 2017). It also helps them identify areas they need to improve in order to make continued progress (Education Endowment Foundation, 2016). Over time, with targeted support and just-in-time feedback, students learn to self-correct, persist through learning challenges and gain self-competence (van der Sande et al., 2023). They learn they can improve their skills with continued effort, self-monitoring and sustained commitment (Global Education Monitoring Report Team, 2023). Students also feel supported on their learning journey, motivating them to continue making progress in their literacy development (Major et al., 2021).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

LiteracyPlanet helps educators target the individual learning needs of every student in their classroom. The Assign a Task and Custom Word List tools enable educators to quickly and easily build upon what students know and can do, no matter their learning level. Educators can provide explicit instruction on key literacy skills to individual students, groups or the whole class or target student needs by assigning lessons that meet students where they are at in their literacy development. The engaging lessons also provide explicit instruction - an introduction, explanation, and examples - to help students understand the concept or content. Once completed, students receive just-in-time feedback to help them make continued progress.



Progress Monitoring

Data-driven decision-making tools that help educators make informed decisions about instruction.

What is Progress Monitoring?

Reporting dashboards that provide detailed and easy-to-read performance data help keep educators informed with the information they need to target the needs of diverse learners (Global Education Monitoring Report Team, 2023). Real-time individualised data can provide insights how students are learning and progressing and what kind of intervention they need (Zeuch et al., 2017). Continuous monitoring of student progress, particularly via valid, formative assessment data, help educators recognise early signs of reading difficulty and focus their efforts to provide targeted individualised and small-group instruction (Loble & Hawcroft, 2022). They can also monitor groups of students to identify shifts in equity, opportunity, and achievement gaps (U.S. OET, 2015).

How it looks inside LiteracyPlanet

To help consistently build upon students' literacy skills, LiteracyPlanet's Reporting dashboard enables educators to quickly and easily identify what students know and can do in each literacy strand, who needs intervention or extension, and where to target their teaching in the classroom. The Student and Group Reports help pinpoint student progress at an individual level and at group level.

LiteracyPlanet's Reporting dashboard helps educators use data to:

- Inform instructional decisions and groupings;
- Differentiate for individual academic needs; and,
- Intervene and support students who are at risk.

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