

## Incorporating ESLRs into Lesson Plans

### Successful Learners: Demonstrate Problem Solving Abilities

#### Introduction:

Teacher demonstrates problem-solving techniques throughout the teaching semester and encourages students to cooperate and work together to problem-solve.

#### Examples:

**Academic courses:** When solving a math problem or logic problem, demonstrate the best problem-solving method to use. For example, show how to draw a diagram of the problem or how to estimate the answer before actually trying to get the answer.

**Exercise and Fitness:** Demonstrate how to correctly do a yoga position and how to correct a position or exercise that isn't being done right.

**Arts and Crafts:** When working on an artistic project, work with the student to correct mistakes as they might arise. For example, if the quilt blocks are not fitting together easily, what can be done to remedy the situation before sewing them together?

**Computer education:** Demonstrate how certain procedures on the computer can be accomplished in more than one way. Show how "mistakes" can be corrected and no information lost. Show them how to click on the "Help" functions to answer their own questions.

#### Student In-Put:

Students should be encouraged to problem-solve as part of many class assignments. Encourage students to take an active part in the learning process and problem-solving situations. "I liked the way the teacher let us try to work the problems out for ourselves in a small group before we would meet back and do them on the board together."

#### Conclusion:

Teach problem-solving techniques throughout the semester. Techniques similar to:

1. Understand the problem and restate it in your own words.
2. Break down the problem into smaller parts, if necessary.
3. Try various solutions. Write down the "pros" and "cons" of using each solution.
4. Write down a possible solution.
5. Test to see if it is the best solution. (In math, try to "prove" the problem.)