

The EMC Masterpiece Series, Literature and the Language Arts

Program Description

The EMC Masterpiece Series is a comprehensive literature and language arts program for secondary learners. Although it was not created for English Language Learners specifically, it is a recommended academic intervention for Long-term ELLs (LTEs) who are at a plateau in their English language development, needing support with the academic language and literacy skills to tackle challenging fiction and nonfiction. EMC has an abundance of resources in the series that can be used effectively to support students. It is not necessary to purchase all materials from the publisher, but to choose only those resources that will support students' level of engagement and literacy development. For example, the EMC Write-in Readers let students interact authentically with text, as they mark the text up with their notes, thoughts, opinions and reactions to the readings. The audio library can be used as an accompaniment to the pupil's edition, providing students with a model of fluency. The program materials are arranged by grade level. Each grade level has a variety of resources and some of those key resources are listed here:

Pupil's Edition
Annotated Teacher's Edition
Annotated Teacher's Edition on CD-ROM
Literacy Resource Binder
Teacher's Resource Kit
The EMC Write-in Reader
Audio Library

Program Implementation

The EMC Masterpiece Series can be effectively implemented within several programmatic models. When working with LTEs, schools have found that small class size of 10-15 students is ideal. The following recommendations take into consideration that schools would like to weave this intervention into other established programs for ELLs (i.e., push-in ESL teachers, team teaching literacy blocks).

- Daily 37 ½ minute block of instruction (Write-in Reader Only)
- One of the two daily ESL or ELA units for middle and high school ELLs
- Title III after school program
- Saturday Academy

The publisher will provide a pre-assessment to determine which level schools should purchase for students. It is highly recommended that schools use the pre-assessment since these materials are not designed for ELLs. The alignment between students' assessed needs and the text level are important.

It should be noted that regardless of the grade level, students will be presented with reading and writing strategies that will develop both academic language and literacy skills.

Professional Development

EMC Paradigm can provide onsite professional development to any number of teachers implementing The EMC Masterpiece Series program. Professional developers can work with teachers on the components of the EMC series, lesson design, and delivery. Common planning time for teachers implementing this program is highly recommended as teachers will be able to co-create lessons, look at student work, and develop curriculum maps that maximize the usage of this intervention. Also, EMC Paradigm provides online support to educators implementing the program through their Literature Resource Center and *LiteratureLink* (which can be used as planning tools): standardized test preparation, online reference materials, audio recordings, and interactive textbooks programs to expand activities planned using EMC.

Infrastructure and Cost

EMC accommodates a wide range of scheduling options: daily blocks of ESL instruction (45-, 60- and 90-minutes), extended day sessions and pull-out intervention classes. As an academic intervention for LTEs, it is recommended that schools group students together to use this resource. A characteristic of LTEs is their high oral English proficiency but weaker reading and writing skills. Grouping LTEs together to use a resource that develops their reading and writing skills is a recommended model for delivering ESL/ELA instruction. Consult the EMC website below to learn more about the materials offered. The collection is extensive; therefore, schools must carefully consider which portions of the series to order for students.

Target Population and Model Sites

Long-term ELL programs have implemented EMC effectively to meet the needs of students who have hit a plateau in their proficiency status on the NYSESLAT. Contact the Office of ELLs to schedule a visit to one of the model sites implementing the program.

Office of ELLs liaison: Rachel Hoff, Curriculum Specialist, rhoff4@schools.nyc.gov, 212.374.0295

EMC Contacts

Materials and professional development: EMC Paradigm

http://www.emcp.com/product_catalog/index.php?GroupID=1026

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