

# SLIFE BILITERACY Learning Site

@ Blackstone Elementary

# EVENT SUMMARY



## Session Overview

On **March 5 2024**, the Telescope Network hosted a Learning Site at the Blackstone Elementary school in the South End on the topic “How do we differentiate learning to enable all SLIFE students to access complex and enabling texts in English and their native language?” Our host teachers were Emily Sassola and Rocio Diaz Niachi (Blackstone SLIFE/ Bilingual teachers). Debrief facilitators were Kristen Cacciatore & Garcie Champagne (Telescope Networkers). We had **11** participants join from **6** different BPS schools/departments join this session.

LS

### What is a Learning Site?

In a Learning Site, educators come together for a 1/2 day in a real live classroom around a common area of practice. Participants debrief with the host teacher and set goals for their own classrooms. Participants continue the learning through virtual follow-up sessions to earn an ALC credit.

### Credits

12 PD hr  
Or 1 ALC

## Why this topic?

This session topic was identified as part of the [Telescope Network Spring 2022 needs assessment](#). One of the major themes in the survey data was equitable literacy instruction and working with complex texts. Sample educator responses:

- *How can we ensure that students are exposed to complex text without overwhelming and frustrating them-- how do we get the balance right?*
- *How do we differentiate for the different literacy skill levels of students in our classroom especially if they are traditionally with a SEI or Sub-separate classroom education history?*

### Learning Site Materials

- 📁 Blackstone LS Packet 3.5.2024
- 📁 Blackstone LS 3.5.24 debrief notes
- 📁 Blackstone LS | 3.5.24 | Virtual Follow-Up Sessions | Slide Deck

### Participant Artifacts

- 📁 Brea SLIFE Equitable Biliteracy LS Final Artifact
- 📁 Levin SLIFE Equitable Biliteracy LS Final Artifact

## Participant Feedback

After the session, **100%** of participants (11 out of 11 exit ticket responses) said that they would recommend this session to a colleague. Additional comments from participants:

- *"A lot of great conversations that have me reflecting on my practice"*
- *"Love it. I got so many ideas on how to better what I'm doing in my class."*
- *"I saw some strong examples of how to increase student independence."*
- *"I loved getting to meet and chat with so many other SLIFE folks!"*

## Participant Takeaways

We asked, "What's one thing you learned today that might benefit your students?" Sample responses:

- *"Mirrored Reading in English and native language"*
- *"Strategies to build independence!"*
- *"Sentence building system, building phonological awareness during vocabulary instruction."*
- *"The sentence frame system was incredible for incorporating supplemental vocab."*
- *"I am thinking about tracking data and differentiating for students with mixed ability groupings."*

## Next Steps

- This Learning Site includes three follow-up sessions on Zoom on 3/18/24, 4/1/24, and 4/15/24 from 5-6pm
- [Telescope Events Calendar](#) for future PD sessions and social events.

## Additional Resources

Event facilitators: [Emily Sassola](#) and [Rocio Diaz-Niachi](#) (host teachers), (debrief facilitator), [Kristen Cacciatore](#) & [Garcie Champagne](#) Visit [bostonpublicschools.org/telescope](https://bostonpublicschools.org/telescope) for more information. Email us at [telescope@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:telescope@bostonpublicschools.org).

📄 SLIFE Equitable Biliteracy @Blackstone LS March 2024 Flyer

📄 Blackstone SLIFE LS | 3.5.24 | Pre-Learning Site Session\_Slide Deck 3.2024





