



CASLT PODCAST SERIES

Effective Practices for Improving French as a Second Language Education

Addressing Learner Diversity in Core French **Katy Arnett**

About the Author

Katy Arnett is currently working in initial teacher education in the United States. She has also taught French at the secondary level. Her primary research examines how to include students with learning disabilities into core French programs.

Content of this Podcast

Katy Arnett gives strategies to address learner diversity in the core French classroom.

Facts

- ✓ Accommodating a wide range of learner needs within one classroom does not require an extraordinary set of teaching skills. In fact, good teaching practices can meet the needs of a diverse group of learners.

Strategies for Addressing Learner Diversity:

- Establish a daily routine, beginning and ending each lesson with warm-up and closing activities.
- Provide your students with choices about the assignments they can complete.
- Use learning centers or activity stations whenever possible, and have an established procedure as well as objectives for the experience. The stations should all focus on the same learning objective, but the skills students use to complete the tasks should vary.

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- To make it easier for students to follow “teacher talk” in French, consider using cognate-rich language as much as possible. Gestures, intonations, writing key words on the board and using key visuals can greatly help your students understand your teacher talk.

Further Reading

Arnett, K. (2006). It's not as hard as you think: Including students with learning difficulties in core French. *Réflexions*, 25, 3-4.

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