Building a Community of Connected Educators with Twitter Chat

Augusta Avram, Bonnie Nicholas, Jennifer Chow & Svetlana Lupasco at BC TEAL, 2016

#WeAreBC16 #LINCchat
What is a Twitter?

How would you describe Twitter in a couple of words?
Jennifer Chow
@jennifermchow  FOLLOWS YOU
mother of 2 beautiful daughters, LINC teacher, learning about how technology can empower students

Augusta Avram
@LINCInstructor  FOLLOWS YOU
English Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada SD41

Bonnie Jean Nicholas
@EALStories  FOLLOWS YOU
Learner and teacher. Interested in the integration of tech tools with language learning.
#LINCchat Moderators

**Svetlana Lupasco**  
@StanzaSL  
Adult ESL & LINC, Literacy & Basic Skills, teacher development, #LINCchat. If you can’t explain it simply, you don’t understand it well enough. –Albert Einstein

**Nathan Hall**  
@nathanghall  
TESL trainer and EAP instructor for Douglas College, Community Coordinator for Tutela, #LINCchat co-moderator, BC TEAL board member. Cookie monster.
The research is telling us...

- teachers don’t have time for conventional PD
- knowledge evolves at such a fast pace
- direct access to the source of knowledge is necessary (Koper, 2009)

Financial resources limit formal learning

- we are collectively creating knowledge (Megele, 2014)
- activate each other as resources (Dylan Wiliam, 2012)
- we need to move from knowledgeable to knowledge-ABLE (Michael Wesch, 2010)

We need to model 21st century learning skills: collaboration, lifelong learning, e-professionalism
Imagine making connections . . .

Re-imagine doing PD that is . . .

anytime and anywhere

timely, engaging and personalized
How does #LINCchat work?

Topic: Task-based Instruction

Q1: What is task-based language teaching?

Bonnie Jean Nicholas
@EALStories

A1 #LINCchat I like Jane Willis’s simple definition: using the target language in a communicative way to achieve an outcome
6:09 PM - 1 Mar 2016

Shafaque Mulla
@shafaqmkhan

A1 Clearly defined real world tasks with specified criteria and meaningful communication #LINCchat
6:14 PM - 1 Mar 2016

Dawn Torvik-Wahba
@DawnTorvik

A1: using authentic language; Ss do real-world tasks that have meaning #LINCchat
6:15 PM - 1 Mar 2016
#LINCCchat connections

TESOL practitioners from other countries:
- England
- Cyprus
- Greece
- Japan
- Ukraine

@nathanghall
@ShawnaWiko
@ryandrew424
@jennifermchow
@LINCInstructor
@VGanacheva
@PaulCarterVan
@GreenJasongreen
@vesnaradivojev
@cmoiesl
@johnrpringle

@EALStories
@whistlepunch
@pettispbla
@ManolaBarlow
@mbjamieson

@TESLOntario
@ambartosik
@StanzaSL
@ram_Diane
@JenArtan
@speadingoak
@shafaqmkhan
@linatabbaa69
@LearnIT2Teach
@seburnt

@LauraSoracco
@tori_mazur
@tesolmatthew
#LINCchat topics we have discussed:

- Teaching in LINC - the good, the bad, and the (not so) ugly
- Pragmatics and the CLB
- Exemplars in LINC
- Leveraging Technology in LINC
- Sourcing and Using Authentic Material for LINC
- Learning-oriented Feedback
- Project-based Learning
- Blended Learning
- E-portfolios
- Error Correction
- Supporting Literacy Students
- Task-based Instruction
- Pronunciation in LINC
- Instructional Strategies
- Personal Learning Networks

Suggest a topic for our upcoming #LINCchat events!
Before, During and After #LINCchats

Before
- Review topic and questions (when available)
- Consider the connection with your teaching
- Prepare resources and materials you might want to share
- Think of questions to ask
- Or do nothing!

During
- Tweet your answers
- Like and Retweet
- Reply-Engage in dialogue
- Share resources
- Follow participants
- Lurk and listen
- Don’t forget to use #LINCchat!

After & In-Between
- Revisit discussion
- Read what you have missed
- Explore resources
- Reflect
- Connect with and learn from the people you have followed
- Use #LINCchat to continue sharing resources
#LINCchat Summary

What if you are not able to attend?

Check previous #LINCchat summaries in one place HERE!
Time to try a mini Twitter chat!

1. Open [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)
2. Search for #LINCchat.
3. Find Q1 and tweet your reply.
   ○ Use A1 and the hashtags #LINCchat and #WeAreBC16 in your tweet.
Introduce yourself to #LINCchat #WeAreBC16

Q1. How do you connect with your colleagues? #LINCchat #WeAreBC16

Q2. What challenges do you face in your role? #LINCchat #WeAreBC16

Don’t forget to use the hashtag #LINCchat in all of your messages so that everyone participating can see it.
The Power of #LINCchat

“A bird does not sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song.” ~ Chinese Proverb

- Collaborate
- Share ideas and resources
- Make connections
- Build a PLN/PLE
- Reflect
- Explore
- Engage

Image courtesy of Rosaura Ochoa on Flickr
Now how would you describe Twitter in a couple of words? Has your opinion changed? **Tell us or tweet us!**

#LINCchat
#WeAreBC16
Connect, share & collaborate!

#LINCCHAT
MAY 10TH
6PM PDT / 9PM EDT
LEARNING REFLECTION

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Wesch, M. *Digital Ethnography*.

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Wiliam, D. (2012). The 5 *Formative Assessment Strategies to Improve Student Learning*