

Visualizing and Verbalizing March 2-March 3, 2011, Halifax, NS

Visualizing and Verbalizing * is a program of theory and techniques to develop concept imagery for language. The program was developed by Nanci Bell based on the dual code concept of cognition. Dual coding refers to the association of aural and visual information to establish comprehension and expression. The workshop introduced techniques for stimulating concept imagery for single words, phrases, single sentences, sentence by sentence in paragraphs, whole paragraphs and pages. The V/V techniques stimulate the ability to form an imaged gestalt while reading or listening to language, as a base for oral and written language comprehension/expression and higher order thinking skills.

These concepts were presented and reviewed over two days and utilized videotaped cases, printed material and role playing. Since attending the workshop both Kelly and I immediately implemented the program with students presenting with a variety of learning profiles which encompassed language impairment, phonological awareness weakness and autism. At this point students are in elementary and junior high. The students themselves have indicated that they really like the visualizing activities which immediately tie in with verbal expression.

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