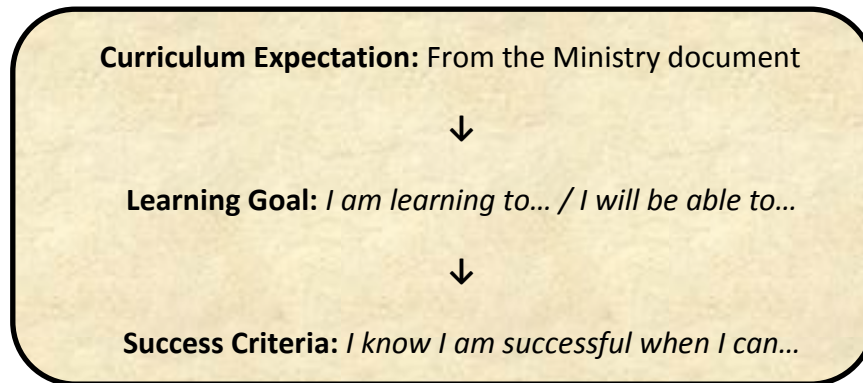


Creating Effective Learning Goals and Success Criteria



Learning Goals

“Learning goals are brief statements that describe, for students, what they should know and be able to do by the end of a period of instruction.” - www.edugains.ca

An Effective Learning Goal:

- Answers the question “Where am I going?”
- Is a statement of what you want students to know and be able to do
- Identifies knowledge and/or skills to be learned
- Uses verbs which are specific and observable
- Is linked to the overall and specific expectations to be addressed
- Uses student-friendly language
- Is brief and concise
- Is stated from the student’s perspective
- Is connected to a big idea
- Identifies incremental steps to build student knowledge and skills

The Language of Learning Goals:

I am learning to... / I will be able to...

...examine/reflect on/identify/analyze/gather evidence on/explain/describe/use

(not abstract verbs like *understand* or *appreciate*)

Success Criteria

“Success criteria describe what success “looks like”, and when used to give descriptive feedback when assessing, provide both the teacher and the student information about learning.” - www.edugains.ca

“Success criteria are standards or rules which students use to make judgments about the quality of performance.” - www.edugains.ca

Effective Success Criteria:

- Answer the question “What do I have to do to get there?”
- Are developed collaboratively with the students, (brainstorm what success might look like)
- Are specific, precise and observable
- Can be revisited and revised
- Are clarified through the use of samples, models and exemplars
- Once developed, the success criteria should be shared and displayed in the classroom
- Give both the teacher and the student feedback about learning
- Enable students to monitor their own progress and make decisions about next steps in learning
- Can be presented to students in the form of a rubric, a checklist or an anchor chart or a T-chart

The Language of Success Criteria:

I know I am successful when I can...

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