



TEXAS LESSON STUDY

Research. Reflect. Refine.

Educator Newsletter

May 2021

TXLS Mission

Texas Lesson Study is committed to supporting student mastery, building the professionalism of teaching, and developing cultures of learning and improvement through transformative professional development processes.

TXLS Vision

Teachers across Texas will embrace Lesson Study as part of their ongoing professional growth, improving instructional practices and knowledge of content-specific pedagogy to drive significant student learning gains.

Letter from the Editors:

Dear Educators,

As summer approaches, we know that the end of the school year is full of reflection. No matter how you may be feeling or what lessons you've learned this year, there is no doubt that the way you showed up for yourselves, your colleagues, and your students and their families was enough.

We hope that as you close out your year, you're also taking time to celebrate all that you've done! While there are many impactful ways to share your work, there is no opportunity like the World Association of Lesson Study conference! Click here to learn more and reach out to your ESC facilitator for support with the application.

This year was unlike any other. We are looking forward to all the learning that we can take into the work with us and hope that you join us again next school year!

On your team and in your corner,

Blair Claussen
Director

Beth Burkhart
Program Manager

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Education Specialist

Email Us: txlessonstudy@tea.texas.gov

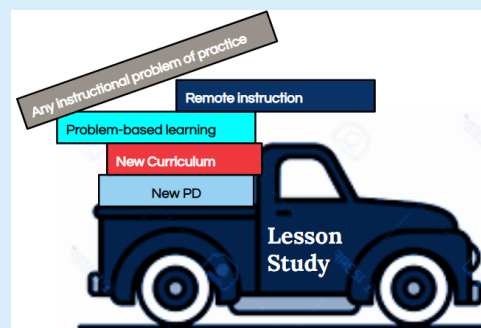
TXLS: The Vehicle for Transformative Professional Development

Texas Lesson Study as Job-Embedded Implementation Support for Teachers

In our last newsletter, we highlighted the first-grade team at Escobar Elementary School in Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD and the way TXLS gave them the space to unpack, discuss, and plan for the practices they learned about through Reading Academies. But did you know that TXLS can bridge research to practice for any number of new professional learning?

Whether your team is implementing a new curriculum, figuring out best practices in problem-based learning, or exploring any number of instructional practices, TXLS is the process for your team to use data to determine your focus, collaboratively plan for instruction, and reflect together.

If you want to know more about what TXLS can do for you and your team, reach out to the ESC contact in your region! (contact info on page 2)





TEXAS LESSON STUDY

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Each issue will highlight strong examples of research and professional development.

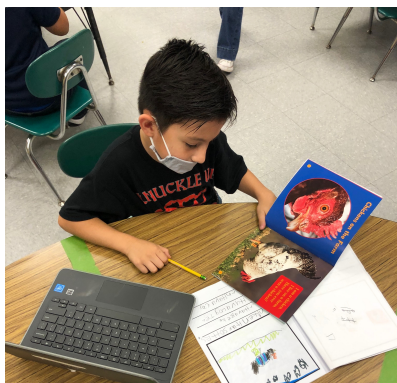
Virtual Facilitator Conference: Modeling Collective Efficacy

Almost every day, our ESC facilitators are in the field, living out our mission to engage you in transformative professional development. Accordingly, our facilitators are constantly innovating and looking for new ways to improve TXLS.

Thanks to Michelle Stimpson (Region 10), Jennifer Maine (Region 12), and the ESC facilitators who shared their work in breakout sessions, our ESC staff experienced the collective efficacy at the heart of TXLS. Everyone got the chance to share wins, talk through challenges, and plan for another great year of Lesson Study. From facilitating vertical teams to thinking about connections to National Board certification, ESC staff walked away with ideas for expanding their support to you through TXLS!



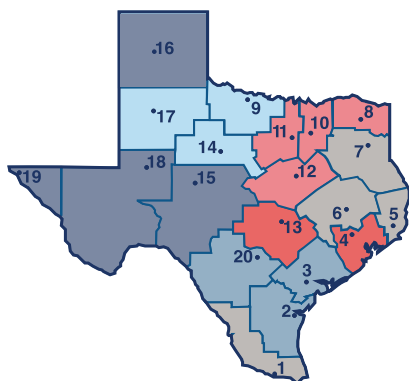
Award-Winning Farm Animal Research



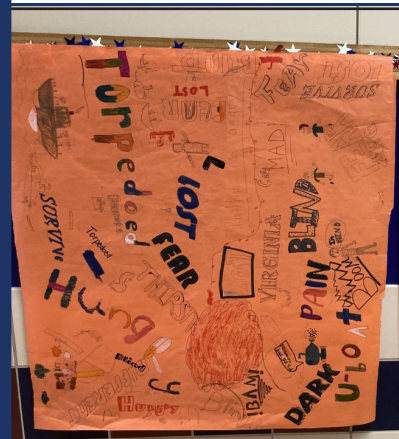
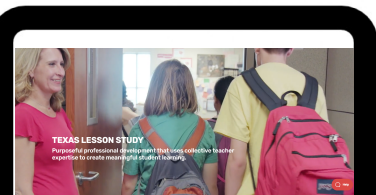
Kindergarten teachers at Cherry Elementary in Region 3 submitted a lesson for the 2021 Farm Bureau Lesson Plan Challenge where they taught their students how to research using nonfiction books and an online encyclopedia.

Congratulations to Kassidhe Ashcraft, Lisa Stuhler, Jana White, the Cherry ES community, and Katie Claxton (R3) for making this happen! Check out their award-winning lesson here.

Get to Know Us



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Photos From the Field

Top: We've improved the TXLS process and updated our tools, such as the Get Started Guide. These resources will be available on our website launching this summer. Check out our summer newsletter for the link!

Bottom (CORRECTION): Margaret Espinosa and Cortney Ritter (corrected) at Edna ES use the "Stop and Graffiti" strategy from Lead4Ward to identify key concepts from the book, *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor.

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