



Creative and critical approaches to heritage language learning and teaching



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Welcome

Collaboration with the Cyprus Educational Mission
within the Critical Connections II project

- partnership between St Eleftherios Greek School (Leyton) and Broomfield School
- partnership with British Museum and Museum of London to create bilingual resources
- professional development support for teachers working in Greek Cypriot complementary schools

<https://goldsmithsmdst.wordpress.com/>

The challenges

- How do we engage our community/heritage language students for language learning?
- How do we plan a curriculum which supports bilingualism, develops intercultural literacy and builds confidence?

Why interdisciplinary / arts based approaches?

- Rich context for language and literacy development
- Authentic end goal (presentation/performance)
- Holistic and personalised approach > emotional as well as cognitive dimensions
- Active and playful learning
- Safe space for experimentation and affirmation of bilingual identity

Implications for pedagogy

- Adopting a dual focus (content + language) > requires careful planning
- Linking to students' prior knowledge and experience
- Developing learner agency, ownership and voice
- Encouraging peer collaboration and review
- Emphasizing process with appropriate levels of structure / support / scaffolding

ref. Critical Connections: Handbook for Teachers (pages 34-35)

The Critical Connections website

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