

# Creating a TAG/SEM Environment for K-2

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## Who we are...

- ▶ We are a 750 student K-4 school in Northern Virginia
- ▶ We are a High-performing Title I school
- ▶ 78% of our students receive free or reduced lunches
- ▶ We are now entering our 4<sup>th</sup> year as a TAG/SEM school. We implemented the TAG model at the same time as adopting the LFS framework for lesson planning. It was a great match
- ▶ Our K clusters meet M-F for 30 minutes
- ▶ Our 1-2 and 3-4 clusters meet each Wednesday for 1 hour and 20 minutes
- ▶ We are still working to improve our model. Each success just shows that there is more that we can do



Why doesn't TAG/SEM work  
in K-2?



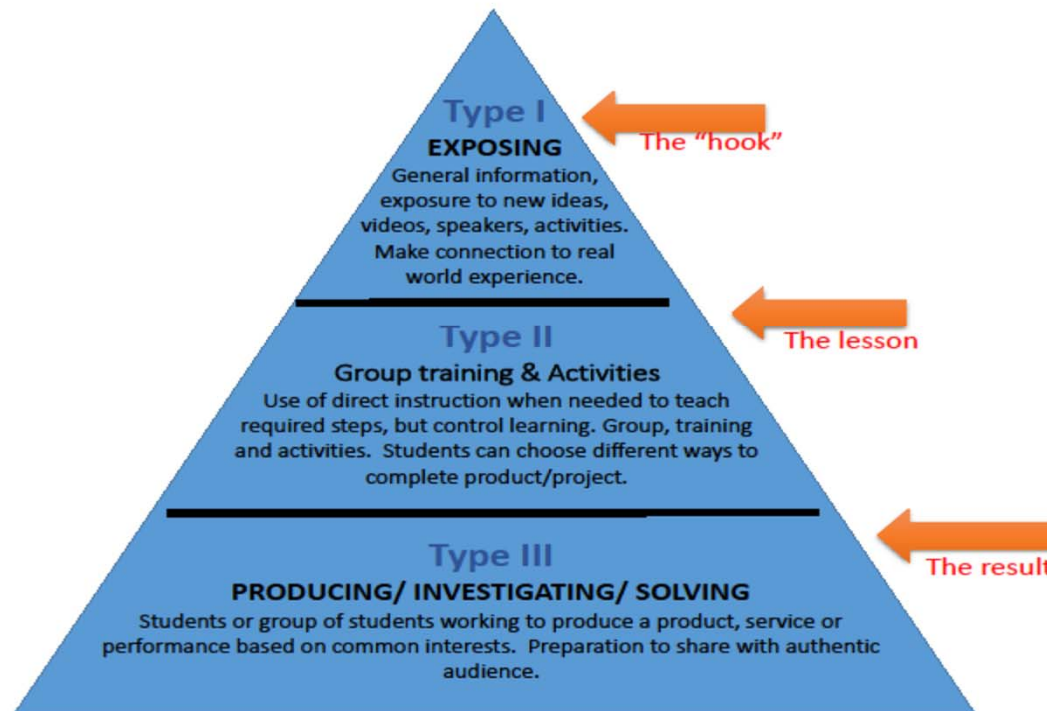


# Kindergarten clusters...where it begins

- ▶ Our Kindergarten clusters started with an idea to use our TAG/SEM program to build background knowledge for our youngest learners. Many have had little to no exposure to the world around them and 70+ % of our learners are also learning English as a second language.
- ▶ The first year we built our clusters around the texts in our Language Arts curriculum. Building on this success, we have introduced many new clusters with many varied topics.
- ▶ Our clusters are teacher-guided, but **STUDENT-DRIVEN!**
- ▶ Once we saw what worked so well in Kindergarten, we adapted the model for our first and second grade clusters
- ▶ We have already talked about why clusters don't / shouldn't work in K-2, let's talk about how they can!

# Enrichment Triad

## Schoolwide Enrichment Model (SEM) TRIAD





## Getting started...

- Pick a theme
- 



Begin thinking about your product  
(type 2 ½ or 3)

- ▶ Teacher interests?
- ▶ Potential authentic audiences?
- ▶ Is there a problem to be solved?




Type I

➤ Exploration





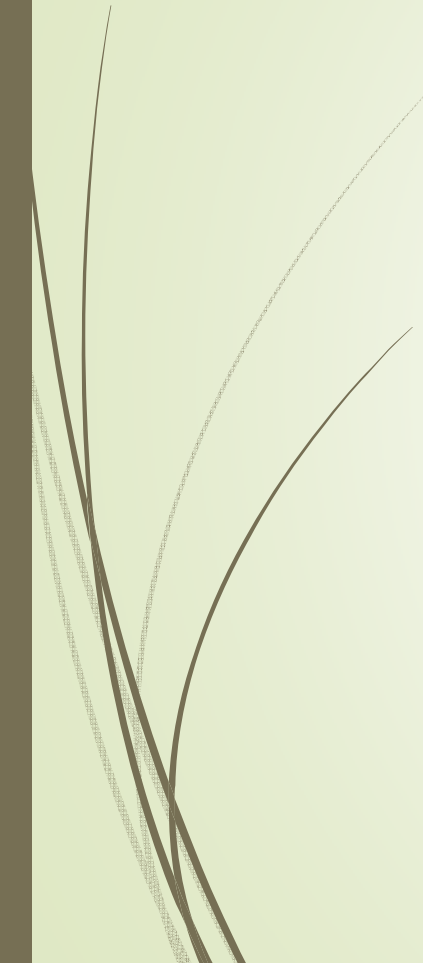


Begin talking with your students about your product (type 2.5 or 3)

- ▶ Student interests?
- ▶ Potential problems?
- ▶ How could we do that?



## Type II

- Voting on products
  - Who does what?
  - How to books
  - GoQuest
  - Finding resources in your school and community
  - Teacher is facilitator
- 



Type II  $\frac{1}{2}$  or III

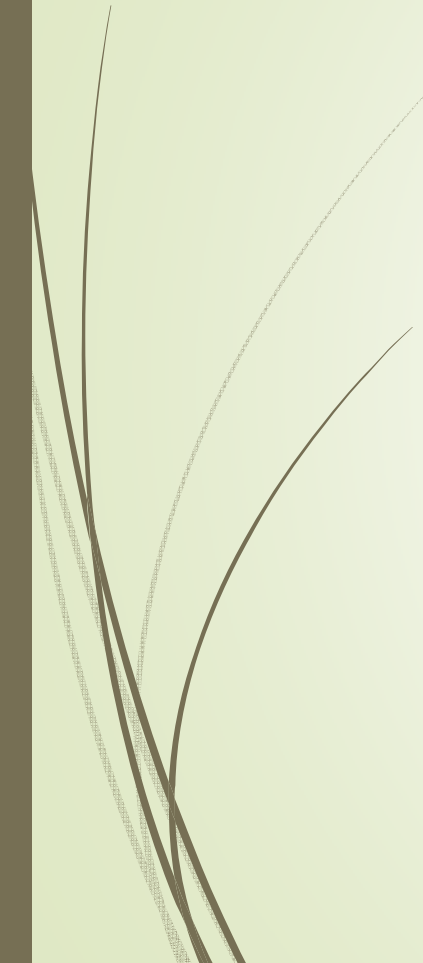


What will you try??



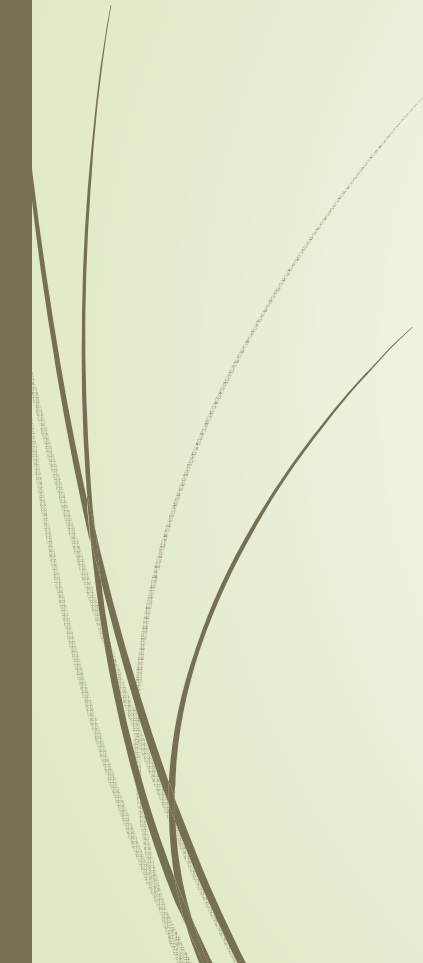


## What we did...in Kindergarten

- Gingerbread man stories – shared with grade level and pre-K
  - United States – created a parade with the rest of the school as our audience
  - Community – “virtual” field trip in school with other K classrooms
  - Alpha Bear adventures – shared cultures with the rest of the school during our Share Fair
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## How we built on K... in First and Second

- ▶ Come celebrate – created their own holidays complete with food and decorations for school Share Fair
  - ▶ Helping Hands – made cards for nursing homes
  - ▶ Math explorers – school store and different types of clocks for school Share Fair
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## What can happen in third and fourth..

- ▶ Champstick – sold to raise money for Children's Hospital
- ▶ Wildcat Fries – school Spring Fling fundraiser
- ▶ Craft show to raise money for an animal shelter