



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING
Global Connections



Lifelong Learning

* Learning Life Long *

Learning across the Lifespan

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Lifelong Learning - Learning for Life

"ongoing, voluntary, and self-motivated" pursuit of knowledge for either personal or professional reasons.

Practicing LLL !

(Google, Wikipedia, PDFs)

Take home message:

The importance of enhancing and maintaining verbal communication skills across the lifespan

Terminology

Green Paper on Adult Education: Adult Education in an Era of Lifelong Learning (1998).

This paper set out the role of adult education as a vital component in a continuum of lifelong learning.

Learning for Life - White Paper on Adult Education

(Department of Education and Science, Dublin, July 2000)

Adult education should be underpinned by three core principles promoting:

- (a) a **systemic approach** which recognizes that the interfaces between the different levels of educational provision, and the quality of the early school experience have a critical influence on learners' motivation and ability to access and progress in adult education and training. This requires that **educational policies must be designed to embrace the lifecycle**
- b) **equality of access**, participation and outcome for participants in adult education with **pro-active strategies** to counteract barriers, and
- c) **inter-culturalism** – the need to frame educational policy and practice in the context of serving a **diverse population**

Delors Report

(Jacques Delors - President of the EU Commission 1985 -1995)

The four pillars of **learning** are:

Learning to know

Learning to do

Learning to be

Learning to live together

Technology can make learning more **accessible!**

Environment! Understandability !

→ Assistive technology → Artificial intelligence

But what about: Dignity – Equality ? → Lifespan

Terminology

Constructivism: “knowledge is not passively received from the world or from authoritative sources but constructed by individuals or groups making sense of their experiential worlds”

→ Learning from many different sources including life experiences.

'Knowledge results from the combination of grasping experience and transforming it' (Kolb, 1984 p. 41)

Terminology

Environment in which knowledge is acquired must be conducive:

Digitized world!

Access to experience!

LLL: Offers must be made more attractive and understandable especially for older persons!!

Caution must also be taken by developers and users!

‘Digital dementia’!

→ How we receive and gather information, collaborate with others, and **communicate**.

Key word: Communication!

Language

Language is a human being's most distinguishing characteristic and most important means of communication. It is the key to quality of life!

Central theme for the past 45 years:

assessing – facilitating – enhancing – maintaining

language skills of persons with an acquired language disorder due to brain damage (CVA, stroke, brain tumor..): **APHASIA**

Principles of experience-dependent neuroplasticity (Kleim and Jones, 2008) apply for brain damaged persons as well as for learning across the lifespan

Principles of Experience-Dependent Neural Plasticity

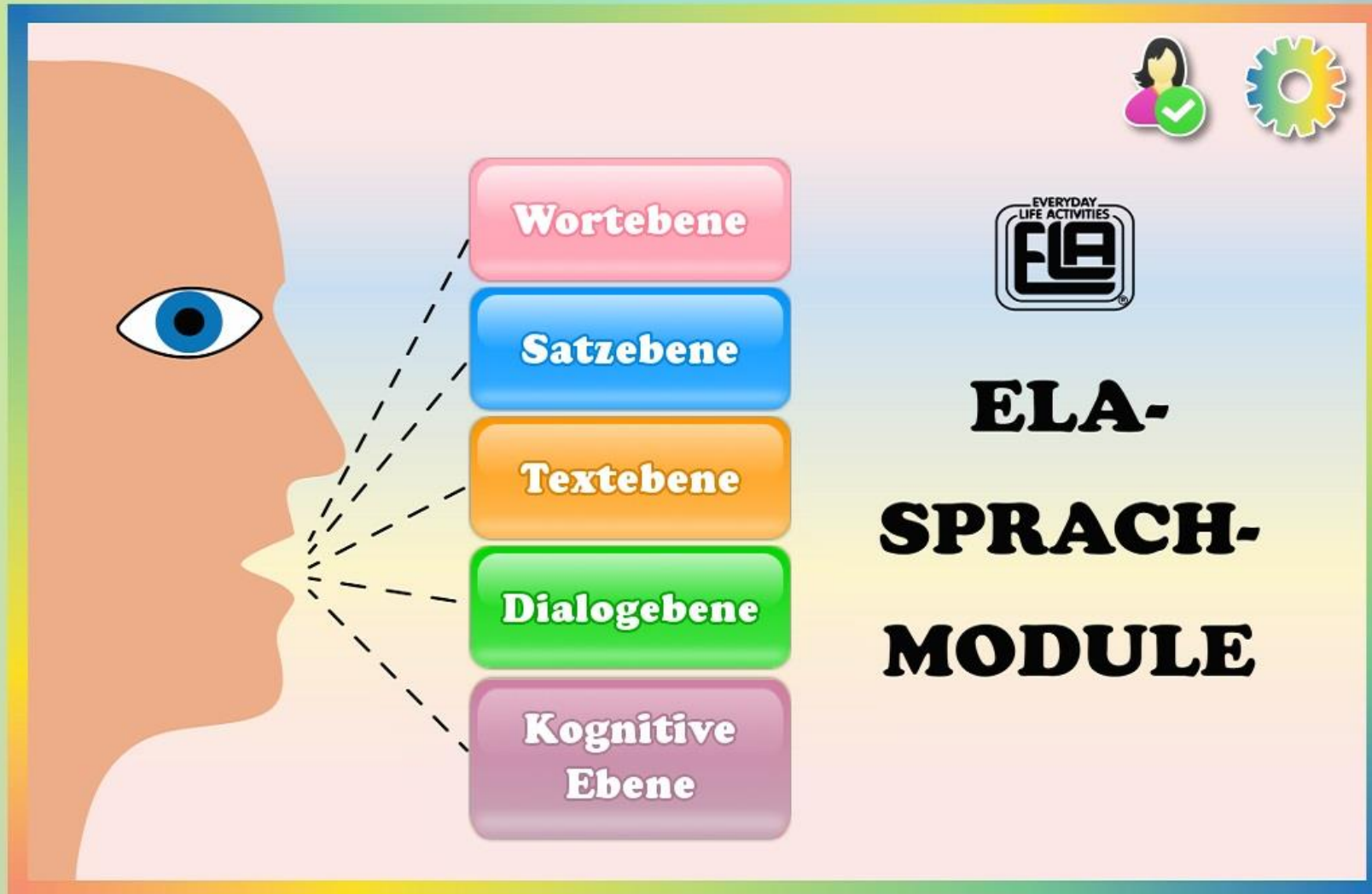
(Kleim & Jones, 2008)

- 1. Use it or lose it**
- 2. Use it and improve it**
- 3. Specificity**
- 4. Repetition matters: (Repeat to remember, Remember to repeat)**
- 5. Intensity matters**
- 6. Time matters**
- 7. Salience matters**
- 8. Age matters**
- 9. Transference**
- 10. Interference**

ELA – Language Modules

Sprachmodule

Bitte wählen Sie ein Modul!



The importance of maintaining verbal communication skills across the lifespan

To work against the declining use of language in performing activities of daily life in interaction with partners or caregivers

Linguistically structured tasks for enhancing and facilitating language production and comprehension designed specifically to meet the users' needs for systematic and intensive use in **everyday life**.

In particular:

Word-finding/ vocabulary tasks

Dialogue training

Fazit!

Language should not be taken for granted!

Structures have to be developed and more programs initiated for persons at various stages of their lives across the lifespan to enhance and maintain language skills!

Improve the access by providing the information so that persons can make use of what is available and make use of modern technologies:

Artificial intelligence

and

Assistive technologies

This would make life worth living at every phase!

Thank

you

for

your

attention!