Scaffolding
What is scaffolding?

- A process that a teacher provides supports for students to enhance learning outcome by using simplified language, teacher modeling, visuals and graphics, cooperative learning and hands-on learning (Ovando, Collier, & Combs, 2003, p.345)

- These supports are temporary and adjustable (Diaz-Rico & Weed, 2002, p.85)
How to scaffold instruction?

- **Modeling**: students watch teacher model each step in the task multiple times
- **Practice**: students practice as a group or individually
3 main types of scaffolding

• 1. Content scaffolding
• 2. Task scaffolding
• 3. Material scaffolding
1. Content scaffolding

• chooses content that is not too difficult or unfamiliar for students to learn

• Start with familiar or highly interesting content

*word-web strategy for writing assignment

• Use easy content or steps: use a text that is one or two grade levels below students’ current reading level (boost students’ confidence and gradually increase the difficulty)
2. Task scaffolding

- Teacher specifies the steps in a task
- Models the steps and verbalizes the thought processes for the students (thinks aloud and talks through the steps)
3. Material scaffolding

- The use of written prompts or cues
- Word web, posters with steps or graphic organizer
Scaffolding strategies

- Visuals and realia
- Read aloud
- Modeling/gestures
- Intentional small group/think-pair-share
- Sentence structures/frames (performances)
- Connect to background knowledge
- Graphic organizers
• Pre teach vocabulary (word walls)
• Ask questions, think time, review
• Sentence frames