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Session on:
**Some VERY Basic Principles of
"How LEARNING Works"**

Five "Basic Facts" About Learning & Engagement

(3 'Facts' About "Learning")

1. All human learning begins with a "demonstration" (model) of some kind.
2. "Demonstrations" ("Models") can be either actions or objects which humans are exposed to.
3. Demonstrations are usually multi-layered

(2 Facts About Engagement)

1. We can only learn from demonstrations if we engage with them.
2. Sometimes we engage with demonstrations and sometimes we don't.



•A hammer is an object humans can be exposed to.
•Someone pointing to a hammer (action) and saying "hammer" (action) is a demonstration of what this object can be called.

•Someone using a hammer to drive nails into wood (action) is a demonstration of what this object can be used for

•Someone using the handle of hammer (action) to scratch (action) the middle of one's back (object) is another demonstration of what a hammer can be used for.

A teacher making explicit (action) some of the strategies (objects) that readers can use when they come to an unknown word is a demonstration of how effective reading (action) can be done.

A teacher who uses (action) lots of boring, irrelevant, meaningless worksheets (objects) is demonstrating that school learning (object) is

Let's Expand The 2 Facts About Engagement:
Four Principles of Engagement

Principle # 1: Self Belief

Principle #2: Worth the Effort

Principle #3: Freedom From Anxiety

Principle # 4: I Trust, Like, Respect, Admire The Demonstrator(s)

Classroom Implications Principle #1
(Self Belief)

Engagement: Principle #1
Learners are likely to engage more deeply with demonstrations if they TRULY believe they are capable of ultimately learning, achieving, or doing what ever is being demonstrated.

What does engagement Principle #1 mean For how I talk to, & respond to my students about their potential to learn?

