Context and Environment

Do you know all the available resources around you? There's much more than you think!

The Digital Action Plan came out in 2018, and with that came many new resources in schools. The Service national du RÉCIT is there to support with online resources, with a website, another one more specific to ESL from Domaine des langues, and then there's the Campus RÉCIT website that offers many free online courses like this one.

The three main domains of the numeric combos are covered in Campus RÉCIT: there's a fleet of devices, robotics, and creative labs.

What's around the school? Well, you're in a school, and that school might have a library nearby. Many of these libraries offer more than paper books; you can often borrow online books, and have access to a creative lab. Isn't that great? Also, there could be organizations where experts nearby are ready to help in organizing events, lending material, even offering support to schools. You never know when you might need help, so don't be afraid to ask!

Who can help? There are specialists, and professionals, special educators, the pedagogical consultant can help, along with the principal, and parents. Colleagues are often very resourceful, and there's also a person responsible for technology. You know the tech person in your school? Reach out to them!

The students we work with every year change: their age, their grade, the number of students, the number of groups, the level of English from weak to strong, intervention plans, if they're active or calm. What are the resources available to meet their needs and interests?

There are a lot of opportunities to develop professionally out there: school board workshops, various conventions, books, online there are pedagogy websites, webinars, social media, and YouTube tutorials on many subjects of interest for ESL teachers. The Service national du RÉCIT, domaine des langues website is full of great resources for English second language teachers.

Do you know about all the digital resources you have access to at school? Robots, tablets, computers, virtual reality goggles. Find out their availability and how to reserve them. Schools and school boards pay for access to websites and tools; you may not know what you already have access to. Also, there's a lot of free online resources out there, take some time to search around.

It's important to consider these aspects before you start planning; that way you'll have a better understanding of your environment and the available resources.