

# Switched on and ready to learn

## *Activating prior knowledge in CLIL lessons*

### **Picture guessing**

Show pictures related to the topic. Learners guess the topic or name the items in the pictures.

### **K-W-L**

Fill in a chart with what learners KNOW and WANT to know at the start of the lesson, complete with what LEARNT at the end.

### **Mind maps**

Create simple mind maps to show what they know – these can be partially completed to help scaffold thinking.

### **Sort it out**

Match words to pictures or classify items into groups.

### **Time it**

Set a timer. Learners can work together to write or draw what they know about a topic.

### **Missing**

Tell a story or show a text but leave gaps and get students to fill them in with their knowledge.

### **Bubblegum**

Write questions about the topic on strips of different coloured paper. Make into balls. Throw into the room. Learners have to try to answer one question from each colour.

### **Think, pair, share**

Ask a question, give learners 1 minute to think, and 3 minutes to discuss with a partner before sharing with the class.

### **Find someone who**

Give learners 5-10 questions about the topic. Can they find someone to answer them?

### **Postcards**

Give learners four questions about a topic and a postcard to write their answers. Move, talk and improve answers. Share materials (e.g. a video) and improve again.