



STARTALK E-SCAPE

Made possible with grant funding from the
National Security Agency





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Today's Agenda

- What is NSA STARTALK?
- STARTALK E-SCAPE Design & Demo
- STARTALK in the Classroom



Online Learning Consortium (OLC)

Our Mission

The OLC creates community and knowledge around quality online, blended, and digital learning while driving innovation

Our Values

- ◎ We create opportunities to increase **access** to quality online, blended and digital learning that center equity and student success
- ◎ We position the dimensions of **diversity, equity and inclusion** as a touchstone for all of the work that we do in service to our community and the field
- ◎ We cultivate **collaborative spaces** for community members to employ criticality around the field's practices and methods that prioritize generative change work
- ◎ We promote **innovative thinking** and approaches for how the community responds to ubiquitous challenges within the field
- ◎ We commit to **continuous improvement** through research, assessment, and strategic prioritization of initiatives, actions, and organizational leadership



Areas of Support



**Membership &
Community
Engagement**



**Conferences &
Global Events**



**Research &
Publications**



**Professional
Development**



**Strategic
Partnerships**



Grants

A background image showing a group of people's hands stacked in a circle, symbolizing teamwork and unity. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal rectangle containing text.

01

What is STARTALK?

ABOUT STARTALK

<https://www.startalk.info/>

- **National Security Agency (NSA) grant**
- **Innovative critical language learning for grades K-16 for the following languages:**
Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, and Russian
- **Opportunities to develop high-impact teaching practices for world language instruction**
 - [STARTALK Principles](#)
 - [Teacher Effectiveness for Language Learning \(TELL\) Framework](#)
 - More about Standards-Based Critical Language Instruction:
<https://bit.ly/startalkolc>



OLC STARTALK E-SCAPE Grant Deliverables

3 Exemplary Virtual Escape Rooms

Gamified learning modules for engaging and collaborative learning

Open Educational Resource Library

Digital and print materials, including infographics and escape room learning artifacts.

Critical Language Professionals Library

Curated digital library of interviews to serve as a resource for workforce development.

Press Kit

Broad dissemination to schools and institutions.



A smiling woman with glasses and long brown hair is the central focus, wearing a yellow shirt. She is in a workshop or classroom setting with other people and tables in the background. The image has a blue overlay.

02

STARTALK Escape Design & Demonstration



Escape Rooms

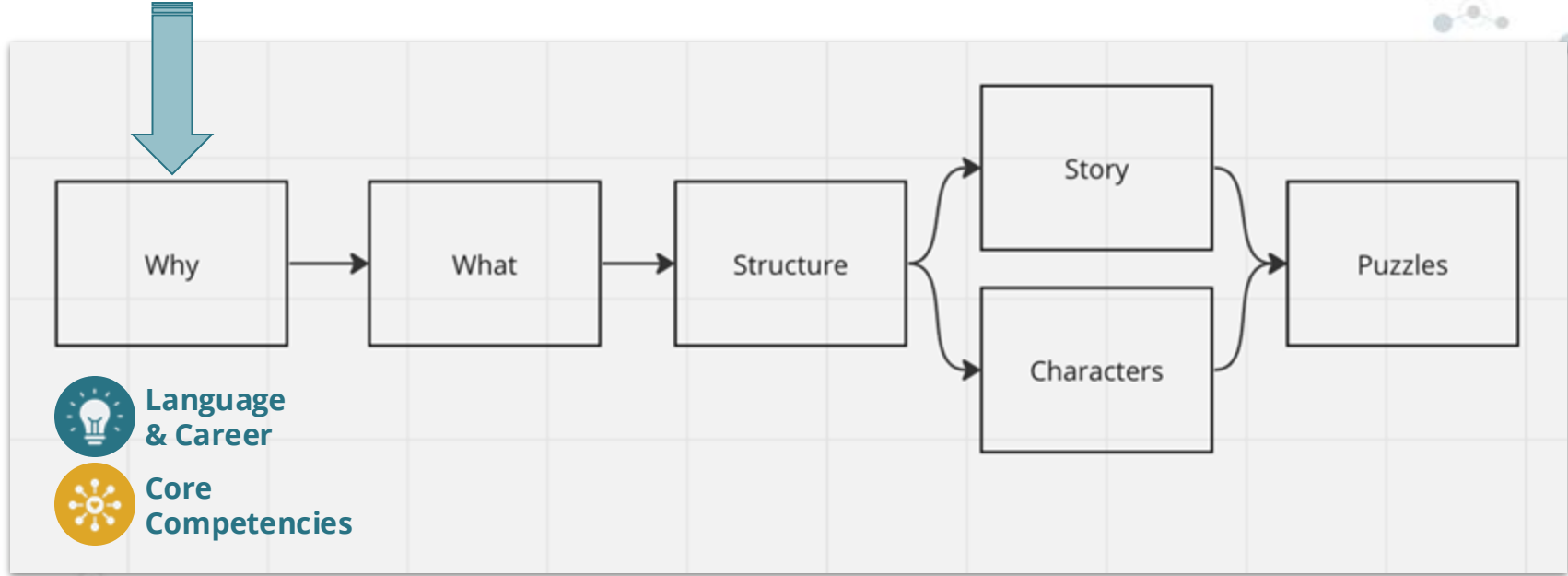
- Gameful experience
- Based around a series of puzzles or challenges
- Puzzles must be completed to “escape”
- An overarching narrative (usually)
- Player takes on the role of a character (usually)



**Play as a powerful
partner for learning**

Escape Room Design

Grounded in a learning purpose



OLC Cross-Functional Teams

Puzzle builders

Storytellers

Instructional
Designers

Subject Matter
Experts

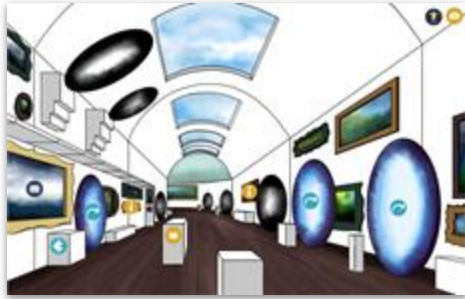
Grant Admin/PM

Graphic Designers



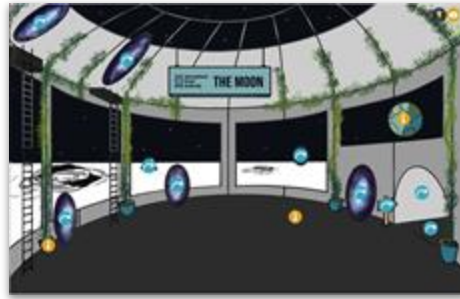
STARTALK E-SCAPE Rooms

Virtual adventures to spark students' passion for critical languages



Portal Problems

Play as a **Translator, Think Tank Director, and Instructor** to complete the escape room.



Apprentice Adventures

Play as an **entry-level language analyst** (apprentice)



Mars Mayhem

Play as a **Foreign Service Officer**

DEMO



<https://www.startalkescape.org/>



03

STARTALK in the Classroom

Alignment of Learner Competencies with STARTALK Principles & TELL Framework

★ Communication

★ Cultural
Competence

★ Self-Regulation

★ Collaboration

★ Digital Literacy

★ Workforce
Readiness

★ Critical Thinking

★ Growth Mindset

★ Reflective Practice

Student Example

The following are the job titles in the federal government.
How do you say them in the target language?

- o Linguist

语言学家

- o Intelligence Analyst

情报分析员

- o Translator

翻译

- o Cryptologist

密码学家

- o Consular Fellow

领事

- o Special Agent

特工人员

- o Foreign Service Officer

外交官





Thank You!



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