



Effective Literacy Instruction for Multilingual Learners: What it is and What it Looks Like

U.S. Department of Education

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Presenters





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Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Context
- 2. AIR NAEP Linking Study
- 3. Characteristics and Components of Effective Literacy Instruction for English Learners
- 4. Panel Discussion
- 5. Q & A
- 6. Resources















Background









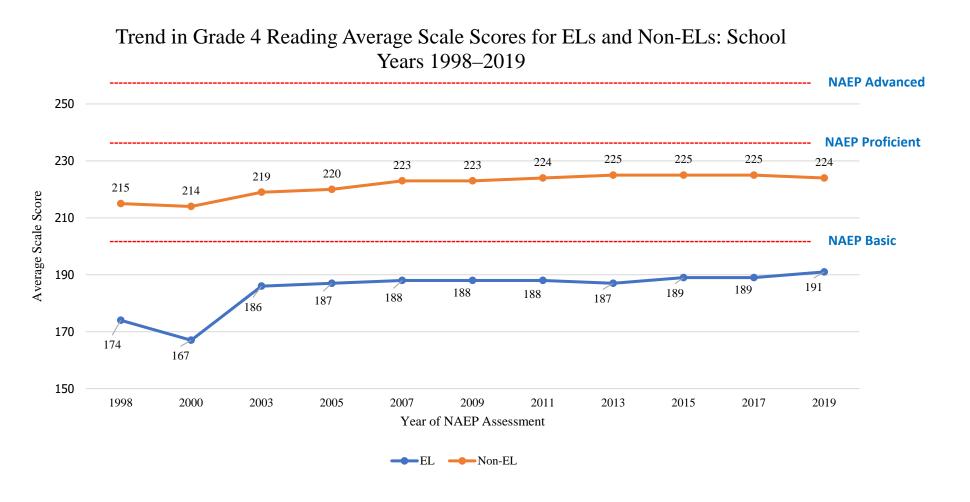






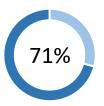
NAEP Grade 4 Reading Achievement Scores: Years 1998-2019





2019

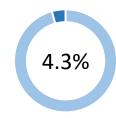
ELs receiving academic instruction primarily in English for 3 or more years



Advance or Intermediate English Proficiency: Reading



Extended Time



Source: National Center for Education Statistics. National Assessment of Educational Progress. Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Dept. of Education.















What Does National Data Tell Us About Early Reading Development?

B. Jasmine Park, PhD Senior Researcher

Mengyi Li, PhD | Xiaying Zheng, PhD | Yuan Zhang, PhD

OELA Webinar | September 21, 2022

Purpose of the Study

- Explore the importance of early reading development for future reading performance
- Opportunity to link two national large-scale datasets to further examine how early reading skills are related to NAEP grade 4 reading assessment performance
- Research Questions:
 - Do distinct patterns of reading growth exist?
 - If so, how are these related to students' contextual information?
 - How are early reading growth development patterns related to students' performance on the NAEP grade 4 reading assessment?



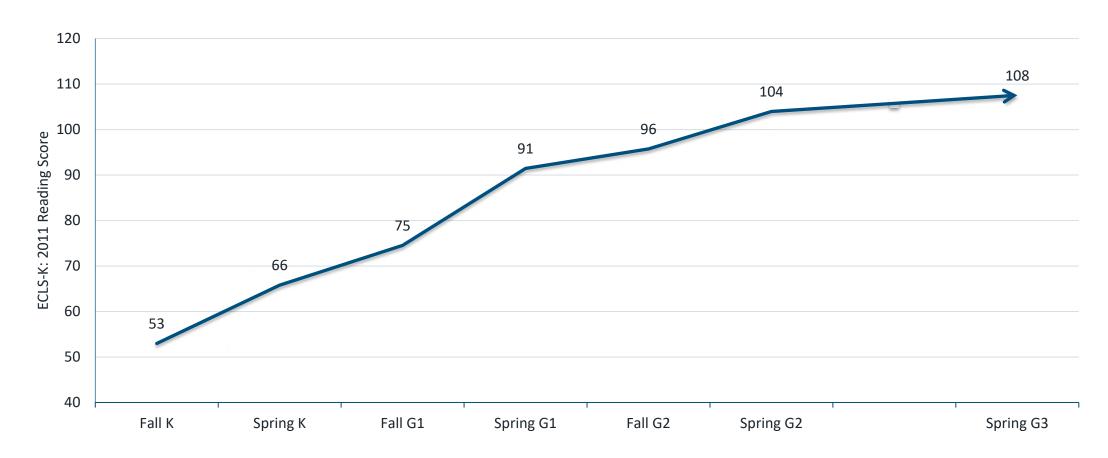
Data Source

- Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (<u>ECLS-K:2011</u>): A nationally representative sample of kindergarteners (2010-2011 school year) was followed to fifth grade.
- Data collection: from 2010-11 school year to 2015-16 school year
- One-on-one assessments of cognitive skills and knowledge including reading
- Overall reading score is based on measures of a variety of reading skills:
 - Phonemic awareness, beginning & ending sound, rhyming words
 - Letter recognition, print familiarity
 - Phonics, word recognition, sight words
 - Vocabulary
 - Comprehension
- Scores are calculated using Item Response Theory (IRT) and are vertically scaled.
- Contextual questionnaires administered to parents, teachers, and school administrators covering child's learning experiences and environment at home and school; rating of child's learning behaviors; instructional practices for class, etc.



Piecewise Latent Growth Model Results

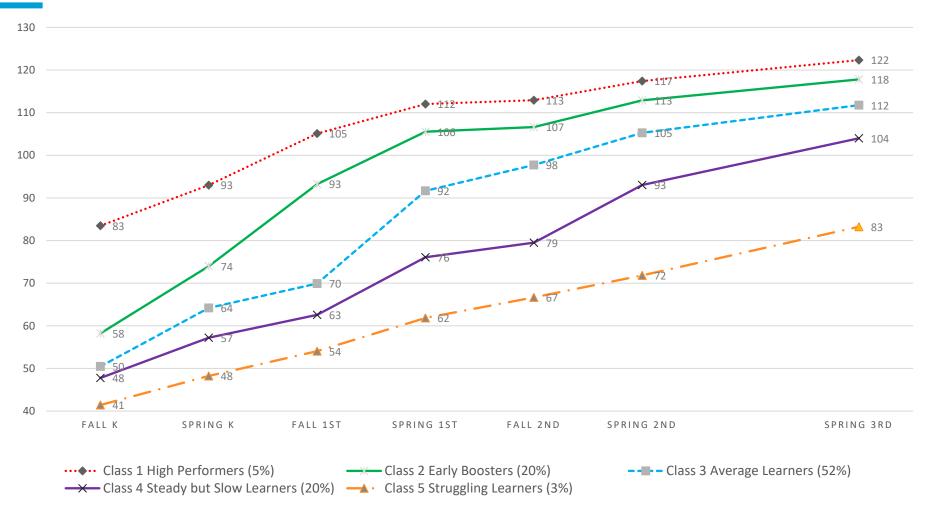
Reading Growth from Kindergarten to Grade 3



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011), Kindergarten—Third Grade Restricted-Use Data File.



Growth Mixture Model Results: Growth Trajectories



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011), Kindergarten—Third Grade Restricted-Use Data File.



Understanding NAEP Achievement Levels

- NAEP Proficient: Represents solid academic performance for each NAEP assessment.
 Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter, including subject-matter knowledge, application of such knowledge to real world situations, and analytical skills appropriate to the subject matter.
- NAEP Basic: Denotes partial mastery of prerequisite knowledge and skills that are fundamental for performance at the NAEP Proficient level.
- More information about NAEP Achievement Levels: NAEP Item Maps

Reading Growth Trajectory Patterns & NAEP Reading Achievement Levels

	2015 G4 National Public (%)	High Performers (%)	Early Boosters (%)	Average Learners (%)	Steady but Slow Learners (%)	Struggling Learners (%)
below NAEP Basic	32	3 [!]	10 [!]	30	64	95
At NAEP Basic	33	18!	28	40	29	5!
At NAEP Proficient	27	51	43	25	7!	0
At NAEP Advanced	8	28	18	6	0	0

- One-third of Average Learners are projected to perform at NAEP Proficient or above.
- Almost all High Performers (8 out of 10) and Early Boosters (6 out of 10) are projected to perform at NAEP Proficient or above.
- Almost all Steady but Slow Learners (6 out of 10) and Struggling Learners (9 out of 10) are projected to perform below NAEP Basic.

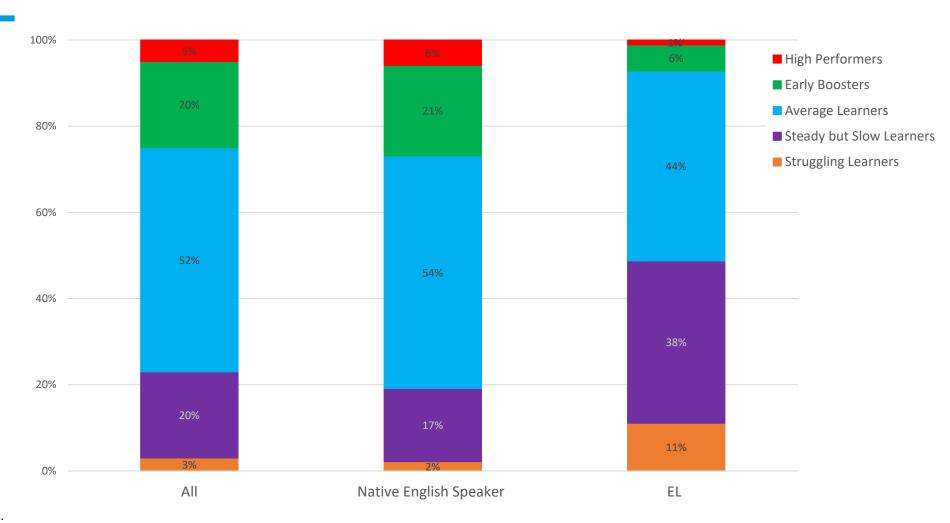
NOTE: Columns add up to totals. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011), Kindergarten—Third Grade Restricted-Use Data File & National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2015 Grade 4 Reading Assessment.



[!] Interpret data with caution.

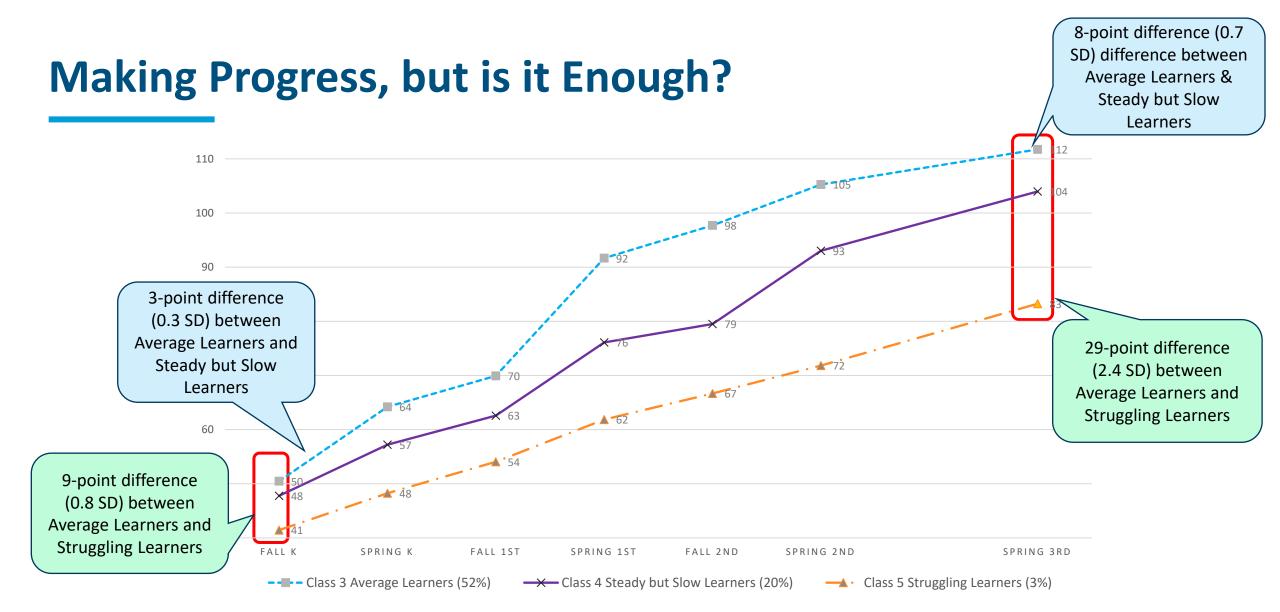
Reading Development and English Learners (EL)



[!] Interpret data with caution.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011), Kindergarten—Third Grade Restricted-Use Data File.





SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11 (ECLS-K:2011), Kindergarten—Third Grade Restricted-Use Data File.



What Students Can Do

- Steady but Slow Learners and Struggling Learners are more likely to begin kindergarten with lower reading skills.
- By the end of first grade, most students acquired foundational reading skills, but
 Struggling Learners demonstrated challenges with phonological awareness.
- By the end of second grade, almost all students seemed to acquire foundational skills necessary for decoding.
- English learners in general began kindergarten with lower reading skills.
- By the end of first grade, most EL students acquired alphabetic principle skills.
- By the end of second grade, most EL students acquired phonological awareness skills.



Teachers' Reporting of Instructional Practices

- No differences on most reading-related instruction variables regardless of students' reading development patterns or EL status
- Some differences observed in spring of kindergarten & first grade
 - Kindergarten:
 - » Reading aloud and reading books of their own choice as a class activity: Higher for Average Learners compared to Steady but Slow Learners and Struggling Learners
 - » Discussing new or difficult vocabulary and retelling stories: Higher for Steady but Slow Learners and Struggling Learners compared to Average Learners
 - First Grade
 - » Teaching comprehension strategies: Higher for Average Learners compared to Steady but Slow Learners and Struggling Learners
 - » Teaching phonics and word recognition: Higher for Steady but Slow Learners and Struggling Learners compared to Average Learners



What Did We Learn about Early Reading Development?

- Nationally, data show that all children gain reading skills over time, but not everyone
 makes adequate growth in reading which widens reading skill gap.
- Mastering foundational reading skills in early grades is important, and most students, including English learners, seem to acquire sufficient foundational reading skills by the end of second grade.
- Building strong foundational reading skills is important but not sufficient for students' overall reading and literacy development.



B. Jasmine Park

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Resources and More Information about NAEP

- Promising Practices to Support English Learners
- Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in Elementary Grades
- AIR's work on NAEP
- The Nation's Report Card

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- 1 in 10 students nationwide have a home language other than English and are learning English as a second language (English language learners/Bilingual learners/Dual language learners)
- English language learners have been the recipients of many "reforms" but research about them is rarely built upon when literacy reforms are created and implemented
- Outcomes have been disappointing. Gaps maintained.
- We HAVE a strong research base upon which to build effective literacy approaches for ELLs





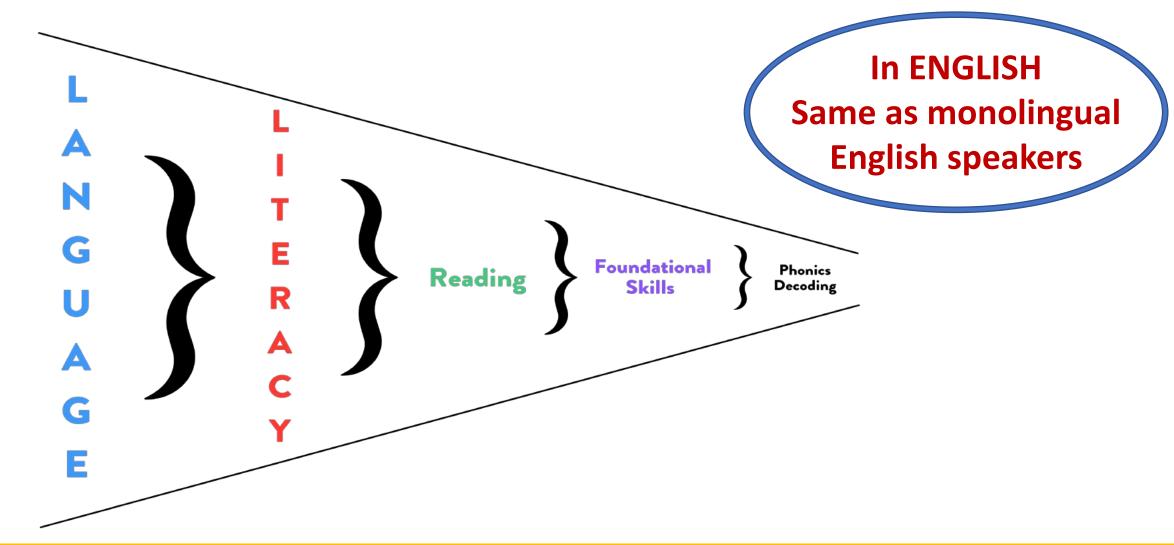






A Narrowed View of Becoming Literate









1974: Lau v. Nichols Supreme Court Decision





Source: Historical Photograph Collection of San Francisco Public Library's San Francisco History Center.

"There is no equality of treatment merely by providing students with the same facilities, textbooks, teachers and curriculum...for **students** who do not understand **English** are effectively foreclosed from any meaningful education..."

Lau v. Nichols, Supreme Court







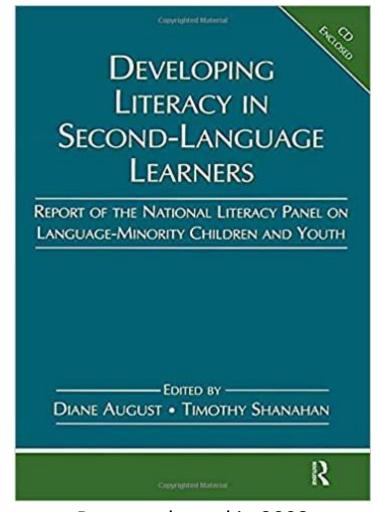


2006 National Literacy Panel on Language-Minority Children and Youth



- The five National Reading Panel components of reading instruction are not sufficient for ELLs
- Second language development and literacy development is different from monolingual
- ESL/ELD is important component
- Important role of home language, cross-language interactions
- Viability of dual language approaches
- Oral language as foundation for literacy
- Integration of the four domains of language
- Key role of meaning-making and comprehension

"to extend and adjust the findings of the National Reading Panel"



Report released in 2008





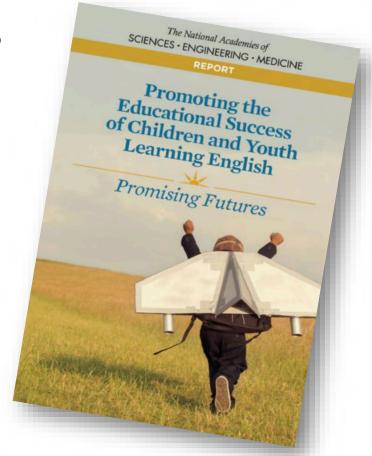




Continuing Research to Build a Science of Literacy Development for English Learners and Bilingual Children and Youth



- Dual language development in the early years 0–8
- Neuroscience and the bilingual brain
- Benefits of bilingualism
- Translanguaging
- Differentiated and responsive services needed for different population of ELLs
- Dangers of language loss
- Effective practices and program design





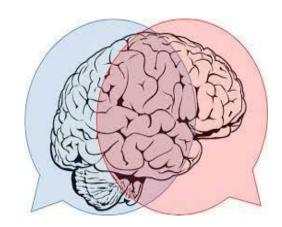
See handout of key research







Language processing in the bilingual mind differs from the monolingual mind. The development of literacy for a dual language brain is not the same as for a monolingual brain. The new language and literacy system is developed in the presence of and in interaction with an existing language system.



One Brain – Two Languages

See Handout on "Differences"









Goals of Literacy Education for ELLs



- Educational access, participation and success
- Literacy for *all* of their language and cultural worlds
- Read, comprehend, and access books for information, academic engagement, entertainment, wisdom, the stories of other people and places and worlds
- Voice and expression writing as well as reading











What is an effective literacy approach for ELLs that is based upon research about them, embraces the dual language brain as a reality and as an asset in literacy development, and has been demonstrated to have positive impacts?











Effective Literacy Model for ELLs



- Comprehensive
- Multi-dimensional
- Complex
- Interactive and interactional
- Integrated
- Equitable
- Responsive
- Based upon multi-disciplinary research based on ELLs and dual language/2nd language









"YES!





Effective Literacy Model for English Learners

See Handout pg. 2

Precursor Skills (preschool)



Essential Elements of Literacy Instruction



Essential Contexts for Literacy Development

For Dual Language/ Biliteracy Program Contexts

PRECURSOR Skills and Conditions

(for 3 and 4 year olds, some 5 year olds –, in both home language and English)

- Oral language and vocabulary development
 - Phonological awareness
 - · Memory and visual recall
- Print access and active engagement with books and text
- Early concepts of print and purposes of print (written and read)
 - Early attentiveness to print, beginning letter knowledge

Essential ELEMENTS of Literacy Instruction (K+)

Foundational Skills

- Phonemic Awareness
- Letter knowledge and alphabet
- Phonics and Decoding (word recognition)
- Concepts of print
- Fluency

Essential Literacy Components

- Oral language development
- Vocabulary (and background knowledge) across content areas
- Comprehension and meaning-making
- Cross language connections & Metalinguistic Development
- Writing
- Print immersion/access and Active Engagement with

Essential CONTEXTS for Effective Literacy Development

- English language development: How English works (for ELs)
- Integrated Content knowledge and Language/Literacy through thematic instruction
 - Language-rich, print-immersive and content-rich learning environment
 - High quality and culturally inclusive relevant materials
 - Safe and affirming assets-based relationships and classroom/school cultures
 - Embrace of home language and affirmation of bilingualism (for ELs)
 - Differentiated instruction based on formative assessments

In a DUAL LANGUAGE/BILITERACY PROGRAM Context

- Explicit goal of biliteracy
- Native language foundational skills
- Strategic and aligned literacy instruction across two languages
 - Cross-language, transfer, metalinguistic skills
 - s language, transier, inclaimguistic skins
 - Dual language assessments
- Use of literacy for and in academic study in both languages













Chart: What Should I See in a Classroom, and Why is it Important for ELLs? (see handout – page 3)



Component	If not present	Notes re: ELLs	Examples: What you see
Oral language	Without development of oral language that is the foundation for internalizing a language, ELLs will struggle to isolate and hear the sounds of the language needed to decode text, are challenged in recognizing vocabulary in print, and have more difficulty following the flow and structure and meaning of text.	Building oral language is both an ESL/ELD second language issue, and a matter of building opportunities and structures for student talk/discourse into all curriculum for all students. It is how ELLs internalize the sounds, structures and vocabulary in English	High degree of student talk and oral engagement Structured & scaffolded opportunities for student talk – with particular support for ELLs (e.g., sentence starters, modeling, T-P-S)









Effective Literacy Model for ELLs



- Each element is important and has a specific role to play in overall literacy development
- All elements must be present and addressed
- The elements work together and interact
- No element alone or in isolation is sufficient
- No element has primacy or priority over another; none is more important than any other
- No single approach works optimally for all students effective literacy instruction is responsive and differentiated







EFFECTIVE DUAL LANGUAGE LITERACY INSTRUCTION IN BILITERACY SETTINGS









Towards a Biliterate Pedagogy: Biliteracy Development



- Effective teaching in biliteracy contexts requires a biliterate pedagogy.
- The key to developing effective biliteracy programs is not finding a single program that works for all children in all localities, but in implementing a set of program components that works for the children in the community of interest, given that community's goals, demographics, and target languages.
- Bilingualism is not the presence of two separate language systems and identities; it involves the intersection of two (or more) languages within the mind and life experiences of an individual. Biliteracy pedagogy must acknowledge and include this linguistic intersection.
- It is time to move beyond debates about language(s) of instruction to discussions about quality of instruction.
- Biliteracy programs boost self-esteem, and cultural pride and teach for social justice.







Biliterate Pedagogies...

- Provide strategic and aligned literacy instruction across two languages
- Go beyond teaching two languages.
- Intentionally connect language environments
- Provide explicit opportunities for students to make cross-language and cross-cultural connections
- Utilize dual language assessments
- Use literacy for and in academic study in both languages













One Example of a Research-based and Research – Tested Biliteracy Approach





BILITERACY IN ACTION: LITERACY SQUARED®

Escamilla, Hopewell, Butvilofsky, Sparrow, Soltero-Gónzalez, Ruiz-Figueroa & Escamilla, 2014



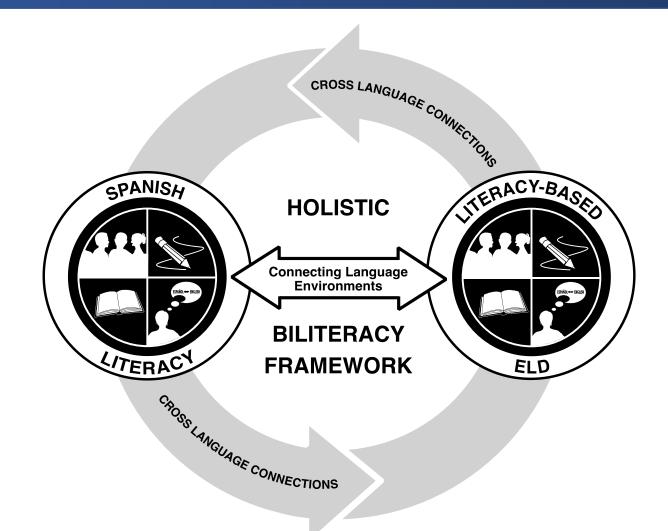






HOLISTIC BILITERACY FRAMEWORK







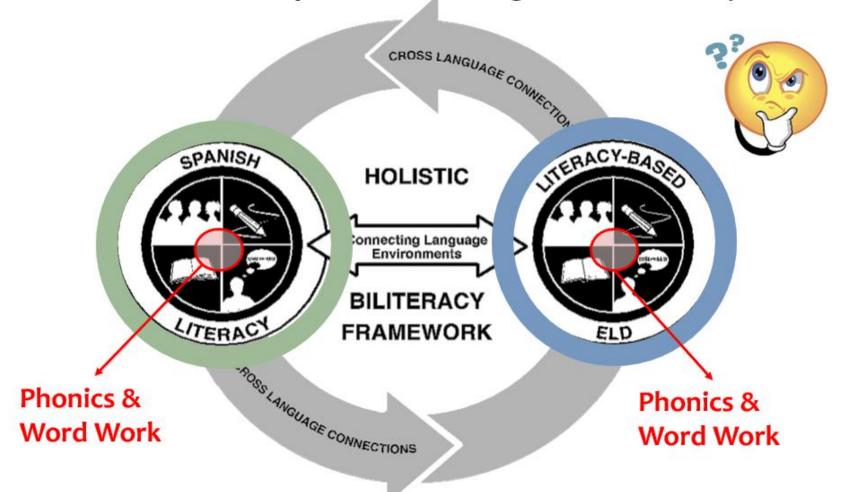




Literacy Squared®: Biliteracy Framework



Phonics has an important and strategic role in biliteracy.









- A Literacy Squared strategy
- Culturally relevant adapted from Central and South America
- Explicit and direct
- Connected discourse
- An integrated biliterate strategy that includes:
 - Language arts (one week Spanish/one week English)
 - Content based
 - Cross-language connections
 - Metalinguistic development
- Meaning making is everything!









Thedictado®

La erosión La erosión es el desgaste de la **T**ierra. Hay erosión por la lluvia, tormenta de hielo, v**ie**nto, y excavación de las montañas.

- Second grade dual language classroom
- Spanish/English
- Science Content
- Integrated oracy, reading, writing and metalanguage
- Authentic to Spanish
- Complex with regard to language and content, but succinct
- Teaching points:
 - Reinforce the science content
 - Cross-language connections
 - cognates,
 - differences in ways titles are written
 - Spelling in Spanish accent marks
 - Spanish diagraphs ie
 - Ion morphological rule in Spanish
 - Use of commas in a series
 - Meaning at the center





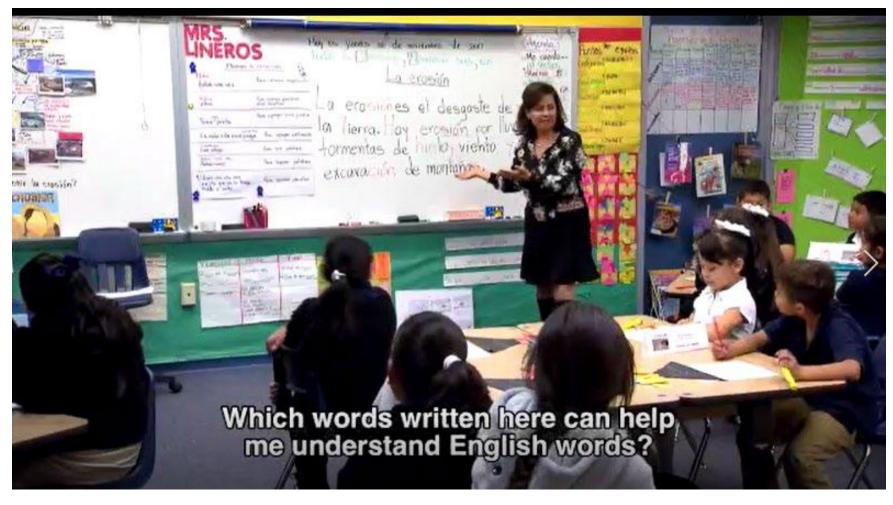






The Dictado: 2nd grade Bilingual Classroom





Video can be found here: https://vimeo.com/754432086/1ae3f91595



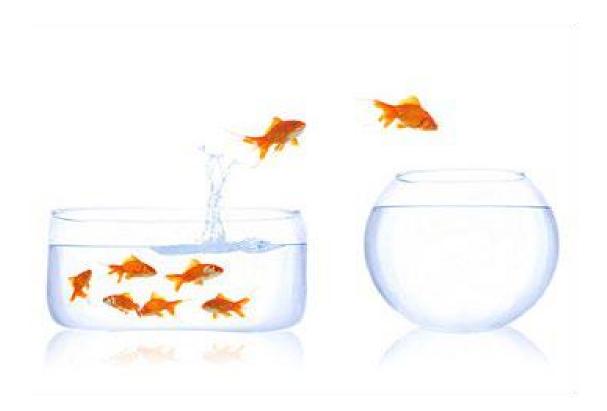






Transfer

Integration/syncing















- The C6 Biliteracy Framework José Medina
 - https://ellevationeducation.com/blog/biliteracy-framework



- Center for Teaching for Biliteracy Karen Beeman & Cheryl Urow
 - https://www.teachingforbiliteracy.com
- TaJu Solutions Alejandra Guilamo
 - https://tajulearning.com







- Literacy Squared® Susan Hopewell, Jody Slavick & Kathy Escamilla
 - https://www.literacysquared.org













Why Aren't Monolingual Theories/Pedagogies Sufficient?



- Tandem bicycle vs. riding solo
- Imagine starting out learning to ride a bike, but with the caveat that you must do so while coordinating with another person.
- The process itself (mounting, balancing, coordinating & communicating) would be substantially different than learning to ride solo.
- Much about riding a bike solo (pedaling, steering, etc.) overlaps with what one needs to understand about riding tandem
- But the effect of two riders changes the experience in meaningful ways.
- Biliterate pedagogy proposes that the effect of two languages changes the language acquisition and academic learning process in meaningful ways.

















EFFECTIVE LITERACY FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS IN ENGLISH INSTRUCTION

(where the vast majority of ELLs are receiving literacy instruction)











Reminder of Elements of Comprehensive Model



ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

- Phonemic Awareness
- Letter knowledge/Alphabetics
- Phonics, Decoding, Word Work
- Concepts of Print
- Fluency
- Oral language
- Vocabulary & background knowledge
- Comprehension/meaning making
- Cross language connections
- Writing

ESSENTIAL CONTEXTS

- Print access
- ELD/ESL –How English Works
- Integrated language, literacy, content
- Language and print-rich environment
- Culturally inclusive materials
- Affirming, assets-based climate
- Differentiation, valid assessment
- Embrace of home language and bilingualism











Effective Literacy Instruction in an English Taught Context Requires.....



- The building of the new LANGUAGE has to be explicit
- The leveraging of home language has to be intentional
- The language barrier to participation has to be overcome











- Second language pedagogy builds the new language and recognizes & leverages the dual language brain
- ESL/ELD essential partner to literacy instruction
- "Scaffolding" strategies facilitate comprehension, participation, engagement
- Literacy and language development integrated with content – throughout day
- Messaging and support for home language literacy, and exposure to literature reflecting home culture and language
- Partnering with & embracing family role











VIDEO: Preschool – (precursors to literacy)





Video can be found here: https://vimeo.com/754431590/dabdc46ef3











What it Looks Like: (Did you notice...?)



- The role of print in the environment
- Integration of early foundational literacy skills and writing with content
- Role of oral language as a bridge to and foundation for literacy
- Use of small groups (by interest, readiness)

See Handout of SEAL Video Resources www.seal.org





GUARD AGAINST THESE TENDENCIES



- Invisibility or Marginalization of ELLs
- Rush to intervention based upon monolingual & inadequate assessments
- Push down
- Push out of content to focus on literacy
- English-only or English-centric
- Narrowing of literacy to discrete reading skills
- Minimizing role of responsive teaching
- One-size-fits-all solutions
- Deficit perspectives











- Curriculum materials focus on all essential elements
- Quality ELD (ESL) as part of literacy education
- Observations, monitoring and assessments focus on all essential elements of literacy instruction, literacy environments and skill development for ELLs
- Investments in classroom libraries of high quality multiple-genre and multiple language books and print materials to create print-rich and content-rich classroom environments for literacy and learning
- Literacy coaches and collaborative time for teachers to plan integrated language/literacy/content curriculum
- Invest in professional learning for all teachers re: ELLs and effective literacy
- Message the value of biliteracy
- Expand dual language and biliteracy programs







We cannot afford to lose another generation to literacy programs that aren't designed or delivered based on what we KNOW is needed for them, or to relegate them to ineffective instructional approaches that once again, will leave them behind.















Thank You! For more information visit: www.MultiLingualLiteracy.org









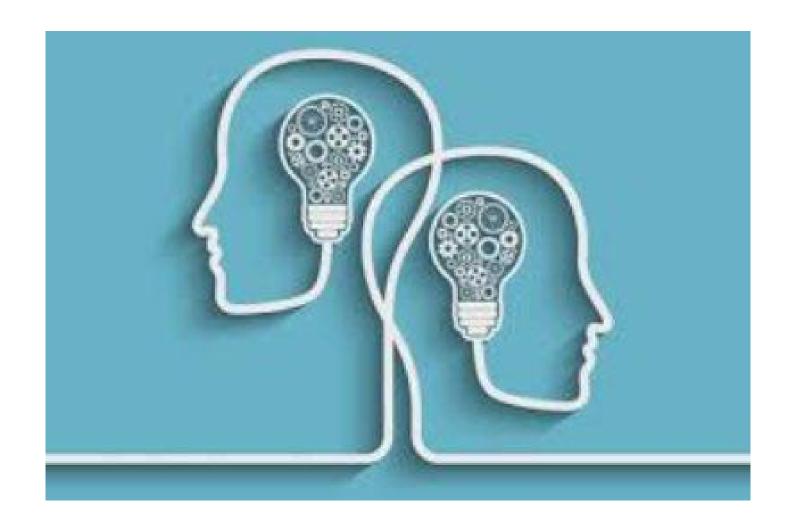






WEBSITE www.MultilingualLiteracy.com













Panelists





Aloise Miller
Adjunct Presenter
Seidlitz Education



Lillie Ruvalcaba

English Learner Teacher

Mountain View School District 32



Ana DeGenna
Associate Superintendent of
Educational Services
Oxnard School District









Ana DeGenna
Associate Superintendent
of Educational Services
Oxnard School District

Question 1: What program models are used in your district? What are some of the similarities and differences in how literacy is taught in your bilingual/dual language settings and what that looks like for multilingual learners in your English only settings?

Question 2: We know you have adopted multiple models of bilingual programs in order to accommodate specific demographics and staff capacity. What structures are in place across the district to ensure a consistent approach to literacy development while allowing each school flexibility?









Lillie Ruvalcaba

English Learner Teacher

Mountain View School District 32

Question 1: What advice do you have for teachers to approach literacy instruction for multilingual learners, what are ways to draw on their strengths, including their oral language, home language, and content knowledge?

Question 2: How do you support teachers with different backgrounds? Are there different literacy-coaching strategies in bilingual and English-only settings, or with novice and more experienced teachers?













Aloise Miller Adjunct Presenter Seidlitz Education

Question 1: What are effective ways of planning literacy instruction for multilingual learners that is engaging, builds on oral language, and integrates with content?

Question 2: What have been some of the important learning experiences for you in growing as a literacy teacher, including things that you've learned in professional development and new approaches you have tried in the classroom? What changes have you seen in your students as a result of implementing what you've learned?











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Q & A, Resources, Feedback















Q & A









New OELA Resources

NCELA Website: https://ncela.ed.gov/

Infographic: Heritage Language Learners and American Indian Alaska

Native Students

Infographic: Addressing the Impact of COVID-19 on Multilingual

Learners and Their Social and Emotional Well-Being

Fact Sheet: English Learners in College Credit-Bearing Courses

Fact Sheet: English Learners: Demographic Trends

OELA Podcast: English Learners in Secondary Schools: Trajectories,

Transitions, and Promising Practices (Two-Part Podcast)

OELA Podcast (Coming Soon!!!): Implementing Evidence-Based

Instructional Practices for English Learners (Two-Part Podcast)













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