# Structured Literacy Among English Learners: What Every Educator Should Know



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# Agenda

- Demographics of English Learners
- Research on Literacy for English Learners
- Language and Speech Development for L1-L2
- Language to Literacy Connections for L1 and L2
- Foundational Skills of Literacy for L1 and L2
- Evidence-Based Comprehension Practices
- Reflection-Culturally and Linguistically Responsiveness
- Closing Thoughts



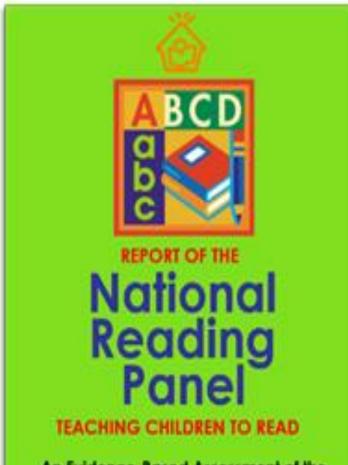
Valley Speech, Language and Learning Center, 2023

# **Demographics of English Learners**

- English learners represent 10% of the school population
- There are more than 5 million English learners attending public schools in the United States
- The majority of English learners speak Spanish in their home (77%)
- Other home languages represent 2% of the EL population (Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese)
- English learners lag behind their Englishspeaking peers
- States like California and Texas have more than a million English learners attending public schools
- North Carolina and South Carolina have close to 200,000 English learners and the majority of them speak Spanish in the home.



# **Research Agenda Began with NICHD/IES**



An Evidence-Based Assessment of the Scientific Research Literature on Reading and its Implications for Reading Instruction

#### Developing Literacy in Second-Language Learners

Report of the National Literacy Panel on Language-Minority Children and Youth

Diane August • Timothy Shanahan



# **Research Findings**

#### **NRP Summary**

Key areas for reading instruction include:

- Phonological awareness
- Phonics
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension

#### National Literacy Panel on Language-Minority Children and Youth

- Adjust instruction to meet the needs of ELs
- Use native language and literacy knowledge for English literacy
- Cross-linguistic features are a resource
- Students with native language literacy skills perform higher in English literacy than those who were instructed in English-only

# Institute of Education Sciences Practice Guide

#### **Research Findings**

 Teach a set of academic vocabulary words intensively across several days using a variety of instructional activities

### **Strong Evidence**

- Integrate oral and written English language instruction into contentarea teaching
  - **Strong Evidence**

Teaching Academic Content and Literacy to English Learners in Elementary and Middle School



# National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine

The National Academies of SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT

Promoting the Educational Success of Children and Youth Learning English

**Promising Futures** 



- Consensus Study Report Promoting the Educational Success of Children and Youth Learning English (2017)
  - Developing literacy among English Learners
  - Provide explicit instruction in literacy components that include phonemic awareness, phonics, oral reading fluency, vocabulary, reading comprehension and writing



#### Promoting the Educational Success of Children and Youth Learning English





### **Guidelines for Educating ELLs in Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade**

- Provide explicit instruction in literacy components
- Develop academic language during content area instruction
- Provide visual and verbal supports to make core content comprehensible
- Encourage peer-assisted learning opportunities.
- Capitalize on students' home language, background knowledge, and cultural assets
- Screen for language and literacy challenges and monitor progress
- Provide small-group academic support in literacy and English language development for students

(Promoting the Educational Success of Children and Youth Learning English: Promising Futures. The National Academy of Sciences, 2017)

# U.S. Department of Education – OSEP Model Demonstration Projects

# MEETING THE NEEDS OF ENGLISH LEARNERS WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES

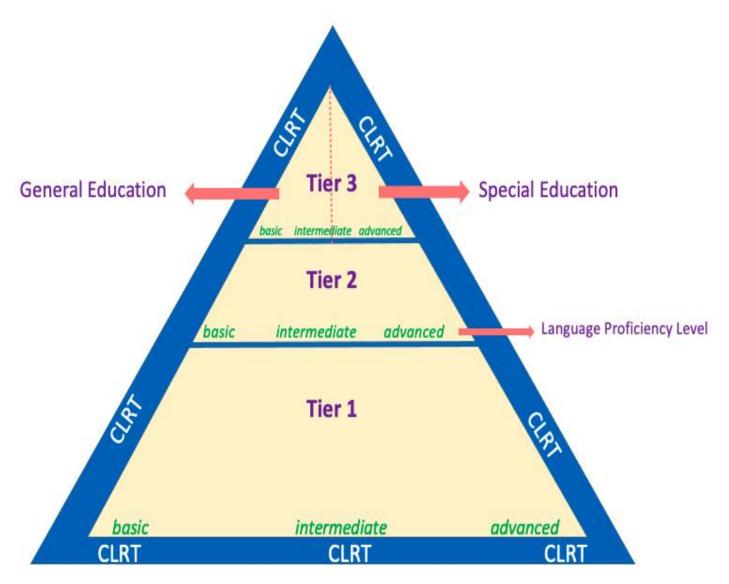
#### BRIEF 1

Multitiered Instructional Systems for ELs



- High-quality, differentiated language and literacy teaching that is appropriately scaffolded for students' linguistic and academic needs
- Culturally relevant principles applied to instruction and assessment
- Meaningful opportunities for students to practice in the four language domains (listening, speaking, reading, & writing)
- Use of L1 supports during instruction
- Educator knowledge of native language development and second language acquisition

mtss4els.org



Project ELLIPSES,2016

mtss4els.org

#### MULTITIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS: LITERACY IMPLEMENTATION RUBRIC

Adapted from Center on Multi-Tiered System of Supports. (2021). Multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) fidelity of implementation rubric. American Institutes for Research.

#### **Preferred Citation**

Project LEE, Project ELLIPSES, & Project ELITE<sup>2</sup>. (2021). Multitiered system of supports for English learners: Literacy implementation rubric. U.S. Office of Special Education Programs.

#### Overview

This rubric is intended to be used by individuals or teams who are responsible for monitoring school-level fidelity of a multitiered system of supports (MTSS) for English learners, including MTSS, bilingual, literacy, and English language development specialists or coaches; school principals; and teacher leaders. The rubric is aligned with the essential components of MTSS for literacy and the infrastructure that is necessary for successful implementation. It is accompanied by a worksheet and action planning document with guiding questions. The worksheet can be used to record ratings and notes for each section, and the action planning document can be used to summarize strengths, areas of need, and goals, and to track progress. Use of each tool is described below.

**Definition of "English learners (ELs)":** Prekindergarten to grade 12 students who come from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on their English proficiency and whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English may prevent them from successfully achieving in classrooms where the language of instruction is English (ESEA Section 8101(20))

#### Using the Tools

**Rubric:** Teams rate the level of current implementation for each MTSS component on a scale from 1 to 5. Descriptors are provided for the 1, 3, and 5 anchor points. Practitioners read each statement and the anchor point criteria and highlight the features in place, partially in place, or not in place. Teams assign a rating from 1 to 5 for each component and note which features need to be addressed on the scoring worksheet and action planning document.

**Scoring worksheet:** Based on review of the rubric, teams choose the whole number rating, 1–5, that best represents their school's level of implementation, record that rating, and provide documentation of evidence for choosing the rating.

Action plan: Teams use their highlighting and ratings on the rubric and worksheet to identify and note strengths, areas of need, and goals. Teams complete all sections and ensure that actions are observable and measurable with timelines assigned. Practitioners use the action plan for regular check-ins (at least quarterly) to assess progress, ensure follow through on action items, and make adjustments as needed based on student data.







English Learner Literacy Intervention Programs and Strategies ENSURING SUCCESS





#### **MODELS OF READING DEVELOPMENT**

Simple View of Reading (SVR)

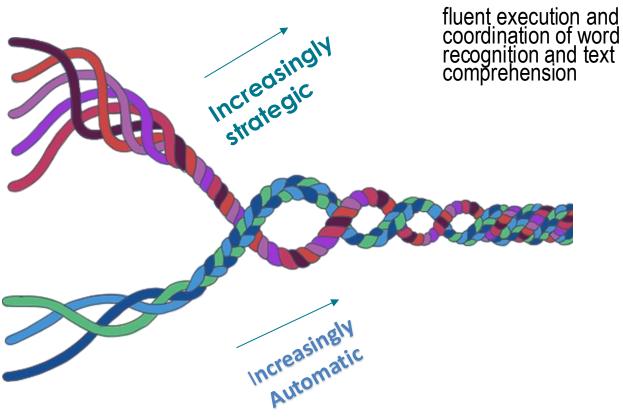
• Skilled reading involves two components – decoding and language comprehension



## MODELS OF READING DEVELOPMENT Scarborough's Reading Rope (2001)

#### Language Comprehension

- Background Knowledge
- Vocabulary Knowledge
- Language Structures
- Verbal Reasoning
- Literacy Knowledge



Skilled Reading

#### **Word Recognition**

- Phonological Awareness
- Decoding (and Spelling)
- Sight Recognition

# What is Structured Literacy?

#### Instruction that emphasizes:

- The structure of language
  - The speech sound system (phonology)
  - The writing system (orthography)
  - The structure of sentences (syntax)
  - Meaningful word parts (morphology)
  - Meaning (semantics)
- The organization of spoken and written discourse for deep reading and effective written communication
- Other aspects of cognition related to literacy acquisition

International Dyslexia Association, 2014

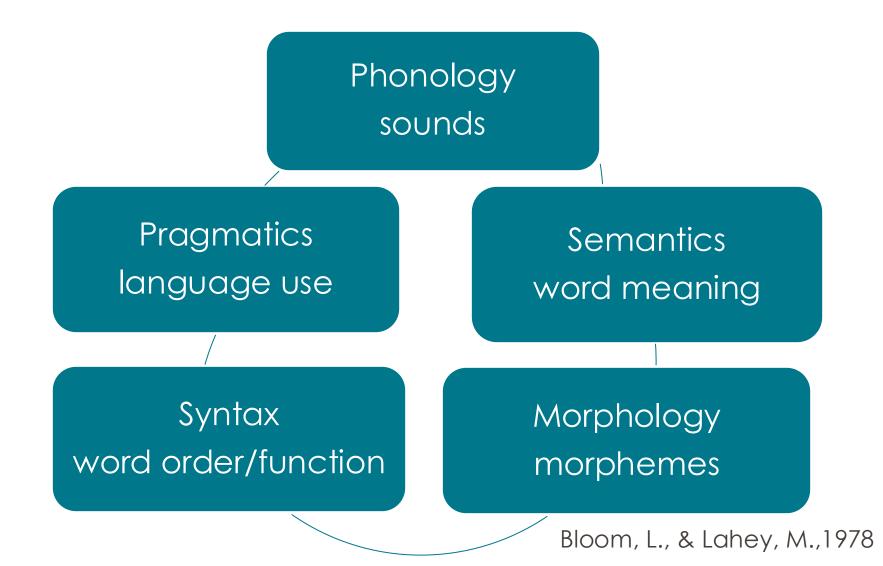
# What is Structured Multiliteracy?

Instruction that emphasizes:

- The structure of 2 or more languages using cross-linguistic and cross-cultural features as a strategy
  - The speech sound system in 2+ languages (phonology)
  - The writing system in 2+ languages (orthography)
  - The structure of sentences in 2+ languages (syntax)
  - Meaningful word parts in 2+ languages (morphology)
  - Meaning in 2+ languages (semantics)
- The organization of spoken and written discourse for deep reading and effective written communication using culturally and linguistically responsive practices
- Other aspects of cognition related to literacy acquisition

(Cardenas-Hagan, 2018))

# **Components of Language**



# LANGUAGE MILESTONES

### • General Milestones for L1

- Speaks first words by 12 months
- Speaks in two-word phrases at 2.0 years
- Speaks in three-word phrases at 3.0 years
- Speaks in four-word sentences at 4.0 years
- Speaks in five-word sentences at 5.0 years
- Speaks in six-word sentences at 6.0 years
- Speaks in seven word sentences at 7.0 years



# **SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

Pre-production Early production Speech Emergence Intermediate Language Proficiency Advanced Language Proficiency Krashen and Terrell, 1986

# • Stage I: Silent or Preproduction Stage

- Comprehends up to 500 receptive words
- Responds through gestures
- Understands new words that are made comprehensible
- Reluctant to speak

# • Stage II: Early Production Stage

- Comprehends up to 1000 receptive words
- Speaks in one or two-word phrases
- Provides short answers
- Answers simple yes/no, who/what questions



# Stage III: Speech Emergence Stage

- Comprehends up to 3000 words
- Speaks in simple sentences
- Asks simple questions
- Grammatical errors are present in speech

### Stage IV: Intermediate Language Proficiency Stage

- Comprehends up to 6000 words
- Speaks in complex sentences
- States opinions
- Asks for clarification



### Stage V: Advanced Language Proficiency Stage

- Comprehends academic words
- Participates fully in grade level classroom activities
- Speaks with appropriate use of grammar
- Vocabulary is comparable to same-age native speakers



#### A FORMAL LANGUAGE SAMPLE PRACTICE TIME

- Collect 50 utterances
- Write down each utterance
- Count the number of words spoken per utterance
- Get a grand total of words spoken
- Divide the grand total by 50
- This gives you the mean length of utterance (MLU)
- Now determine the features of spoken language that need to be addressed
- Discuss a plan for how they will be addressed

## FORMAL LANGUAGE SAMPLE

No like	2.0	Like bowl	2.0	Beach	1.0	Agua cold	2.0	Eat	1.0
Book	1.0	Ball go	2.0	Play	1.0	Pool big	2.0	Ταςο	1.0
Like movie	2.0	Inside ball	2.0	Games	2.0	Float	1.0	Cheese	1.0
Batman	1.0	Friend	1.0	Uno	1.0	Swim	1.0	Tomato	1.0
Car varoom	2.0	Pins	1.0	Abuela	1.0	Dive in	2.0	Toma Tea	2.0
Robin	1.0	Pins fall	2.0	Mom	1.0	Jump ball	2.0	Lemon	1.0
Robin friend	2.0	Win	1.0	Dad too	2.0	Win game	2.0	lce cream	2.0
Fight	1.0	Mom	1.0	Bebe no	2.0	Get towel	2.0	Chocolate	1.0
Win	1.0	Tomas	1.0	Cry	1.0	Dry it	2.0	Vanilla	1.0
Νο	1.0	Dad	1.0	Sleep	1.0	Hungry too	2.0	Yummy	1.0

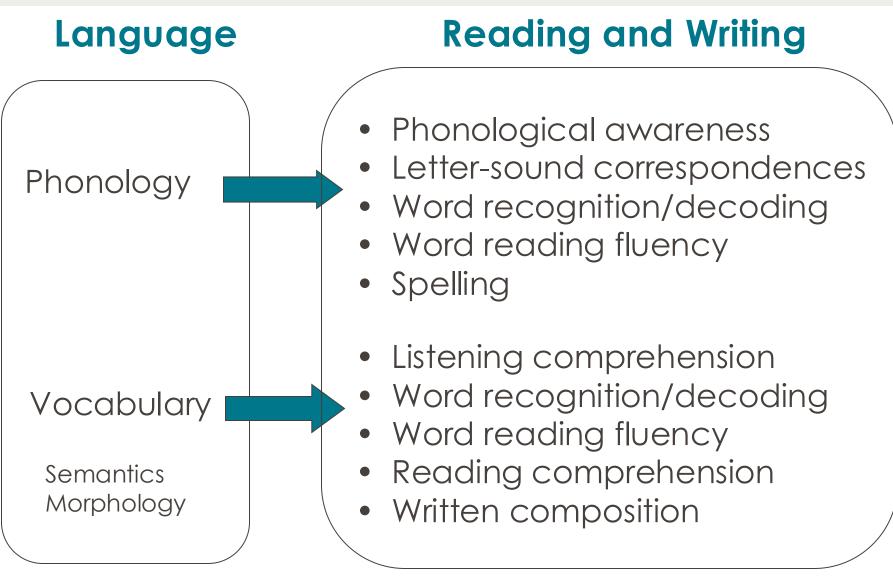
# **DESIGN INSTRUCTION**

- 1. What is the mean length of utterance score for the student?
- 2. What specific goals are necessary to expand his oral language skills?

# **DESIGN INSTRUCTION, cont.**

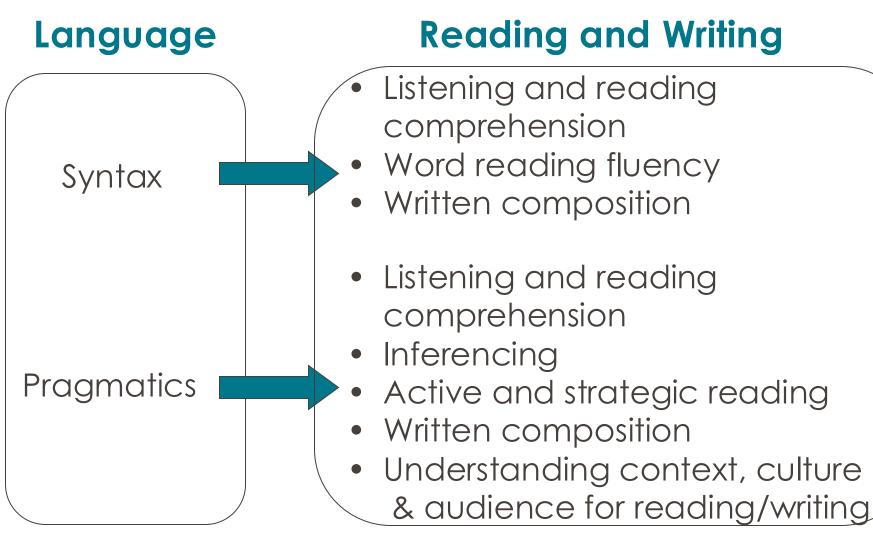
- 1. Consider adding pronouns.
- 2. Articles can expand sentence length.
- 3. Adjectives can describe and provide more depth to sentence.
- 4. Conjunctions can help expand to complex sentences.
- 5. Prepositions phrases add complexity.
- 6. Adverbs also add complexity.
- 7. Create opportunities for intentional use and expansion of language structures.

# **The Language-Literacy Connection**



Valley Speech, Language and Learning Center, 2021

# The Language-Literacy Connection, cont.



Valley Speech, Language and Learning Center, 2021

# More Literacy Research Findings for ELs

Vaughn, S., Mathes, P., Linan-Thompson, S., Cirino, P., Carlson, C., Pollard-Durodola, S., Cárdenas-Hagan, E., Francis, D. (2006a). Effectiveness of an English intervention for first-grade English language learners at risk for reading problems. *The Elementary School Journal*, 107(2), 153–180.

- Early interventions for Spanishspeaking students at risk for reading difficulties in reading English.
- Statistically significant results in literacy skills.
- Interventions included 5 components of literacy with additional features for oral language proficiency and scaffolds for English language skills.

Ehri, L.C., Dreyer, L.G., Flugman, B., & Gross, A. (2007). Reading Res- cue: An effective tutoring intervention model for language-minority students who are struggling readers in first grade. American Educational Research Journal, 44(2), 414–448.

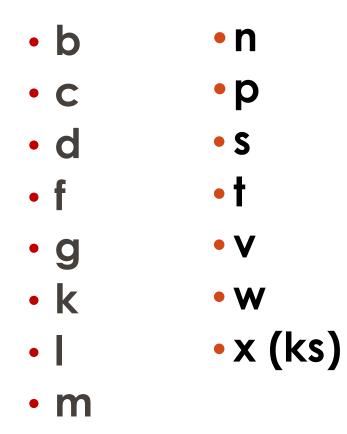
- Statistically significant results for literacy which included opportunities for students to learn vocabulary and apply meaning to words as they read.
- Visual supports were also provided.

# Literacy Supports: What You Should Know

- The goal of the literacy support activity is to expand a student's expressive and receptive language skills.
- Oral language and vocabulary skills are specific targets for each lesson.
- This support is vital to an effective instructional or reading intervention program in any language.
- Struggling readers need instruction especially tailored to meet their literacy and language needs to maximize instruction.

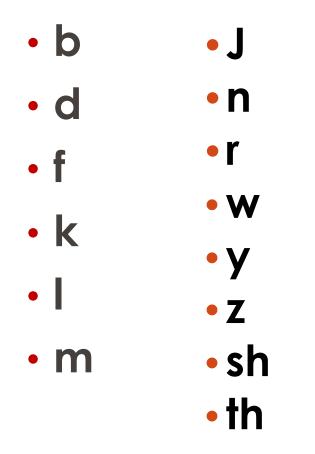
# **Cross-Linguistic Features**

#### Spanish and English Consonant Examples:

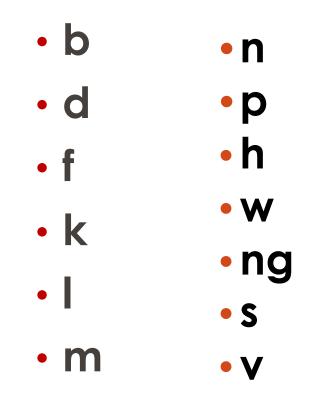


Cardenas-Hagan, 2018

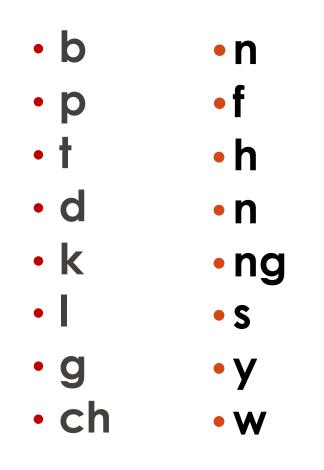
**Arabic and English Examples:** 



#### Vietnamese and English Examples:



#### **Cantonese and English Examples**:



### Ukrainian and English Examples:

•j • b • **n** • m • S • p • f • Z • † • • d • k • ch • **g** • h • W

### **Common Consonant Sounds Example 5**

**Punjabi and English Examples**:

•j • b • **n** • m • S • p • f • Z • † • • d • k • ch • **g** • W • h

### **Challenging English Sounds**

- Short Vowel Sounds
- Schwa sound
- /j/
- /th/
- /sh/
- /ch/
- /zh/
- /er/
- /r/
- /w/
- /aw/
- /ng/



### Making Connections: Spanish-English



- Ch-J which are voiced/voiceless pairs of sounds
- Spanish medial D and English Voiced Th sound
- Spanish Vowel U and English digraph OO as in moon
- Spanish trilled R and English sound R
- Spanish Soft R and English medial T and D between two vowels

### Making Connections: Arabic-English

- No /p/ in Arabic but /b/ does exist and use the voiced/voiceless pairs of sounds
- No /v/ sound in Arabic but /f/ does exist and use of the voiced/voiceless pairs of sounds
- No initial s-consonant blends, so teach how not to add extra vowel



### Making Connections: Vietnamese-English

 Mostly 1 or 2 syllable words and thus English words with more than 2 syllables challenging



- English consonant clusters are challenging for native Vietnamese speakers
- New sounds of /ch/ and /j/ can be obtained through sound approximations with /sh/ and /zh/

### Making Connections: Cantonese-English

- Cantonese does not make a difference between long and short vowels.
- English consonant clusters are challenging for native Cantonese speakers
- Cantonese has mainly voiceless consonants so learning sounds such as /z/ /v/ and /zh/ will be challenging.
- Using minimal pairs of sounds can be helpful.

### Making Connections: Ukrainian-English

- It is challenging to understand that sounds such as /t, d, s, l/ can become palatal in Ukrainian and not in English
- English consonants /m/ and /l/ are voiced but in Ukrainian when they follow a voiceless sound in final position they become voiceless.
- English sounds of /p, b, m/ are always bilabial and in Ukrainian they can be semipalatized
- Consonant clusters are challenging for Ukrainian speakers



### Making Connections: Punjabi-English

 Learning the English alphabet system is challenging for speakers of Punjabi



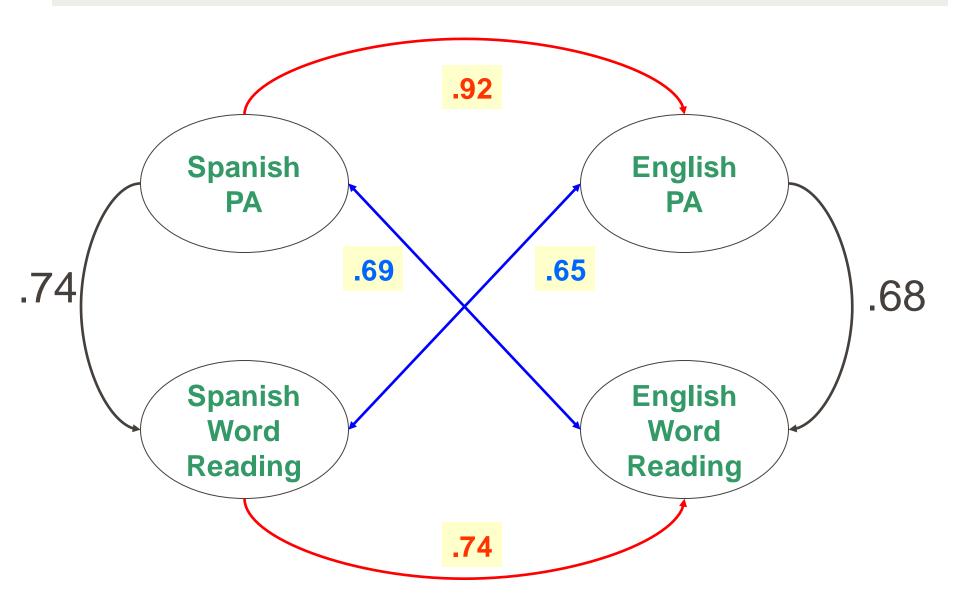
- English consonant clusters are challenging for native Punjabi speakers
- Learning silent letters such as kn, gn, igh are challenging concepts for Punjabi speakers

### What Do We Know?

- Students who have strong phonological awareness skills in a native language are likely to have strong phonological awareness skills in a second language (Branum-Martin, Tao, Garnaat, Bunta, & Francis, 2012)
- It can be helpful during instruction to incorporate cross-linguistic connections (Cárdenas-Hagan et al., 2007)



### Relationship between Early Spanish and English Skills



### Phonological Awareness: Making Connections

Focus on	Say	Say	Say	Say
Focus on the new sound /j/ and make connections to letters and word meanings for English learners	Say the word ham. Change /h/ to /j/ (jam)	Say the word bet. Change /b/ to /j/ (jet)	Say the word pig. Change /p/ to /j/ (jig)	Say the word hog. Change /h/ to /j/ (jog)



# Letter and Sound Connection

- Listen as I say these words with the same sound.
- What sound did you hear?
- Let me write the words for you to see.
- What do you see at the beginning of each word?
- The letter is \_\_\_\_.
- The sound is \_\_\_\_.
- Our keyword to unlock the sound is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Do you recognize this letter or sound in your language?
- Do you recognize and understand the keyword in your home language and English? Tell me about this.
- Let's use it in a sentence.
- Say the letter name. Say the keyword. Say the sound.
- Now we will write the letter. You will also have an opportunity to read words and sentences with this letter.

(Adapted from Working with English Language Learners (WELLS) 2 Copyright © 2016 Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan



jam

jog

iet

6	Syllable Types Making Connections			
	English	Spanish		
Closed	ten	ten		
Open	no	no		
<b>Vowel-Consor</b>	nant - e dame	dame		
<b>Vowel Pair</b>	pie	pie		
Vowel r	mar	mar		
Final Stable Sy	llable cable	cable		

Words look similar, but have different meanings and different pronunciations

Cardenas-Hagan, 2020



#### Reading and Language Connections Even During Decoding Practice!

Jan <b>phonolo</b>	Jan	jab	jig	jet	jam
just <b>vocabul</b>	just	Jen	Jack	job	Jim
k jab <b>gramma</b>	jab	Jack	Jan	jig	jet
	jet	jab	jig	jam	j∪st

### **Reading Fluency: Considerations for ELs**

Many ELs will be able to learn the code and read with accuracy

They may, however, not understand what they are reading in the new language

Do not assume that their reading fluency will improve their comprehension

They will need extra work on phrasing, expression, vocabulary, and oral language

Reading fluency and comprehension is moderated by oral language proficiency of ELs (Crosson & Lesaux, 2010)

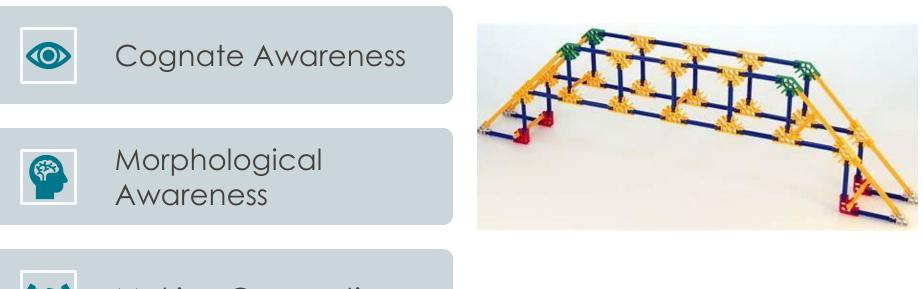
### Artisans 1

Jim makes rings for his job. The rings are for men and women. Jim rubs the rings with a cloth. Jim is content with his rings. Zac is an artist. Zac makes red pots with zig-zags. Zac is content with his red pots. Ren sings songs for his job. Ren sings songs at the zoo.

Questions:

- What is Jim's job?
- Why does Jim rub the ring with a cloth?
- What does Zac do?
- What color are the pots that Zac makes?
- Where does Ren sing his songs?

### **Word Learning Connections**





Making Connections



Ramirez, G., et al., (2009) Dressler, C., et al., (2011)

### **Cognate Awareness**



- The ability to identify words from other languages that share similar spellings and meanings
- English shares cognates with many languages
- One example: canoe (English/Catalan), canoa
   (Spanish/Italian/Portuguese) canoė (French) kanu (German) каное (Ukrainian)

### **Examples of Cognates**

#### Occupations

#### Spanish

carpintero arquitecto artista dentista doctor

autor



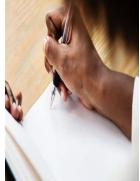




### English carpenter architect artist dentist dentist author

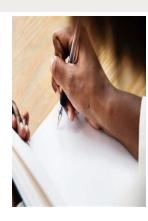






## **Cross-Linguistic Example**

- The word is *author* in English. Say the word.
- The word in Spanish is autor.
- How many syllables are in the Spanish word? How many are in the English word? How many sounds in Spanish? How many sounds in English?
- How many morphemes or meaning units? Let's discuss the meaning of the word *author*. Let's describe and then compare and contrast an author with an architect.
- Is the word a noun? Can it be used as a verb?
- Can you use the word in a sentence?
- Can you describe the similarities and differences in the spelling of *author* in English and Spanish?





### Some Spanish Morphemes and Their English Correlations

Spanish Prefixes	Meaning	English Prefixes	Meaning
anti-	contra	anti-	against
ex-	afuera de	ex-	outside of
<u>Spanish Roots</u>	Meaning	English Roots	Meaning
audi	oír	audi	to hear
fono	sonido	phono	sound
Spanish Suffixes	Meaning	English Suffixes	Meaning
-ista	alguien que	-ist	one who
-itis	inflamación	-itis	inflammation

### Sample Lesson

- We will learn a root today. A root is the foundation of meaning in a word before you add a suffix or a prefix to change the meaning.
- Say telephone, microphone, audiophones.
- What did you hear that was the same?



- Look at the words as I write them. How do we spell phone? Do any of most words look familiar to you in your first language? Tell me about this. Say the words in your language. (Similar in Arabic, Spanish, Ukranian, Italian, Portuguese and Vietnamese to name a few)
- If you use a telephone, another person can hear the **sounds** of your voice.
- If you use a microphone, we can hear the **sounds** of your voice very loudly.
- If you use audiophones, you can listen to the **sounds** of your music privately
- So, what do you think that **phone** means?
- Can you think of other words with the root phone? For example, if you go to a football game the cheerleaders use \_\_\_\_ (megaphones) Can you think of musical instruments that use this root? (xylophone, saxophone). Do you know these words in your home language? Tell me about this.
- We will create a word wall for our word parts including prefixes, roots, and suffixes.
- We will also add this root to your vocabulary journal. Good job.
- As you listen to people or as you read, please listen carefully to words with the root, phone. We will add them to our word wall.
   (Adapted from WOW 1- Cárdenas-Hagan, 2014)

## Evidence-Based Strategies for Reading Comprehension

- Comprehension Monitoring
- Cooperative Learning
- Graphic and Semantic Organizers
- Story Structure
- Question Answering
- Question Generation
- Summarization
- Multiple Strategy Use



National Literacy Panel Report, 2000

### 3PV3RQ Evidence-Based Reading Comprehension

- Purpose
   Pad
- Prepare/Connect

• Predict

• Vocabulary

• Review

• Retell



(Cárdenas-Hagan, 2018)

## **The Purpose**

Helps students understand what they will be reading and why they are reading



### **The Purpose**

The purpose of today's passage is to read words that have that have some of the concepts you have learned this week. For example, you have learned J, NG, R, and Z.

The passage will also be related to the theme of occupations that we have been discussing this week.

Let's get ready to read our passage.

#### **Prepare Connection**

Activates the student's prior knowledge.

Can make a connection by asking questions or demonstrating a new concept.



### **Prepare a Connection**

- Have you ever created anything that would be considered art? Tell me about this.
- Do you know of other forms of art?
- Can you tell me more about the topic of art?

## Predict

Predict from title, bolded words, or pictures so students can make predictions and see if their predictions come true



### **Predict**

- Let's look at the title of this passage.
- The title is Artisans
- What would you predict this passage will be about from the title?
- What are the first 3 letters? What does –an mean?
- So what would you predict this passage will be about?

## Vocabulary

Introduce new words and use graphic organizers to explore word meanings and determine the relationship to other words



#### content

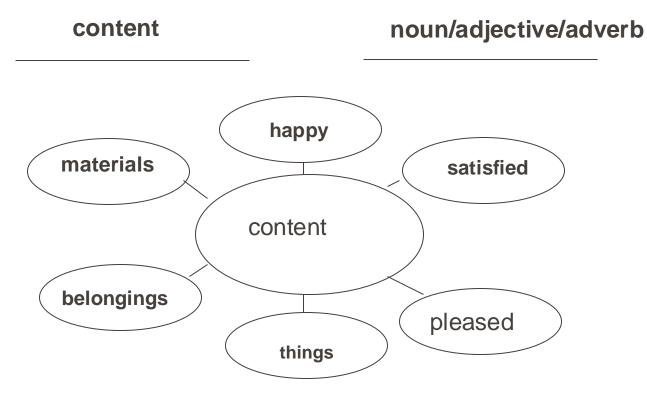
#### conTENT

#### CONtent



#### happy/satisfied

things/belongings



Sentence: She is content with your work. What are the contents of your backpack. The content girl ran to the stage..

### READ

Read or listen to text and understand the structure of the text. This helps student to focus on meaning.



### Artisans 2

Jim makes rings for his job. The rings are for men and women. Jim rubs the rings with a cloth. Jim is content with his rings. Zac is an artist. Zac makes red pots with zig-zags. Zac is content with his red pots. Ren sings songs for his job. Ren sings songs at the zoo.

Questions:

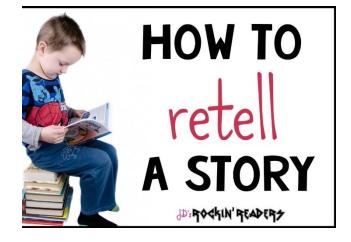
- What is Jim's job?
- Why does Jim rub the ring with a cloth?
- What does Zac do?
- What color are the pots that Zac makes?
- Where does Ren sing his songs?

#### **Review and Retell**

Review provides another opportunity to think about some of the questions that will be asked

Retelling provides an opportunity to use language and demonstrate understanding of the text.





### Artisans 3

Jim makes rings for his job. The rings are for men and women. Jim rubs the rings with a cloth. Jim is content with his rings. Zac is an artist. Zac makes red pots with zig-zags. Zac is content with his red pots. Ren sings songs for his job. Ren sings songs at the zoo.

Questions:

- What is Jim's job?
- Why does Jim rub the ring with a cloth?
- What does Zac do?
- What color are the pots that Zac makes?
- Where does Ren sing his songs?

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### Question

Question answering and question generation assists with comprehension of text.



### **Question Answering**

- What is Jim's job?
- Why does Jim rub the ring with a cloth?
- What does Zac do ?
- What color are the pots that Zac makes?
- Where does Ren sing his songs?



#### **Question Generation**

Now it is your turn to generate a question that begins with How or Why



### **Question Generation**, cont.

Why do you think Ren sings songs at the zoo?

How does Zac make red pots with zig-zags?



### **READ ALOUDS**

Read Alouds are selected and related to the topic within the lesson

The topic is covered for a 5-day cycle

Students preview the book with the instructor and vocabulary is explored

Scaffolds for language are provided as needed Instructor guides the questioning and discussion, so students understand what they have heard

Books can also be provided in native language to make connections

The Read Aloud can incorporate various cultures and expand world knowledge

# Why is being culturally and linguistically responsive important?

- In today's diverse world, being culturally and linguistically responsive is a critical and necessary feature of a quality education.
- According to the National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCREST), "cultural responsiveness is the ability to learn from and relate respectfully with people of your own culture as well as those from other cultures."
- One of the most effective ways to bring cultural responsiveness into the school environment is to train professionals to be prepared for a diverse classroom or intervention setting.
- In many ways, administrators, teachers and therapists are the facilitators and mediators between the overall school culture and the families and their children who attend the school.

The National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCREST), a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs

# Why is being culturally and linguistically responsive important? Cont.

- They orchestrate a series of interactions and contexts on a continuous basis. To do this well, every professional needs training in cultural and linguistic responsiveness.
- It starts by making sure that every professional believes in their students and in their desire to learn.
- A focused effort to understand a student's cultural and linguistic context needs to be made when students from different backgrounds arrive at the school.
- All students want to have a sense of belonging and deep understanding.
- One way this can be accomplished is to be able to learn from and relate respectfully with the students and with their families

### In Closing

When teaching ELs, be knowledgeable about L1-L2 language and literacy development

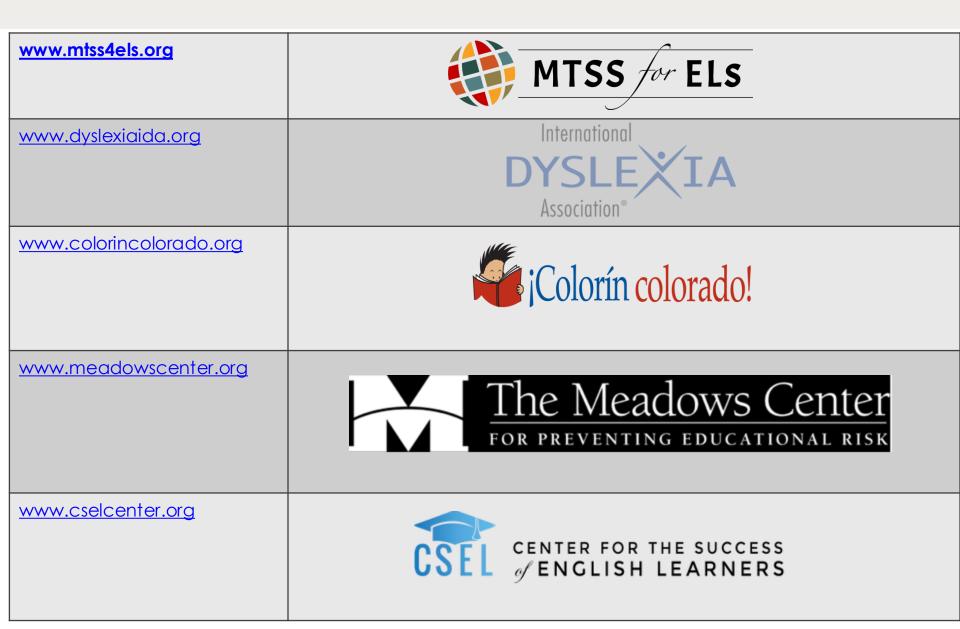
Capitalize on native language literacy in an explicit manner for the development of second language

Consider language and literacy goals across content areas and teach in an explicit manner

Use cross-linguistic features of language and implement word-learning strategies

Use culturally and linguistically responsive practices

### Resources



LITERACY FOUNDATIONS ENGLISH LEARNERS

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO

Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan FOREWORD BY SHARON VAUGHN

EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTION

Get the knowledge you need to help English learners develop strong biliteracy skills and achieve academic success.

#### **Teachers Be Prepared To:**

- Enter the classroom with a full understanding of the language and literacy development of English learners
  - Teach English learners the key components of language and
    literacy: phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary,
    fluency, comprehension, spelling, and writing skills
    Apply insights from current, reliable research on how best to
    teach English learners....and more!

Learn more and order:



http://bit.ly/LiteracyFoundations

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### **In Summary**



Language supports Literacy Literacy supports Language Literacy is the Bridge to Equity Be prepared to teach every student, including ELs Elsa Cárdenas Hagan <u>www.valleyspeech.org</u> info@valleyspeech.org