

SD EL Chat #2



January 2018

Thank you all for joining us for our SD EL Chat #2. We had to reschedule the January chat because the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 workshops were being presented around the state. The topic of the SD EL Chat #2 was on How can teachers improve Oral Academic Language Development?

Questions discussed:

- Q1: Research shows ELs have limited opportunities to engage in meaningful talk in school. What do you think contributes to this finding?
- Q2: What teaching strategies do you employ to help ELs develop oral language for academic purposes?
- Q3: What learning activities do you use to get students to expand on the oral language production?
- Q4: how can ESL professionals help general education teachers give more "talk time" to ELs in the general education classroom?

Thoughts that were shared:

- Students have more success in academic language when they are in small groups
- Small groups helps with students confidence
- When working in small groups, it was suggested that it is a good idea to provide sentence frames for students who are in lower proficiency levels
- Collaboration is important between EL teacher and content teachers
Example: A short chat between educators by the photocopier can help spark some ideas that will support English learners!
- Speaking activities with the appropriate supports can help students feel less stressed and more likely to participate

Speaking Activities/Strategies that were shared:

- Think pair share
- Inside outside circle
- Vote with your feet
- Give one take one

- Talking chips
- RISA Dialogue

If you have questions about these activities, don't hesitate to contact Yutzil Becker or Gwyneth Dean-Witte!

Resources that were shared:

- Reciprocal Teaching: <https://www.csustan.edu/sites/default/files/SAIL/documents/InteractiveClassroomStrategiesandStructuresforSuccess-Dr.FraniscaSanchez.pdf>
- Dr. Jill Watson slide share on Instructional Approaches that Set SLIFE up to Succeed: <https://www.slideshare.net/JillWatsonPhD/jill-watson-instructional-approaches-that-set-sliffe-up-to-succeed-and-are-good-for-everybody-else-structured-oral-interaction-and-elders-as-fonts-of-knowledge-meled-2015>
- Jeff Zwiers: <http://jeffzwiers.org/tools>

Roles of the ESL teacher:

Three Key Roles of the ESL Teacher		
English Language Development	Meaningful Access to Grade-Level Learning	Advocacy and Sharing of Expertise to System
<p><i>Informed by</i> Second Language Acquisition Theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • daily systematic small-group instruction with focus on FORM (i.e., grammar, correctness of language) • Input at Optimal Challenge Levels, • Supports for comprehension, • a communicative focus, • opportunities for challenging activities in all four domains (speaking, listening, reading, writing) • systematic attention to expanding vocabulary, • instruct students in learning and communication strategies. 	<p><i>Informed by</i> WIDA (or state ELP) Standards & Tools</p> <p>(Performance Definitions, Criteria for PDs, Can-Do Descriptors, MPI's) to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ differentiate instruction based on student language proficiency, ➢ match the language demands of content instruction to the student's language abilities, ➢ (and, ultimately) provide learners with supported opportunities to expand their proficiency through challenging language tasks (speaking, listening, reading and writing) above their current levels. 	<p><i>Informed by</i> Social Learning Theory & Universal Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • through co-teaching, coaching, and professional communication with colleagues, ESL teachers serve as "local experts" to transfer to colleagues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ skills, ○ strategies, ○ understandings to serve English Learners. • In scope of co-teaching duties, ESL teacher contributes to developing the scaffolds and modifications of instruction necessary to differentiate instruction.
<p>In the service of both goals: Ongoing Progress monitoring of English Language Development John Wolfe & Rita Platt http://mplsesl.wikispaces.com/Home+Page</p>		

Next meeting: February 20, 2018

- Topic: Secondary EL students & College

Hope to see you there!