

Teaching Elementary ELL students with Limited or Interrupted Language Development

Formal Education

Know students and provide appropriate linguistic support:

- Review student background such as previous school experience, cultural norms, and reasons for emigration.
- Regroup students to provide beginning level ESL instruction according to HISD ESL curriculum guidelines for preliterate/beginning ESL students.
- Identify student's language abilities (ESL Instructional Level) based on the English Proficiency Level Descriptors (PLDs).
- Ensure adequate instructional time for Oral Language Development
- Implement the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) including: content/language objectives, sentence stems, and other language development strategies for listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Routines/Strategies

Be explicit and relevant:

- Adapt TEKS standards in a way that is accessible, culturally relevant, and age-appropriate.
- Provide intensive interventions utilizing Neuhaus or Esperanza programs.
- Use visuals, gestures, and a slower speaking rate as needed.
- Focus on essential survival and academic vocabulary.
- Integrate Everyday Excellence Routines/Strategies found on HISD Professional Development website-if trained.

Classroom Support

Create a safe, secure, and welcoming environment:

- Develop and implement predictable classroom routines.
- Reduce stress by pairing student with a "cultural/language buddy" who can help navigate both student and school cultures.
- Model appropriate school behavior such as walking in the halls, raising hands, waiting one's turn, staying in a classroom, etc.
- Teach organization; maintaining a binder, using a computer, and writing with a pen or pencil,
- Provide targeted interventions with a teacher, lecturer, or paraprofessional to address gaps in student's literacy skills.



Multilingual Department Support

- HISD Multilingual Bilingual, ESL, and Refugee web pages
- Adjustment counseling and translation services available for refugee students
- Multilingual Department (ML) and other district trainings found on e-Train

School Funding

- GF1
- Title I-Bilingual/ESL Supplemental 44
- Title III

Recommended Resources/Materials

- ✓ HISD Multilingual Department Web page
- ✓ HISD Everyday Excellence Routines and Strategies on Professional Support and Development website
- ✓ *Reach* ESL Adopted texts and online student access
- ✓ *Neuhaus* and *Esperanza* district programs
- ✓ *I-station* online student support
- ✓ ESL and Bilingual student dictionaries
- ✓ *In the U.S.A.: Essential Language and Literacy Skills for Newcomers* by National Geographic