

Dual Language Weekly Focus

Specialized Content Vocabulary Enrichment: 3rd – 5th Grade

The goal of the DLE is to graduate students fully bilingual and biliterate in academic English and Spanish. Specialized Content Vocabulary Enrichment is one component in the DLE model, among several others, that helps to ensure that students develop content area vocabulary in the opposite language from the Language of Instruction that leads to content-area biliteracy or biliteracy in subject areas learned in one language by the end of 5th grade (math, science & SS). Specialized Content Vocabulary Enrichment activities engage students with academic vocabulary that they might not otherwise recognize in the alternative language. As students are developing biliteracy, they naturally comprehend the majority of words they encounter through second language transfer. Cognates go a long way to ensure key words are known to students in either English or Spanish. However, using Specialized Content Vocabulary Enrichment activities, students are exposed to select key “specialized content” words that are not cognates or those that are false cognates in the alternate language. Through these enrichment activities, students are afforded an opportunity to practice using academic vocabulary words in a meaningful context via an ungraded, fun activity, once a week, for 15 to 20 minutes per content area (math, science, and social studies). The activities should focus on vocabulary that was learned in the Language of Instruction the previous week. To facilitate this, all learners participate in *specialized vocabulary enrichment activities* designed to expose learners to previously learned vocabulary in mathematics, science and social studies in the language *not* used for instruction in that subject area. For instance, 3rd grade specialized science content vocabulary that was taught in Spanish this week is introduced in English to students as a vocabulary enrichment activity the following week. **Specialized Vocabulary Enrichment (SVE) activities are conducted once a week for approximately 15-20 minutes.** The vocabulary enrichment activities are designed to help students transfer/learn vocabulary knowledge already learned in one language to the other. Target vocabulary to be reviewed should be prioritized as follows: 1. non-cognates, 2. false cognates, 3. cognates

Language of Specialized Content Vocabulary Enrichment Activities:

Math: Spanish ; Social Studies: English; Science: English

Examples of Specialized Content Vocabulary Enrichment Activities:

1. Board of Fortune: groups identify words from clues, definitions
2. Crazy Story: teams make up story with word using sentence strips
3. Chain Link: teams define words, create chain...longest chain wins
4. Vocabulary Bingo: groups of four play bingo using voc. words
5. Tic-Tac-Toe: groups of four play tic-tac-toe using voc. words
6. Back-to-Back: pair sit back-to-back & guess each other's words & definitions
7. Inside-Outside Circle: students review voc. words from index cards
8. Vocabulary Twister: teams play twister using voc. words
9. Burrito Pancho: teams guess voc. word & if no one guesses Burrito Pancho gets the point
10. Mystery Word: student has voc. word on head & other students definition on back & must find each other
11. Vocabulary Catch: teams throw ball to teams & must define voc. words
12. “I have, Who Has:” students guess each others voc. words