

Writing with Multilingual Learners in the Elementary Grades

In-Person Workshop | 35 Participants Maximum Location TBD Date TBD

Audience: This workshop is designed for elementary grade-level teachers, English language development specialists, and instructional coaches.

Description: This two-day workshop focuses on writing instruction that supports the use of the Teaching and Learning Cycle as a way to empower multilingual writers, not only to produce successful academic writing, but, more importantly, to communicate effectively for a variety of purposes and different audiences. We want students to know how to leverage writing as a powerful tool to understand the world, express themselves effectively, learn from one another, and argue for the things they believe in. This vision requires intentional, language-focused instruction, and is strengthened when it occurs through authentic writing tasks in the content areas.

In this interactive workshop we will explore a pedagogical approach that apprentices multilingual learners into writing in various academic genres. Specifically, we'll look at examples of this in science

and consider how this approach develops multilingual learners' writing skills and their awareness of how language works in written form. This will allow them to become effective and informed writers not only in science but across content areas.

Together, we will explore how to:

- Build content area background knowledge with the whole class so that students are equipped to write knowledgably about the topic
- Explore the language of mentor texts with students in order to unpack highly valued ways of using language in a specific genre
- Jointly construct a text with students based on what was learned from those mentor texts
- Support students as they apply their learning about language choices in a target genre to their independent writing
- Engage students in a cycle of review, reflection, and revision to increase the effectiveness of their own writing



