

Core Practices for Teaching Multilingual Students

This table lays out all of the core practices for multilingual students, and the related actions that comprise them.

Knowing students within the context of both school and their lives outside of school, and integrating your knowledge of students':
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home language and English language background• Home language and English literacy• Prior schooling• Interests• Experiences at home and in community
Building a positive learning environment through:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent routines, high expectations, and procedures that support learning• Culturally and linguistically responsive/sustaining pedagogy• Development of students' social-emotional skills
Planning and enacting content and language instruction in ways that meet students at their current level through the use of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comprehensible input• Scaffolding• Differentiation• Content and language objectives
Supporting language and literacy development by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting vocabulary development• Using students' home language knowledge as a resource• Attending to and appropriately prioritizing receptive and productive language skills at the word, sentence, and discourse level• Adapting instruction based on awareness of the complexity of language and students' language development needs
Assessing in ways that are attentive to students' language proficiency, including:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designing and using formal and informal assessments that match content and language objectives and approaches to instruction, and measure content and language knowledge separately and fairly• Interpreting standardized testing (including English language proficiency tests) and other formal assessments to design appropriate instruction for students.• Differentiating formal and informal assessment to match student abilities
Developing positive relationships with colleagues, families, stakeholders, and self by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborating with and reciprocally sharing expertise with mainstream colleagues and other specialists• Connecting with families to support students, families, and instruction• Engaging in advocacy with colleagues, administrators, policymakers, and community to support student learning and social-emotional needs• Practicing self-care for well-being