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Teacher Candidate Study Journal

Translanguaging Journal

Complementary schools are places that encourage multilingualism. This will allow students to continue speaking other languages besides dominantly English. Teachers are worried to allow their students to code switch because they believe they can become confused or embarrassed of code switching. Switching between languages has been frowned upon in the educational system. After looking at several of studies throughout journal, it seems that by combining languages instead of separating them that the students seem to work better. In addition, it allows them to understand what is being taught because of the use of multiple languages. However, students were still practicing English by answering only in English.

Reading Achievements Across Three Language Groups Journal

This journal explains that it is important for ELL students to master the basics of language such as letter sounds before continuing their education because it will help them in the long run. Studies show that ELL students can catch up to word-level with students that have English with their main language, but they will always be lagging a little behind the others. They studied the reading levels of native speaking, Spanish speaking, and Chinese speaking students. In the study it shows that Chinese speaking students actually do better than native speaking students, however; Spanish speaking students do not do as well. Spanish speaking students scored lower in reading achievement. Throughout other studies written about in this journal it gives the same results as the previous study.

International Migration Review Journal

This journal talks about African immigrants. Studies have shown that mothers talk more to their children in the household. In addition, this would lead to more conversations in English if the mothers are fluent in the language. If there are other children in the household that are proficient in English, it shows a better outcome for other children in the families. By being in school, it allows the immigrant children extra help with English by hearing it from other peers. The journal says that children born to African parents will have a harder time learning English. Overall, the journal says that it can be rough for the students to learn English, unless they can be surrounded by English in the home and at school.

These journals were very interesting to read. I believe that any child learning another language will have some sort of degree of difficulty. I believe that a big way that the students can receive help is by being surrounded by English at home. For my student, only his mother speaks very little English at home. The rest of his family speaks his native language. I believe that this could interfere with his development of the English language. He already gets confused with different letter sounds. For example, he thought that “of” and “off” was the same word. When I explained how to say “of” he said it was very confusing because it sounds like it would be spelled more like “ov” then “of”.

I believe that if he would have been able to have that extra practice at home at a younger age, that he would have been able to learn the language better. In addition, after looking at the information from the first journal, I believe that maybe using two or three languages for him to learn English would have been easier and could have given him a better opportunity to understand the language. I believe that through a review of decoding and just allowing him to continue to hear people speak will allow him to do better in the English language.

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