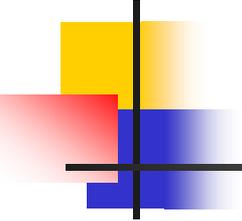




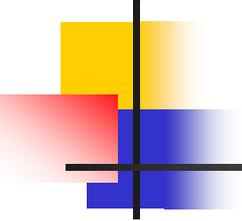
Ellen Wolock
Division of Early Childhood Education
NJ Department of Education

English Language Learners in New Jersey's Preschool Program

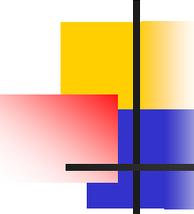
Children in New Jersey's preschool program



- More than a third of children in low-income districts speak home languages other than English
- Across the state approximately 21% of children speak home languages other than English



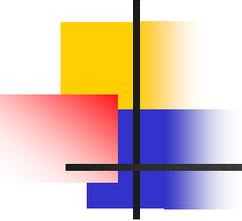
**Our policies and practices
come from research on
supporting the development
of preschool English
language learners**



Some of the research that drives the division's preschool policy...

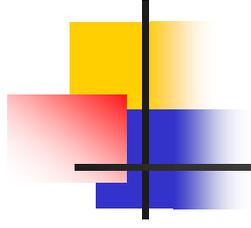
- **Young English language learners need support of their home language or they will lose it**
- **Loss of the home language can have a negative impact on learning**
- **Bilingual and dual language programs are most effective for English language learners and do not negatively impact native English speakers**

Espinosa, Linda, Foundation for Child Development Policy Brief, No. Eight, January 2008

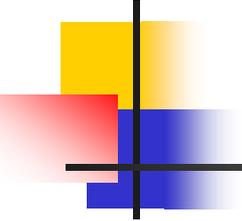


The DECE position:

- Support preschoolers' home language and scaffold English
- Bilingual or dual language programs are optimal
- Supports are always in the context of a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate curriculum



The Practices We Promote



Rich Environments



Easy access to writing materials in all parts of the room



big books

Inviting places to read with materials that use the languages of the children



Labeling in home language and English



Our Schedule
nuestro horario

work time
tiempo del trabajo

clean up
limpo

review
revisión

lunch
almuerzo

nap time
tiempo de la siesta

days left?



Block Area
Área del Bloque

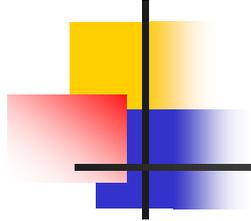
Today is Tuesday

blocks

A meaningful way to develop print awareness

Using symbols build independence





Rich interactions and activities

Pumpkin Picking



We picked pumpkins
Yo me senté para
la carreta.
Por que nos sentamos
en la carreta me
gusto el viaje.
When you took pictures
I smiled.
I see my pumpkin.
We liked the
field trip.

Providing interesting experiences and introducing new concepts to support vocabulary development, early reading and other skills



Peer conversations that encourage verbal expression and introduce new words during a science activity

Developing early reading skills in home languages



Teacher-child interaction to extend concepts and ideas based on a child's painting.



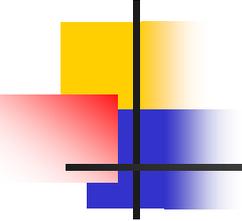


Daily routines can encourage verbal expression and communication while supporting social skills

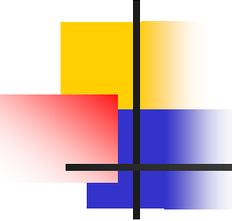
Using songs and instruments to introduce rhymes, sounds, and vocabulary



Common professional development areas



- Supporting home language in context of the curriculum and routines (no push-in, no pull-out)
- Maximizing resources– using bilingual paraprofessionals to facilitate home language use
- Creating language arts literacy-rich classrooms



Strategies?

Go to:

<http://www.nj.gov/education/ece/dap/>

Preschool Program Implementation
Guidelines for Supporting English
Language Learners