

teaching math to ell students

Teaching Math to ELL Students: Strategies for Success

Teaching math to ELL students can be both rewarding and challenging. English Language Learners (ELLs) bring diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds to the classroom, which enriches the learning environment but also requires educators to adapt their teaching methods. Math, often seen as a universal language, still poses unique challenges for ELL students due to the language demands embedded in word problems, instructions, and mathematical vocabulary. Understanding how to effectively support these students ensures they not only grasp math concepts but also develop confidence in using English within academic settings.

Understanding the Challenges ELL Students Face in Math

Before diving into strategies, it's important to recognize why teaching math to ELL students requires special attention. While numbers and operations may seem straightforward, the language surrounding math—terms like “sum,” “difference,” “product,” or phrases like “find the total” or “subtract from”—can be confusing. ELL students might understand the math concept but struggle to comprehend the instructions or word problems because of limited English proficiency.

Additionally, cultural differences may affect how students interpret math problems. For instance, measurement units or examples used in problems might be unfamiliar or irrelevant to their everyday experiences. This disconnect can lead to misunderstandings or disengagement.

Language Barriers in Math Instruction

Math instruction relies heavily on precise language. For ELL students, the syntax and semantics of math-related English can be tricky. For example:

- The word “table” might refer to a piece of furniture or a data chart.
- Terms like “mean” in statistics sound like the adjective “mean” but have a very different meaning.
- Prepositions such as “between,” “among,” or “through” are critical in understanding problem contexts.

Therefore, teaching math to ELL students involves addressing these linguistic nuances alongside the math content.

Effective Strategies for Teaching Math to ELL Students

Adapting your instruction to meet the needs of ELL students can transform their math learning experience. Here are some proven strategies that educators can use to make math more accessible and engaging for English Language Learners.

Use Visuals and Manipulatives

Visual aids such as charts, graphs, diagrams, and pictures can bridge language gaps. Manipulatives—physical objects like blocks, counters, or fraction circles—allow students to visualize and physically interact with math concepts. This hands-on approach reduces dependence on language and helps students internalize abstract ideas.

For example, when teaching fractions, using pie charts or fraction tiles makes it easier for ELL students to grasp the concept without solely relying on verbal explanations.

Incorporate Collaborative Learning

Group work and peer collaboration can be powerful tools. Pairing ELL students with fluent English speakers encourages language practice and math discussion in a supportive setting. Collaborative problem solving allows students to articulate their thinking, hear different perspectives, and clarify misunderstandings in a low-pressure environment.

Teachers can organize math centers or small group activities where students explain their reasoning using both English and their native language if possible.

Pre-Teach Vocabulary and Language Structures

Before introducing new math topics, explicitly teaching key vocabulary and sentence structures can prepare ELL students to engage more fully. Creating word banks, using flashcards, and practicing math-specific terms help build the language foundation necessary for understanding lessons.

For instance, before a lesson on geometry, introduce words like “angle,” “vertex,” “parallel,” and “perpendicular” with definitions and examples. Also, model how to use these terms in sentences related to math problems.

Use Clear and Simplified Language

Simplifying instructions without diluting content is essential. Speak slowly, use short sentences, and avoid idiomatic expressions that might confuse ELL students. Repeat and rephrase directions as needed. Visual cues like pointing to diagrams or writing key words on the board support comprehension.

When reading word problems, break them into smaller parts and discuss each step to ensure understanding.

Connect Math to Students' Cultural Experiences

Incorporating culturally relevant examples makes math more relatable. For example, use real-world scenarios involving currency, measurements, or traditions familiar to students. This approach not only aids comprehension but also honors students' backgrounds, boosting motivation.

If students come from metric system countries, relate measurement problems to their familiar units alongside standard U.S. units, explaining conversions gradually.

Supporting Language Development Through Math

Teaching math to ELL students is a two-way street: while students learn math concepts, they also develop English proficiency. Math classes offer unique opportunities for language growth if educators intentionally integrate language objectives.

Encourage Mathematical Discourse

Promote discussions where students explain their reasoning, justify answers, and ask questions using mathematical language. This practice develops both content knowledge and oral language skills. Sentence starters like "I think... because..." or "The answer is... since..." guide students in expressing their ideas clearly.

Integrate Reading and Writing in Math

Incorporate reading comprehension strategies by analyzing word problems and instructions carefully. Writing activities such as explaining problem-solving steps or creating their own word problems reinforce language skills and deepen math understanding.

Journals or math notebooks where ELL students record their thinking processes offer valuable practice in academic writing.

Use Technology and Interactive Tools

Digital resources designed for ELL learners can make math engaging and accessible. Interactive apps, videos with subtitles, and language support features help students practice at their own pace. Many platforms offer bilingual options or visual explanations that reinforce both math and language learning.

Assessment and Feedback Considerations

Assessing ELL students in math requires sensitivity to their language proficiency. Standard tests may not accurately reflect their math abilities if language barriers interfere.

Use Formative Assessments

Ongoing, informal assessments like observations, student reflections, and oral quizzes provide insight into both math understanding and language use. These allow teachers to adjust instruction promptly and provide targeted support.

Allow for Alternative Demonstrations of Knowledge

Some ELL students may express their math skills better through drawings, manipulatives, or oral explanations rather than written tests. Offering varied assessment methods acknowledges diverse strengths and provides a fuller picture of student learning.

Provide Timely and Specific Feedback

Feedback should focus on both math content and language use, highlighting successes and gently correcting errors. Encouraging effort and progress motivates ELL students and builds confidence in tackling challenging material.

Building a Supportive Classroom Environment

Creating a welcoming and inclusive classroom culture is foundational when teaching math to ELL students. Here are ways to foster a supportive atmosphere:

- Celebrate linguistic diversity by encouraging students to share math terms in their native languages.
- Promote a growth mindset, emphasizing that mistakes are learning opportunities.
- Establish routines that provide structure and predictability, reducing anxiety.
- Encourage questions and provide ample wait time to allow ELL students to formulate responses.

When students feel valued and safe, they are more likely to engage actively in math lessons and take intellectual risks.

Teaching math to ELL students involves a thoughtful blend of language support and mathematical instruction. By using visuals, collaborative learning, clear language, and culturally relevant examples, educators can create dynamic lessons that resonate with diverse learners. Integrating language development within math content not only enhances understanding but also empowers ELL students to succeed academically and beyond.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are effective strategies for teaching math to ELL students?

Effective strategies include using visual aids, incorporating hands-on activities, simplifying language without diluting content, and connecting math concepts to real-life contexts relevant to ELL students.

How can vocabulary instruction support ELL students in math?

Explicitly teaching math vocabulary helps ELL students understand problem statements and instructions, enabling them to grasp concepts better and communicate their reasoning clearly.

Why is it important to use visuals and manipulatives when teaching math to ELL students?

Visuals and manipulatives provide concrete representations of abstract math concepts, making it easier for ELL students to understand and engage with the material despite language barriers.

How can teachers assess math understanding in ELL students who have

limited English proficiency?

Teachers can use performance-based assessments, allow responses in students' native languages, use visual prompts, and assess through demonstrations or manipulatives to gauge understanding beyond language skills.

What role does culturally responsive teaching play in math instruction for ELL students?

Culturally responsive teaching connects math content to students' cultural backgrounds, making learning more meaningful and accessible, which can increase motivation and comprehension among ELL students.

How can technology be utilized to support math learning for ELL students?

Technology tools like interactive math apps, bilingual resources, and visual tutorials can provide personalized support and reinforce concepts while accommodating different language proficiency levels.

What challenges do ELL students face in learning math, and how can educators address them?

ELL students often struggle with language barriers, unfamiliar terminology, and cultural differences in problem-solving approaches. Educators can address these by scaffolding instruction, providing language support, and fostering an inclusive environment.

How important is collaboration between ESL and math teachers for supporting ELL students?

Collaboration is crucial as it allows ESL and math teachers to align language development with math instruction, ensuring that ELL students receive comprehensive support tailored to both content and language needs.

Additional Resources

Teaching Math to ELL Students: Strategies, Challenges, and Best Practices

Teaching math to ELL students presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities for educators seeking to balance language acquisition with mathematical comprehension. English Language Learners (ELLs) often arrive in classrooms with varying levels of English proficiency, cultural backgrounds, and prior knowledge of mathematical concepts. This diversity demands tailored instructional approaches that address

both linguistic barriers and cognitive development in math.

Understanding how to effectively teach math to ELL students is critical in ensuring equitable educational outcomes. Mathematics, while often considered a universal language, is deeply intertwined with language skills—vocabulary, syntax, and discourse patterns—that ELLs may not have fully mastered. This article explores the complexities involved in teaching math to this demographic, evaluates effective teaching strategies, and highlights key considerations for educators aiming to improve student engagement and achievement.

The Intersection of Language and Math Learning

Mathematics education for ELL students is not merely about numbers and formulas; it is also about language proficiency. Research indicates that language plays a crucial role in conceptual understanding and problem-solving in math. According to a study by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), language barriers can significantly impact ELL students' ability to comprehend word problems, follow instructions, and explain their reasoning.

In classrooms where English is the medium of instruction, ELL students often struggle with academic language, which includes specialized vocabulary, syntax, and discourse structures used in math. Terms such as “quotient,” “product,” or phrases like “solve for x” require explicit instruction beyond everyday conversational English. This linguistic complexity can obscure the underlying mathematical concepts, resulting in misconceptions or incomplete understanding.

Moreover, the cultural context embedded in mathematical examples or instructional materials may not align with the lived experiences of ELL students. For instance, word problems involving baseball statistics might be less relatable to students from countries where baseball is not popular, affecting comprehension and engagement.

Challenges in Teaching Math to ELL Students

Teaching math to ELL students involves navigating several obstacles:

- **Linguistic Complexity:** Academic language in math can be abstract and technical, requiring targeted vocabulary development.
- **Limited Prior Knowledge:** Some ELL students may have gaps in foundational math skills due to interrupted or varied educational backgrounds.
- **Cultural Disconnect:** Contextual examples may not resonate, reducing engagement and

comprehension.

- **Assessment Barriers:** Standardized tests often rely heavily on language, which may not accurately reflect ELL students' math abilities.

These challenges necessitate instructional designs that integrate language development with math instruction rather than treating them as separate domains.

Effective Strategies for Teaching Math to ELL Students

Adopting evidence-based strategies can enhance the learning experience for ELL students in mathematics classrooms. Educators benefit from approaches that simultaneously support language acquisition and math understanding.

1. Use Visual Aids and Manipulatives

Visual representations such as graphs, charts, diagrams, and physical manipulatives (blocks, counters) are invaluable. They provide concrete references that transcend language barriers and help students internalize abstract concepts. Visual aids create multiple entry points for understanding, allowing ELL students to demonstrate comprehension even when verbal expression is limited.

2. Scaffold Instructions and Language

Scaffolding involves breaking down tasks into manageable steps and providing linguistic support. Teachers can pre-teach key vocabulary, use sentence frames, and model mathematical discourse. For example, encouraging students to use phrases like "I divided because..." helps develop both math reasoning and language fluency.

3. Incorporate Collaborative Learning

Group work and peer discussions foster language practice in authentic contexts. When ELL students explain their mathematical thinking to classmates, they reinforce concepts and develop language skills simultaneously. Cooperative learning also builds confidence and reduces anxiety associated with language challenges.

4. Contextualize Math in Culturally Relevant Scenarios

Integrating culturally familiar contexts into math problems increases relevance and engagement. Teachers can adapt word problems to reflect students' backgrounds or interests, which improves motivation and comprehension.

5. Provide Formative Feedback Focused on Language and Content

Feedback should address both mathematical accuracy and language use. Highlighting correct use of math vocabulary and encouraging precise explanations help students refine their academic language and deepen their math knowledge.

Technology and Resources Supporting Math Instruction for ELLs

The integration of technology has introduced new tools that cater to the needs of ELL students learning math. Interactive platforms and apps often combine visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning modes, which align well with the diverse learning preferences of ELLs.

Examples include adaptive learning programs that differentiate instruction based on language proficiency and math skill level. These platforms often incorporate multilingual support, allowing students to toggle between languages or receive glossaries for complex terms.

Additionally, video tutorials with subtitles, interactive whiteboards, and digital manipulatives provide dynamic and engaging ways to teach math concepts while supporting language development.

Balancing Language Development and Math Rigor

One of the critical considerations in teaching math to ELL students is maintaining academic rigor without sacrificing accessibility. Simplifying language excessively can undermine the depth of mathematical content, while ignoring language challenges can hinder understanding.

Research advocates for a dual-focused approach where language objectives are integrated into math lessons. For example, a lesson on fractions might include objectives such as: "Students will use the terms numerator and denominator correctly" alongside solving fraction problems. This approach ensures that language acquisition and math learning reinforce each other.

Assessment Practices for ELL Students in Mathematics

Assessing ELL students' mathematical proficiency requires sensitivity to linguistic factors. Standardized tests often fail to differentiate between language proficiency and math ability, potentially underestimating ELL students' true understanding.

Alternative assessment methods include:

- **Performance-based tasks:** Students demonstrate skills through projects or hands-on activities.
- **Oral assessments:** Allowing students to explain their reasoning verbally can provide insight beyond written language constraints.
- **Use of native language:** When feasible, assessments in the student's first language may offer more accurate measures of math competence.

Formative assessments conducted throughout instruction also help teachers adjust teaching strategies and provide targeted support.

Professional Development and Teacher Preparation

Equipping teachers to effectively teach math to ELL students is pivotal. Professional development programs focusing on culturally responsive pedagogy, language acquisition theories, and math-specific strategies for ELLs are essential.

Effective training empowers teachers to design lessons that incorporate scaffolding, use appropriate assessment tools, and create inclusive classroom environments. Given the increasing diversity in classrooms nationwide, ongoing professional learning is a key factor in improving outcomes for ELL students.

Looking Ahead: The Future of Math Education for ELLs

As classrooms become increasingly diverse, the imperative to refine methods for teaching math to ELL students grows stronger. Emerging research continues to illuminate the nuanced ways language and mathematics intersect, fostering more sophisticated instructional models.

Innovations in educational technology, coupled with a deeper understanding of sociocultural influences,

promise to enhance personalized learning experiences. Collaborative efforts among educators, linguists, and mathematicians will be instrumental in developing curricula that support both academic language proficiency and mathematical thinking.

Ultimately, success in teaching math to ELL students hinges on a holistic approach—one that values linguistic diversity, prioritizes equity, and embraces adaptive teaching practices tailored to individual learner needs.

Teaching Math To Ell Students

teaching math to ell students: *Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners* Luciana C. de Oliveira, Marta Civil, 2020-10-09 This edited book is about preparing pre-service and in-service teachers to teach secondary-level mathematics to English Language Learners (ELLs) in twenty-first century classrooms. Chapter topics are grounded in both research and practice, addressing a range of timely topics including the current state of ELL education in the secondary mathematics classroom, approaches to leveraging the talents and strengths of bilingual students in heterogeneous classrooms, best practices in teaching mathematics to multilingual students, and ways to infuse the secondary mathematics teacher preparation curriculum with ELL pedagogy. This book will appeal to all teachers of ELLs, teacher educators and researchers of language acquisition more broadly. This volume is part of a set of four edited books focused on teaching the key content areas to English language learners. The other books in the set focus on teaching History and Social Studies, English Language Arts, and Science to ELLs.

teaching math to ell students: Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners Gladis Kersaint, Denisse R. Thompson, Mariana Petkova, 2014-06-05 Today's mathematics classrooms increasingly include students for whom English is a second language. *Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners* provides readers a comprehensive understanding of both the challenges that face English language learners (ELLs) and ways in which educators might address them in the secondary mathematics classroom. Framed by a research perspective, *Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners* presents practical instructional strategies for engaging learners that can be incorporated as a regular part of instruction. The authors offer context-specific strategies for everything from facilitating classroom discussions with all students, to reading and interpreting math textbooks, to tackling word problems. A fully annotated list of math web and print resources completes the volume, making this a valuable reference to help mathematics teachers meet the challenges of including all learners in effective instruction. Features and updates to this new edition include: An updated and streamlined Part 1 provides an essential overview of ELL theory in a mathematics specific context. Additional practical examples of mathematics problems and exercises make turning theory into practice easy when teaching ELLs New pedagogical elements in Part 3 include tips on harnessing new technologies, discussion questions and reflection points. New coverage of the Common Core State Standards, as well as updates to the web and print resources in Part 4.

teaching math to ell students: Teaching Math to English Language Learners, Preschool to 1st Grade Jenny Lerner M Ed, Jeff D. Farmer Ph. D., 2019-01-31 This book is designed for anyone who teaches young children who are learning English. Math is not only an important subject, but it is also one in which English Language Learners can thrive, if they are given the right support. This book helps teachers provide that support. By describing the basic principles involved in ELL's math learning and applying these principles to a wide variety of math topics, teachers are carefully shown simple yet highly effective ways of teaching. We describe what can and should be done for

children at various stages of second language acquisition, and for children at different levels of math understanding. These two distinct issues are often confused, and for good reason: It's sometimes difficult to assess children separately in these two areas. Still, with some simple ideas, it is possible to tailor activities and problems to exactly what a child will need to take their next step in learning math. The many sample activities and ideas for providing learning support are easily implementable in a variety of settings: working in large or small groups, learning centers, transitions or one-on-one. Information on vocabulary, sample math vocabulary progressions and various kinds of sheltering and support that are specific to math are discussed. Examples of interactions between math and literacy are included. The math topics we consider are focused on: Counting and cardinality, addition and subtraction, base 10 concepts (including how to work with 2-digit numbers), geometry, spatial sense, patterns, measurement and data analysis. We have written this book for real teachers: people who are with young children every day, seeking to support their growth and learning. While we give many examples, this is not a scripted curriculum. On the contrary, we expect that each teacher who works through this book and tries out the ideas we share will gradually develop their own understanding of and expertise in working with ELL's in math. The goal is to integrate the principles and ideas that we share seamlessly into your own daily practice, going far beyond a simple implementation of the sample activities, although that's a great place to start. This resource is a must-have for anyone working with children ages 3-7 (or even beyond) who are learning English and need to be supported in math as well.

teaching math to ell students: Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners

Gladis Kersaint, Denisse R. Thompson, Mariana Petkova, 2014-06-05 Today's mathematics classrooms increasingly include students for whom English is a second language. Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners provides readers a comprehensive understanding of both the challenges that face English language learners (ELLs) and ways in which educators might address them in the secondary mathematics classroom. Framed by a research perspective, Teaching Mathematics to English Language Learners presents practical instructional strategies for engaging learners that can be incorporated as a regular part of instruction. The authors offer context-specific strategies for everything from facilitating classroom discussions with all students, to reading and interpreting math textbooks, to tackling word problems. A fully annotated list of math web and print resources completes the volume, making this a valuable reference to help mathematics teachers meet the challenges of including all learners in effective instruction. Features and updates to this new edition include: An updated and streamlined Part 1 provides an essential overview of ELL theory in a mathematics specific context. Additional practical examples of mathematics problems and exercises make turning theory into practice easy when teaching ELLs New pedagogical elements in Part 3 include tips on harnessing new technologies, discussion questions and reflection points. New coverage of the Common Core State Standards, as well as updates to the web and print resources in Part 4.

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math terms is included, as well as a section devoted to cracking the code of word problems.

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teaching math to ell students: *Teaching Learners Who Struggle with Mathematics* Helene J. Sherman, Lloyd I. Richardson, George J. Yard, 2019-03-07 Highly regarded by instructors in past editions for its sequencing of topics and extensive set of exercises, the latest edition of *Abstract Algebra* retains its concrete approach with its gentle introduction to basic background material and its gradual increase in the level of sophistication as the student progresses through the book. Abstract concepts are introduced only after a careful study of important examples. Beachy and Blair's clear narrative presentation responds to the needs of inexperienced students who stumble over proof writing, who understand definitions and theorems but cannot do the problems, and who want more examples that tie into their previous experience. The authors introduce chapters by indicating why the material is important and, at the same time, relating the new material to things from the student's background and linking the subject matter of the chapter to the broader picture. Building proficiency in learning mathematics by tailoring instruction to students' specific misconceptions and learning needs is the backbone of this indispensable text, written for K-8 pre- and inservice teachers, as well as tutors. An important theme is that long-term retention is based on a strong conceptual foundation of numeracy and on a well-designed learning environment. Each chapter deals with a different mathematics topic, including whole numbers, fractions, decimals, as well as time and money. Chapters also include examples of error patterns and specific, well-defined strategies and activities for diagnosis, prescription, and remediation. New to this edition is a chapter devoted to English language learners. The complexities of language barriers are delineated along with reasons that students struggle with learning English and mathematics at the same time. An audio file of common mathematics terms translated from English into most-often spoken languages by ELLs can be accessed at www.youareamathperson.com. Outstanding features: • Response to Intervention (RTI) model underpins discussions of differentiating instruction. • Mathematics content reflects components of the Common Core State Standards Initiative for Mathematics and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. • Case studies and student examples promote a sound understanding of learners' varied cognitive, behavioral, and physical needs. • Discussion questions challenge readers to think more deeply about the application and utility of concepts related to the error patterns. • Step-by-step directions for interactive instructional classroom games and activities are provided to extend and enrich teaching and learning.

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multilingual learners in North American schools grows, many teachers have not had opportunities to gain the competencies required to teach these learners effectively, especially in disciplines such as mathematics. Multilingual learners—historically called English Language Learners—are expected to interpret the meaning of problems, analyze, make conjectures, evaluate their progress, and discuss and understand their own approaches and the approaches of their peers in mathematics classrooms. Thus, language plays a vital role in mathematics learning, and demonstrating these competencies in a second (or third) language is a challenging endeavor. Based on best practices and the authors' years of research, this guide offers practical approaches that equip grades K-8 teachers to draw on the strengths of multilingual learners, partner with their families, and position these learners for success. Readers will find:

- A focus on multilingual students as leaders
- A strength-based approach that draws on students' life experiences and cultural backgrounds
- An emphasis on maintaining high expectations for learners' capacity for mastering rigorous content
- Strategies for representing concepts in different formats
- Stop and Think questions throughout and reflection questions at the end of each chapter
- Try It! Implementation activities, student work examples, and classroom transcripts

With case studies and activities that provide a solid foundation for teachers' growth and exploration, this groundbreaking book will help teachers and teacher educators engage in meaningful, humanized mathematics instruction.

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comparable to that of native speakers. These challenges and issues can lead to difficulty comprehending core academic topics for those learning the English language. *Optimizing Elementary Education for English Language Learners* is a critical scholarly publication that explores the importance of English as a Second Language (ESL) education as well as the challenges that can arise in striving for effective and engaging learning environments for the students involved. Featuring a broad scope of topics, such as effective lesson plans, teacher education and preparation, and the education achievement gap, this book is geared toward academicians, practitioners, and researchers seeking current research on effective teaching strategies for teachers of English language learners.

teaching math to ell students: *Teaching Science to English Language Learners* Joyce Nutta, Nazan U. Bautista, Malcolm B. Butler, 2010-09-13 Books in the Teaching English Language Learners (ELLs) across the Curriculum Series are written specifically for pre- and in- service teachers who may not have been trained in ELL techniques, but still find themselves facing the realities and challenges of today's diverse classrooms and learners. Each book provides simple and straightforward advice on how to teach ELLs through a given subject area, and how to teach content to ELLs who are at different levels of English language proficiency than the rest of their class. Authored by both language and content area specialists, each volume arms readers with practical, teacher-friendly strategies, and subject-specific techniques. *Teaching Science to English Language Learners* offers science teachers and teacher educators a straightforward approach for engaging ELLs learning science, offering examples of easy ways to adapt existing lesson plans to be more inclusive. The practical, teacher-friendly strategies and techniques included here are proven effective with ELLs, and many are also effective with all students. The book provides context-specific strategies for the full range of the secondary sciences curriculum, including physical science, life science, earth and space science, science as inquiry, and history and nature of science and more. A fully annotated list of web and print resources completes the book, making this a one volume reference to help science teachers meet the challenges of including all learners in effective instruction. Special features: practical examples of science exercises make applying theory to practice simple when teaching science to ELLs an overview of the National Science Education Standards offers useful guidelines for effective instructional and assessment practices for ELLs in secondary grades graphs, tables, and illustrations provide additional access points to the text in clear, meaningful ways.

teaching math to ell students: *Teaching Social Studies to English Language Learners* Bárbara Cruz, Stephen J. Thornton, 2013 *Teaching Social Studies to English Language Learners* provides readers with a comprehensive understanding of both the challenges that face English language learners (ELLs) and ways in which educators might address them in the social studies classroom. The authors offer context-specific strategies for the full range of the social studies curriculum, including geography, U.S. history, world history, economics, and government. These practical instructional strategies will effectively engage learners and can be incorporated as a regular part of instruction in any classroom. An annotated list of web and print resources completes the volume, making this a valuable reference to help social studies teachers meet the challenges of including all learners in effective instruction. Features and updates to this new edition include: * An updated and streamlined Part 1 provides an essential overview of ELL theory in a social studies specific-context. * Teaching Tips offer helpful suggestions and ideas for creating and modifying lesson plans to be inclusive of ELLs. * Additional practical examples and new pedagogical elements in Part 3 include more visuals, suggestions for harnessing new technologies, discussion questions, and reflection points. * New material that takes into account the demands of the Common Core State Standards, as well as updates to the web and print resources in Part 4.

teaching math to ell students: *Mathematics Education* Mark Wolfmeyer, 2017-01-12 Winner of the AESA 2017 Critics' Choice Book Award *Mathematics Education* offers both undergraduates and starting-graduate students in education an introduction to the connections that exist between mathematics and a critical orientation to education. This primer shows how concepts

like race, class, gender, and language have real effects in the mathematics classroom, and prepares current and future mathematics teachers with a more critical math education that increases accessibility for all students. By refocusing math learning towards the goals of democracy and social and environmental crises, the book also introduces readers to broader contemporary school policy and reform debates and struggles. Mark Wolfmeyer shows future and current teachers how critical mathematics education can be put into practice with concrete strategies and examples in both formal and informal educational settings. With opportunities for readers to engage in deeper discussion through suggested activities, Mathematics Education's pedagogical features include: Study Questions for Teachers and Students Text Boxes with Examples of Critical Education in Practice Annotated List of Further Readings Glossary

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