Recommended Guidelines for Book Selection and Book Reading

Dual Language Learners With and Without Disabilities Light Shriner & Jimenez (2013)

- 1. Understand the **Language Level** of your learners (home language, nonverbal phase, telegraphic/formulaic, productive use of new language).
- 2. Consider **factors that affect learning** (personality, motivation, exposure to English, age, disability).
- 3. **Communication** Strategies (starting with what children know and like, start slowly, buttress communication, repetition, talk about the here and now, expanding and extending, upping the ante, fine tuning)
- 4. **Pre-read book** (consider content, vocabulary, length, age appropriateness, and cultural sensitivity).
- 5. **Book selection criteria:** Ask yourself "How many of the following elements does this book offer?"
 - a. Predictability? Repetitiveness? Simplified text?
 - b. Opportunities for engagement (hearing, seeing, repeating, speaking, moving, doing, etc.)?
 - c. Meaningful Concepts (can be connected to child's life, interests, background experiences while teaching, reinforcing, generalizing new concepts.) or Nonsense?
 - d. Illustrations support the storyline, sequence of events, and help children understand the concepts?
 - e. Story is appropriate length for learners or could be adapted to be an appropriate length?

6. Book Content Exposure Strategies

- a. Children can hear the story in native/home language before hearing it in English.
 - i. The child can listen to book on tape (in native language)
 - ii. A bilingual teacher can read the story to the child in the native language.
 - iii. Book can be sent home with the child a few days before it is read in school so the parents have a chance to read the book with the child.
- b. Teacher can "walk through" the story by summarizing what is happening on each page (and not read it word for word).
- c. Teacher can have the child or children talk about what they see on each page.
- d. Teacher can have children guess or predict based on the pictures.
- e. Teacher can have small-group reading opportunities where more individualized attention can be given to individual children.
- f. Teacher should read the same book many times. Each time a book is read, the concepts can be reinforced, difference concepts can be stressed, and language can be extended and expanded.
- g. A child with special learning and behavioral needs can hold a copy of the book as it is being read.
- 7. Develop **materials and activities** that can facilitate learning of the concepts.
 - a. Teacher can have pictures of key events and introduce the sequence of the story by putting the pictures in order of the events before and during reading. In later readings of the story, the children can take an active role in sequencing the pictures as the story is read.
 - b. Develop actions, gestures, & motions that coincide with events in the story.
 - c. Create realistic pictures that can be paired with less realistic illustrations (cartoons and drawings).
 - d. Find objects that correspond to the characters and objects in the story. Children can hold the objects and when they are seen in the story, the child can hold up, show, give to the teacher, put on a board, etc. Objects can be used to sequence the events in the story. Objects associated with the story can be put in a learning center for children to interact with after the story.
 - e. Activities can be created that test concepts, practice actions, create products related to the story.
 - f. An adapted book can be prepared for a child with special needs to help the child understand that words have meaning. The adaptation to the book may be symbols that correspond to key words in the story.
 - g. A communication board that has pictures and objects can be prepared so a child who does not speak can answer questions by pointing to pictures and objects that are associated with the story.

Book Selection Criteria For DLL with and without disabilities

	<i>My Friends</i> by Taro Gomi				
Is the book predictable and	"I learned to from my friend				
repetitive?	,, 				
 Includes familiar routines 					
 Has repetitive phrases 	Simplified language, only one sentence on				
and patterns	each page.				
Has simplified text					
Does the book provide	Action Word Vocabulary				
opportunities for child	Action Word Vocabulary Walk				
engagement and	• Jump				
involvement? (motions, lines	Climb Watch				
they can repeat,	• Run 🏂 • Sing 🔮				
objects/pictures they can	Kull				
hold, an extra book that can	March Read				
be held, etc.)	Nap Study				
	Smell Play				
	• Hide I • Love				
The concepts in the story are	Noun Vocabulary • Rabbit				
meaningful? (Addresses					
functional concepts, age and	Lai tii				
developmentally appropriate					
concepts, and culturally	Monkey Gorilla				
relevant concepts and	Horse Owl				
experiences)	Rooster Birds				
	• Books				
	A Tanchard				
	Butterfly Friends				
The visuals and illustrations	Pictures can show the actions.	<u> </u>			
facilitate learning and	Pictures can illustrate each noun to				
understanding of the	promote understanding and				
concepts, sequences, and	generalization.				
events?	Pictures allow children to easily predict				
	which word can be inserted into the				
	repetitive phrase.				
The story is an appropriate	Simplified language allows this book to be				
length for the learners or can	read in a short period of time. The book can				
be adapted to be an	also be shortened or read in several				
appropriate length?	different sessions. The teacher can also just				
-	walk through by looking at the pictures and describing what is happening or asking the				
	children what is happening.				
Additional Ideas:	Illustrations may not be easily				
	recognizable from some children. Photos				
	or more recognizable line drawings can				
	be found for the nouns and actions.				
	Objects for each of the "friends" can be				
	found and given to the children during				
	the story or to play with in a learning				
	center. Communication Boards can be created				
	using pictures and objects.				
	 An extra book can be provided to a child 				
	as needed.				

Book Selection Criteria For DLL with and without disabilities

	Title:		Title:	
Is the book predictable and repetitive? Includes familiar routines Has repetitive phrases and patterns Has simplified text Does the book provide opportunities for child engagement and				
involvement? (motions, lines they can repeat, objects/pictures they can hold, an extra book that can be held, etc.)				
The concepts in the story are meaningful? (Addresses functional concepts, age and developmentally appropriate concepts, and culturally relevant concepts and experiences)				
The visuals and illustrations facilitate learning and understanding of the concepts, sequences, and events?				
The story is an appropriate length for the learners or can be adapted to be an appropriate length?				
Additional Ideas:				