

## SERC's 2011-2012 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE EDUCATION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

### PD ACTIVITIES COORDINATED BY SERC'S INITIATIVE ON DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION (IDE)

#### [What's Different about Teaching Words to English Language Learners?](#)

Presented by SERC Consultants

**Wednesday, February 1, 2012 (one full-day session);** snow date: Thursday, February 9, 2012

This professional development activity will provide essential knowledge around Second Language Acquisition stages and processes, literacy development, and appropriate instructional strategies for the teaching of words to English Language Learners (ELLs).

#### [Tapping the Talent of Your Cyber Kids: Using the Internet to Support Your English Learners](#)

Presented by SERC Consultants

**Thursday, April 5, 2012 (one full-day session)**

This professional development activity will support teachers in their integration of Internet technology and other resources and their engagement of students' strengths and interests within curriculum and instruction, so as to ensure access to the general education curriculum. Participants will also learn to affirm and engage a significant aspect of their students' identities by incorporating today's most consumed media to increase the academic achievement of our English Learners.

### PD ACTIVITIES COORDINATED BY OTHER SERC INITIATIVES

#### [Literacy Strategies for English Language Learners](#)

Presented by Dr. Fay Shin

**Friday, November 18, 2011 (one full-day session)**

This professional development activity will aid teachers in preparing students in kindergarten through Grade 8 who are English Language Learners (ELLs) to develop the linguistic skills that are essential to their success in literacy. During this workshop, participants will learn strategies for creating a highly successful and inclusive learning environment for students learning English, especially during core instruction; how to plan instruction for ELLs using knowledge of the stages of language acquisition development; apply strategies for teaching language to students learning English; and learn methods of developing students' academic language.

#### [CALI ELL Basic Training: Effective Tier I Instruction for English Language Learners](#)

Presented by SERC Consultants

**Friday, December 9, 2011 and Friday, January 13, 2011 (two full-day sessions);**

**snow date: Thursday, January 19, 2011**

*contact: Cortney Sharpe, Education Services Specialist, 860-632-1485, x238*

The focus of Day 1 is on the foundations of second language acquisition, using data to enhance ELL instruction, and research-based best practices for instructing ELL students. The focus of Day 2 is on deepening participants' understanding of effective teaching practices for ELLs and how to train and support teachers using the ELL CALI module. Participants will be teams of general education teachers, ESL specialists, and school administrators, K-12, who are dedicated to improving Tier I instruction for ELLs and who can provide on-site embedded support for other teachers in their school districts.

### **[Addressing Challenges in Assessing Communication Skills of English Language Learners](#)**

Presented by Alicia Powers

**Wednesday, December 14, 2011; Thursday, December 15, 2011;  
and Wednesday, April 25, 2012** (three full-days sessions)

*contact: Linda Adorno, Education Services Specialist, 860-632-1485, x241*

This professional development activity will present a systemic approach to assessing communication skills in ELLs that can be applied within general education (SRBI) or special education. Using case studies, participants will explore various methods of non-traditional assessment, including spontaneous language sampling, dynamic assessment, and curriculum-based procedures.

### **[Accessing and Adapting Literature – K-Grade 8](#)**

Presented by SERC Consultants

**Wednesday, February 8, 2012 (one full-day session)**

*contact: Linda Adorno, Education Services Specialist, 860-632-1485, x241*

To increase students' exposure and interactions with genuine literature, this session will provide educators with the techniques and tools they will use to adapt literature and text to match the ability of students who are reading below grade level or who are English Language Learners. This session will include a discussion of the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS) and the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC). Participants will be required to bring an excerpt of text that they will adapt using technology.

### **[An Overview of Bilingual Language Development for Early Childhood Providers](#)**

Presented by Dr. Nancy Cloud

**Friday, February 17, 2012 (one full-day session)**

This professional development activity will provide an overview of early dual language development in children ages birth to 5. The session will also present key points on how to distinguish between normal stages and processes of second or bilingual language acquisition and potential language delays or disorders, at the point when concerns arise. Participants will be Birth-5/Early Childhood providers.

### **[Accessing and Adapting Literature – Grades 9-12](#)**

Presented by SERC Consultants

**Tuesday, February 28, 2012 (one full-day session)**

*contact: Linda Adorno, Education Services Specialist, 860-632-1485, x241*

To increase students' exposure and interactions with genuine literature, this session will provide educators with the techniques and tools they will use to adapt literature and text to match the ability of students who are reading below grade level or who are English Language Learners. This session will include a discussion of the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS) and the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC). Participants will be required to bring an excerpt of text that they will adapt using technology.

### **[Supporting the Needs of Diverse Families](#)**

Presented by SERC Consultants

**Tuesday, April 24, 2012 (one full-day session)**

During this professional development activity, participants will discuss culturally relevant practices in building relationships with and promoting the engagement of families; develop meaningful program processes for supporting diverse families and their children; and use tools to acknowledge and maintain positive family roles.

For more information and in order to register online for an activity, please click on the title of the activity whenever there is a hyperlink provided. For an activity for which there is no hyperlink, please call the contact person at SERC listed for the event. For any other questions, please contact Lauren D. Jones, Education Services Specialist, Initiative on Diversity in Education, at 860-632-1485, x256, or at [ljones@ctserc.org](mailto:ljones@ctserc.org).

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