English Language Learners in Canadian Schools: Emerging Directions for School-Based Policies

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ABSTRACT This article attempts to provide ESL teachers, school administrators, and policymakers with a concise overview of what matters in promoting academic success among learners of English in Canadian schools. We review research focused on bilingual and biliteracy development, the nature of academic language, and the roles of societal power relations and identity negotiation in determining the academic achievement of English language learners (ELL). On the basis of this research, we propose the Literacy Engagement framework that identifies literacy engagement as a major determinant of literacy achievement for ELL and non-ELL students. In order to enable ELL students to engage with literacy, the framework highlights the importance of teachers scaffolding meaning, connecting with students’ lives, affirming student identities, and extending their awareness and knowledge of language across the curriculum. The application of the framework is illustrated with reference to the literacy and academic learning experiences of two ELL students in the Toronto area.
Inquiry-based learning also gives students the opportunity to develop stronger relationships with their classmates, improve their communication skills, and increase the confidence they have in their own ideas and ability to contribute in the classroom. When Should Inquiry Based Learning Be Used? While inquiry-based learning is an effective method that can be embraced in a variety of situations, it isn’t a method that should be used for everything. Inquiry-based learning will help engage young learners and foster excitement in the subjects they are learning about [Tweet This].

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dynamic atmosphere. Canadian-owned and operated for more than 25 years, LAB Vancouver has provided quality and professional English classes for students from more than 103 countries, connecting all to the world with English. Offering a wide variety of English courses for all levels, LAB Vancouver's curriculum is diverse and designed to balance conversational and academic English.