



Supporting Your Dual Language Immersion Student

Even if you don't speak the target language

Read at Home



- Read to your child in your home language
- Parental involvement in their child's literacy practices is a more powerful force than other family background variables, such as social class, family size and level of parental education (Flouri & Buchanan, 2004)
- Encourage conversations in the home language

Positive Attitude and Perseverance

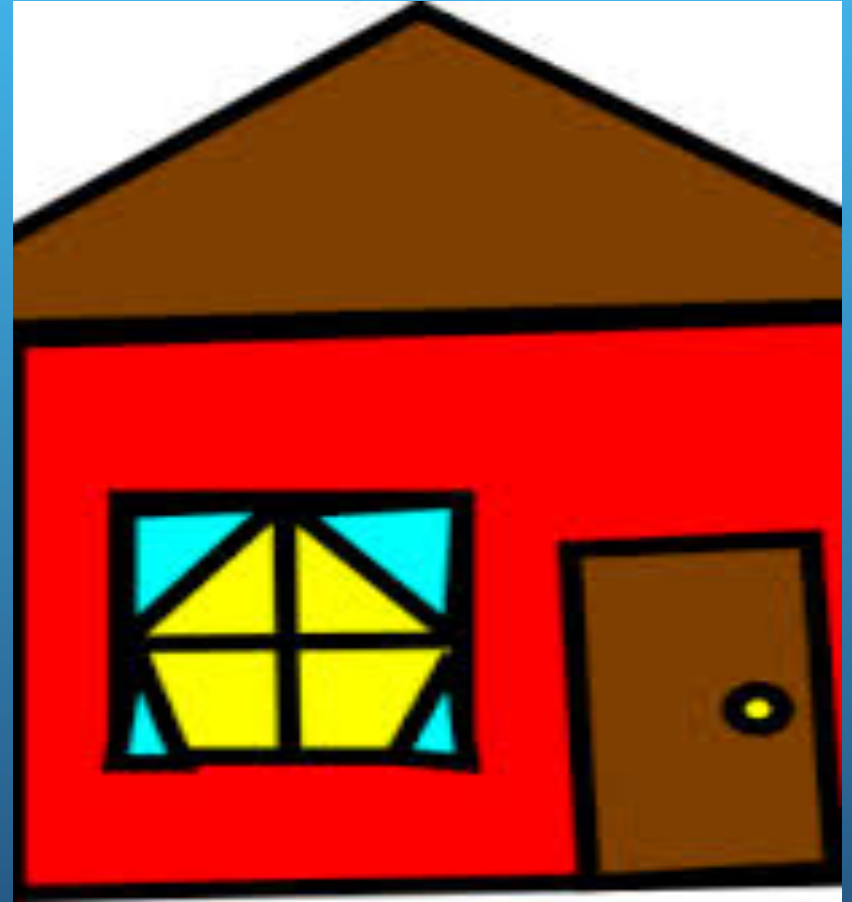
- Be Positive about Learning
- Show Enthusiasm for new language learners
- Learning a new language can be difficult, so encourage ongoing effort



- Encourage perseverance with learning similarly as one learns a sport, dance or music
- Model behavior of working hard at difficult tasks

Follow up at Home

- Ask your child to show and explain homework to you
- Watch for communication from the teacher
- Find study aids in target language, i.e. encyclopedia, atlas, dictionary, thesaurus
- Find “study buddies” for your child to contact to clarify homework. Homework should be skills that were taught in class and should be able to be completed independently.



Encourage Use of Target Language



- Interact with native speakers
- Attend cultural events
- Check out books from library
- Allow your child to visit parent-screened websites in target language
- Learn a few basic words in target language: pronunciation, colors, greetings, days, months, weather
- Watch DVD with target language audio track and subtitles as a family
- Explore topics of interest to your child from target language countries

School-Home Connection

- Volunteer in the classroom
- Share aspects of the culture with ALL students in your school, i.e. dance, art, food, music
- Support Dual Language Immersion social family gatherings
- Contribute to the school newsletter information regarding dual language immersion
- Become involved in your school community council

