



UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF BILITERACY AND DUAL LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

BILITERACY AND DUAL LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION HAVE BEEN GREATLY MISUNDERSTOOD AND EVEN MORE

GREATLY MISAPPLIED IN MANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR DECADES, since the start of the Bilingual Education Act in 1968. The purpose of this film series of three episodes (40 minutes each) is to correct many of these misperceptions and to provide greater understanding about what biliteracy and dual language programs can accomplish for the English language learner (EL).

This body of information will provide a mechanism that will expand the knowledge about dual language by putting into context *why* it is needed, *what* it implies regarding implementation as well as help answer the questions about *impact*, basically how well it works and the difference it makes.

Following the same logic of “Why?” “What?” and “Impact,” exemplary programs selected by CAFE will be focused in this series to dramatically show how ELs have been served in a variety of settings and school districts. Equally important, it will also demonstrate to viewers the importance of these programs and their contribution to student achievement throughout the State of California.

Film One: Why? Many questions arise as to the reasons why biliteracy and dual language programs are needed in our schools. Some also wonder about the most effective methods for the learning of a second language. Here the viewer will have responses to both questions in great depth. They will also learn why it is that biliteracy instruction facilitates the learning of English as it also enhances chances for students to stay abreast of core subjects as they learn another language.

Film Two: What? Queries arise on what biliteracy and dual language programs entail and the many varieties of language instruction. Here they will learn what the process is all about. They will also learn about effective methods in carrying these out in everyday instruction in an easy-to-follow manner. In addition, viewers will learn about key factors that are needed for biliteracy and dual language programs instruction as well as methods by which this type of instruction is implemented.



Film Three: Impact! Questions about impact and results regarding biliteracy and dual language programs instruction are always at the forefront among teachers such as “How do we know it works?” and “Where is the evidence?” Viewers will learn that biliteracy and dual language programs is not only effective, but provides ample opportunity for children to develop more fully and in multiple ways, where languages reinforce each other and where a bilingual brain brings about considerable cognitive growth.

THE SERIES WILL SERVE TWO MAIN PURPOSES. It will: 1) help the general public better understand the important role biliteracy and dual language programs have on ELs, with California is an exemplar state; and 2) facilitate the professional development of teachers on how to implement biliteracy and dual language programs in their schools, in both pre-service and in-service settings.

Total cost for the 3 videos will be \$250,000.

Other areas to add per CAFE

History of biliteracy movement in CA and the US

Time frame

Language—would this be produced in both Spanish and English?