

Philosophy

English as a Second Language is a support program which:

- Provides instruction which allows children to develop English proficiency in accordance with their needs and abilities
- Supports second language children in their integration into the school's academic and social programs
- Makes learning English an enjoyable experience for children
- Builds on the child's cultural and language experiences
- Helps establish and maintain communication between the home and the school

ESL Elementary (Grades 1-5)

Requirements

- All students in grades 1 to 5 who are admitted to AISR and need ESL support are included in the program
- Students are exited when they demonstrate enough proficiency to be successful in the grade level

Program Description

Objective: to increase the student's English oral, listening, reading and writing skills to a proficient level for success in the mainstream classroom. Students are exited from ESL when this goal is met.

Sheltered Immersion program

- The majority of a child's day will be in his grade level classroom immersed in English with peers
- The curricula and assessments are modified to suit the student's language ability
- Strategies are implemented to help the student acquire English as quickly as possible
- The child receives extra support provided through the pull out program
- Receives a quarterly report from classroom teacher and ESL instructor

Pull out program

- Fortyfive minutes of direct language instruction 4 times a week
- Grouped by grade level
- Services a range of English proficiency levels
- Individualizes instruction to meet each student's language needs
- ESL teacher coordinates and modifies curricula with the classroom teacher

Curricula

- The focus of the program is the acquisition of English using the curricula of the grade level. Whenever possible the ESL teacher will teach similar content or parallel skills.
- The English skills and concepts will be taught through meaningful speaking, listening, reading and writing activities.

Materials and Strategies

- Drama activities
- literature
- Library books
- Reference materials
- Games
- Puppets
- Tapes
- DVDs
- Pictures
- Computer software
- Graphic organizers
- Workbooks
- Writing journals
- Textbooks
- Language experience activities
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