The Teaching At The Beginning Video Collection

Who We Are

Teaching At The Beginning, Inc. is a nonprofit organization, dedicated to showcasing research-based practices for preschool dual language learners. Featured in New America, our nonprofit generates free video resources for instructors, directors, and teachers who work with young dual language learners, acquiring English as a second language.

Teaching At The Beginning offers two video collections:

- The Young Dual Language Learner: 20 Short Videos
- Soyul & Teacher Yvette… Adventures in Preschool Second Language Acquisition
The Young Dual Language Learner: 20 Short Videos

*The Young Dual Language Learner: 20 Short Videos* features 20 clips, 1 to 7 minutes in length. Photographed in the classroom, these documentary “snapshots” illustrate real-world examples of relationship-based practices, the benefits of bilingualism, and parent and family engagement—highlighting the young dual language learner, acquiring English. These short videos showcase best practices for pre-service and in-service teachers, providing directors and instructors with added visual tools for their coursework. These 20 complimentary videos can be included in PowerPoint or Keynote presentations.

*The Young Dual Language Learner: 20 Short Videos* is now available on our YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/teachatborg](http://www.youtube.com/teachatborg), and website, [www.teachatb.org](http://www.teachatb.org), with crisp Presenter’s Guide for this collection.

“This collection of short videos highlighting real-world examples of best practices for young dual language learners will quickly become a staple for all ECE professional development initiatives. (Teaching At The Beginning has) captured vignettes that vividly illustrate what we mean by strategically using the home language to support English language development for preschool DLLs. These videos provide instructors, directors, and teachers with examples of research-based practices that will be sure to create a springboard for discussion and deepen practitioner knowledge.”

*Linda M. Espinosa, Ph.D.*

*Professor Emeritus, Author, Researcher*
Soyul & Teacher Yvette... Adventures in Preschool Second Language Acquisition

Our video series, *Soyul & Teacher Yvette*, takes a sharp look at one dual language learner and her teacher across fourteen months of preschool. Consisting of three 20-minute videos, this singular documentary series provides an avenue for observation and study of the four stages and in-depth strategies for preschool second language acquisition:

- Video One documents one child, Soyul, and her teacher, Yvette, across fourteen months—showcasing the four stages of preschool second language acquisition
- Video Two zeroes in on characteristics of language development at each of these stages
- Video Three focuses on this teacher’s strategies at each stage and explores the benefits of supporting culture and the first language of this young child

The *Soyul & Teacher Yvette* video series features on-camera commentary by leaders and researchers in the field of preschool dual language learning:

- Moisés Román, Director of Curriculum, UCLA Early Care and Education
- Marlene Zepeda, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Researcher, Consultant
- Julie Espinoza, Director of Education, Mothers’ Club Family Learning Center
- Gay Macdonald, Executive Director, UCLA Early Care and Education
- Linda M. Espinosa, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Author, Researcher

A research-to-practice bridge, this series is a case study in the trajectory of preschool second language acquisition and serves as a springboard for professional development. The *Soyul & Teacher Yvette* series with closed captions is available on our YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/teachatb.org](http://www.youtube.com/teachatb.org), and website, [www.teachatb.org](http://www.teachatb.org), with Facilitator’s Guide in English and in Spanish.

All video material is aligned with the *California Preschool Program Guidelines*, California Department of Education, c. 2015.

“These heartwarming and informative videos take the mystery out of the process of second language development. Early childhood education professors, consultants and authors will also find that this collection can be invaluable for updating their work to reflect new best practices.”

Karen N. Nemeth
Author, *Basics of Supporting Dual Language Learners*
Founder and Lead Consultant, Language Castle LLC
Educational Applications and Endorsements

“In this collection of videos, teachers demonstrate intentional and explicit teaching strategies that illustrate how teachers who do not speak the home language of a child can enhance a child’s second language development. Throughout the vignettes, teachers not only show respect for a child’s language and culture but also implicitly communicate how language, regardless of which one is used, is a tool for understanding our world. These videos demonstrate how monolingual English speaking teachers who work with young Dual Language Learners can be effective in advancing their early learning.”

Marlene Zepeda, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
Department of Child and Family Studies, California State University, Los Angeles

“These resources are so powerful for training. Love that we have visuals of each stage of bilingual development.”

Theresa (Terry) Kohlmeier
Doctoral Student at Utah State University, Logan Utah

“What sets this resource apart from others is the carefully researched basis of the material, wonderfully brought to life by the joint talents of Sally Durbin, expert teacher, and Phil Bedel, expert videographer and editor... The thorough planning, patient hours of filming and sensitive editing of massive amounts of material have resulted in this extraordinary series of illustrative vignettes. The user’s guide provides the busy director or trainer with helpful support in designing a developmentally appropriate curriculum built on an understanding of the teacher’s own background and preparation as well as on the feelings and experiences of the children and parents that they serve.”

Gay Macdonald
President of the Association of Child Development Specialists
Former Executive Director of UCLA Early Care and Education
Co-Author, Preschool Pathways to Science

Soyul & Teacher Yvette “is a terrific resource. It captures something marvelous and important—the educational power associated with seeing Soyul’s development through the stages of second language learning and the way that educators can incorporate research-based supports into the classroom.”

Kimberly Brenneman, Ph.D.
Assistant Research Professor
Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science
National Institute for Early Education Research
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| “These are extremely helpful resources for academic professionals, practitioners and parents. I would like to express my deep appreciation.” | Konstantin Bähr  
Head of Division for Educational Planning, Zurich State Department of Education |
| “Soyul & Teacher Yvette is a dynamic visual tool for anyone who works with young, preschool-age dual language learners. A powerful documentary, it demystifies and demonstrates the interplay between the stages and strategies of preschool second language acquisition for all who watch!” | Janet S. Oh, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
Associate Director, Faculty Development, California State University, Northridge |
| “A savvy and delightful collection of videos backed up by illustrated plans for their use with potential and practicing early childhood professionals... Most importantly, these videos demonstrate that by respecting the diverse culture and home language of families, young learners become happier, more confident and more engaged in all the activities of the school day.” | Marilyn McGrath  
Professor, Santa Monica College  
Past President of the California Association for the Education of Young Children |
| “Thank you for sharing this and spreading the news that switching between languages is something that is beneficial for learners. I have written scholarly articles about this along with many other researchers and academics who specialize in TWI/DL contexts and bilingualism/biliteracy... I will use this video and others on the Youtube channel with my preservice and inservice teachers/undergraduates and graduate students. Great resource!” | Minda Morren Lopez, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Texas State University-San Marcos |
| “What a fantastic resource to share with colleagues.” | Marina Murdock  
EAL/D Support Teacher and EAL/D Leader, Morley Schools Network, Department of Education  
Western Australia |
| “This is a critical need... I am having my team view and develop messaging to NH on the value and use of your materials. With great respect!” | Mary Earick, Ph.D.  
Administrator of Integrated Programs, State Director of Title I  
New Hampshire Department of Education |