

Summary

A combined team effort is necessary for effective co-planning of instruction for English language learners. A core pair or trio of educators act as a base for the co-planning team, which also may include administrators, paraprofessionals, and other teacher specialists. A commitment to using a variety of planning, instruction, and assessment strategies will yield the most effective instruction to meet the academic needs of ELs. Teachers have no choice but to explore new options in order to find the time to plan cooperatively if they are to co-teach or co-plan with colleagues successfully. Administrators can support co-teaching and collaborative teams by providing the time, money, and staff development activities that ensure program success.

Discussion Questions



VIDEO 5.1

Getting
Started With
Collaboration
and
Co-Teaching

<http://www.resources.corwin.com/CollaboratingforELs>

1. In consideration of how co-teachers might get started with co-teaching, which teaching strategies that you already use might fit well into an initial co-teaching routine, according to Video 5.1?
2. In your current teaching situation, what personal and institutional roadblocks prevent teacher collaboration, co-planning, or co-teaching from taking place (effectively)? What recommendation do you have for removing those roadblocks?
3. How does a school commitment to equitable education for English language learners affect teacher collaboration, co-planning, or co-teaching efforts?
4. How do standards and standardized assessments affect the type of collaboration that teachers engage in?
5. How does teacher collaboration or co-teaching benefit general-education students and ELs in terms of (a) linguistic and literacy skills, (b) interpersonal and cross-cultural development, and (c) overall academic achievement?

Key Online Resources

Creating a Wiki

www.wikia.com/Special:CreateNewWiki

Education Alliance at Brown University

www.alliance.brown.edu

Learning the Language

<http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/learning-the-language>

PBWorks: Online Team Collaboration

<http://pbworks.com>

Science for English Language Learners

www.larryferlazzo.com/eslscience.html

SIOP Model

www.siopinstitute.net

TeachAde: Online Community for Teachers

www.teachade.com

Teacher Tube (Teacher Community for Sharing Instructional Videos)

www.teachertube.com