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Effective Practices for Developing Academic Language and Writing Skills in English Language Learners in the Elementary School Setting

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Effective Practices for Developing Academic
Language and Writing Skills in English
Language Learners

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Jenna Emadzadeh

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Research Question

What practices are effective for teaching English language learners (ELLs) academic vocabulary and writing skills?

Terms Defined

- ❖ **English Language Learners (ELLs)**
- ❖ **Newcomer**
- ❖ **Academic Language**

Key Points

1. **Culturally Responsive Teaching**
 1. **Project GLAD**
 1. **Academic Vocabulary & Writing Instruction**

Key Point 1

Culturally Responsive Teaching

Gay, G. (2010)

Key Point 2

Project GLAD

Bay Area GLAD & Be GLAD (2014).

Key Point 3

Academic Vocabulary & Writing Instruction

DiCerbo, P.A., Anstrom, K.A., Baker, L.L., & Rivera, C. (2014)

Kim, Olson, Scarcella, Kramer, Pearson, VanDyk, Collins, Land (2011)

Method

- ❖ This teacher action research project involved 20 students in the 5th grade, at varying levels of English language proficiency.
- ❖ Students received targeted instruction during ELD time for 45-minutes each day, four days a week.
- ❖ Qualitative data were gathered on the students using rubric scored writing samples (PRE- and POST-).

Findings

- ❖ **Strategies Used (Academic Vocabulary & Writing)**
- ❖ **The findings of this study showed an improvement in writing based on rubric scores between pre- and post-assessments**
- ❖ **Future Implications**

Conclusion

- ❖ ELD instruction time and programs
- ❖ Additional strategies for upper grades
- ❖ Programs and strategies for newcomers and students with diverse learning needs

Reflections

- ❖ My Reflections
- ❖ Questions/Comments
- ❖ Your Reflections

References

- ❖ Bay Area GLAD & Be GLAD. (2014). Project GLAD. Retrieved October 9, 2014 from <http://projectglad.com>
- ❖ DiCerbo, P.A., Anstrom, K.A., Baker, L.L., & Rivera, C. (2014). A review of the literature on teaching academic English to English language learners. *Review of Educational Research*, 84 (3), 446. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com>
- ❖ Gay, G. (2010). *Culturally responsive teaching-theory, research, and practice*. New York: Teachers College Press.