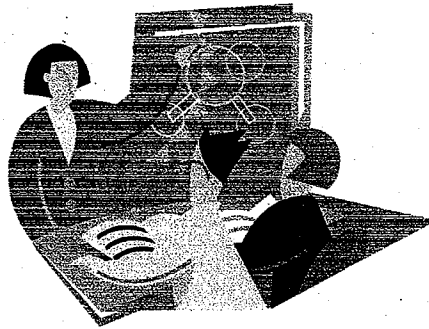


Cultural Awareness Reflection



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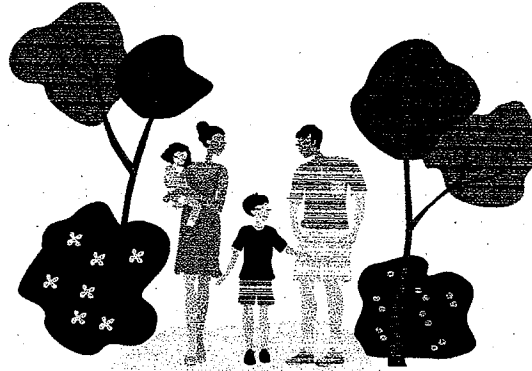
- “She loves she school and loves her teacher.”-Cultural awareness presentation
- “Her teacher speaks three different languages: English, French and Spanish.” Cultural awareness presentation

The student we interviews was born in Mexico and recently moved to America with her family. She has a very positive school experience because she seems to have a wonderful teacher. Her teacher speaks several different languages and tries to really engage and work with all her students. Our student says that she does not enjoy reading, but does like to go to school and work hard. I believe that she does not like to read because she struggles, but does enjoy school because her teacher allows her to speak Spanish in the classroom which makes her feel comfortable. Our student was on an ELD level 3 and was speaking English conversationally. She was struggling with her reading and writing in English.

After watching all the presentation for the cultural awareness project, I learned how important it is for teachers to be supportive of EL learners. Several different presentations explained how much their students were struggling because their teachers were not supportive of their student’s culture and language. In our interview, our student had the exact opposite experience with her teacher and she was progressing drastically in her school work. This just reassures me how important it is to be culturally sensitive and support student’s first language.

50 Strategies Reflection

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- “Keeping an open door policy in the classroom helps parents feel like they can be involved in the classroom.”-Rachel Ruben
- “Make parents and other family members feel comfortable and welcome in your classroom”- 50 Strategies.

There are several different strategies that can be used in the classroom to help families become involved in the classroom. Parent involvement can include anything from observations, in classroom help, and even washing smocks for the art stations. Some of the ways to get parents involved would be to make them feel comfortable in the classroom. If parents feel like the classroom is a place that they are allowed to be, they will more likely come in and help in the classroom. Let the parents know that they belong in the classroom by making relationships with each of them. They will feel better about being in the classroom, if they have a relationship with you. Also letting parents know what they can help with makes a big difference. Don't expect parents to come in and find things to do on their own, give them things to do.

After learning all this information, I will definitely use it in my future classroom. Knowing how important it is to have parent involvement will influence me to have parents be involved in my classroom. I believe this will help with EL learners because you will be communicating with their family in order to get to know them and to get them involved. If the parents are willing and or able to, maybe they would even want to come into the classroom to help translate with student work, or just to observe how their student is working.