

# SLLLC newsletter

**Second Language Literacy & Learning Connection, LLC  
Attaining Success for Second Language Learners**

*May is BETTER SPEECH AND HEARING MONTH  
FREE SHIPPING AVAILABLE*

## **Welcome to the SLLLC newsletter**

Herein we are going to describe our new products –upcoming specials and announce some new programs including our Members Only program.

**Get 3 people to sign up on our website and get 50% off a membership level. From now until 5-31-11 you get a 15 percent off for the pre-referral intervention self study and 15 percent off another product for signing up on our newsletter.**

## **The Importance of Home Language**

While parents may feel they need to drop their home language to help their child, this is mostly not the case and in fact is contraindicated. The home language is definitely an asset and is clearly advisable to use with one's child as opposed to a poorer model in English. Children who are exposed to a poor model of English in second language families are frequently misunderstood and may be thought to possess a language delay. In reality, this means that parents may be doing more harm than good in these instances. Part of the reason parents drop the language is because bilingualism and its benefits are so misunderstood. Home language literacy strength is actually a catalyst to successful second language learning.

I have worked with many families and children affected by this phenomenon wherein a child was misunderstood and thought to have a language delay when in reality the parent's poor or limited model of English was truly to blame. In these cases, my professional advice which has overwhelmingly proved successful is for the parents to use the stronger home language during socialization and for instructional purposes. In this way, they are using their 'asset' to aid in their child's comprehension of incoming input that often will be occurring in a second language.

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Longitudinally, in several cases I have followed this advice appears to help make a difference in both reducing the children inappropriately thought to be suffering from a language disorder as well as to optimize educational outcomes within this population. One area I have seen a significant impact is in the area of successful second language acquisition. Remember, oral proficiency paves the way for the acquisition of higher literacy skill sets like reading and spelling in a given language system. Also, please note there is transfer from one language to another language in terms of speaking. The stronger the speaking skills in the native language, the more likely it is for the positive transfer to occur in the second language. To this end, parents need to be encouraged and feel comfortable using their native language with their children as it truly is an asset.

In fact, as an expert called in to provide technical assistance to Early Head Start in Washington DC in 2005, I contributed the fact that in terms of policy, parents in Early Head Start need to receive the message that the home language is helpful consistently in terms of fostering robust language development. Other experts present at this meeting had agreed and had similar experiences as well to show the benefit of this trend. Specifically, one member of the panel explained the increase in parental involvement and educational outcomes in her educational setting that she observed as culturally linguistically diverse parents felt at ease being able to communicate in their own language. I then ask why are so many diverse families being told that dropping the home language is in the best interest of the child? There is no simple answering reliable information is difficult to find.

There are those who may feel that most if not all internationally adopted children do not have the potential to become bilingual. This is not necessarily always the case. I have worked personally with those children who were able to become bilingual due to parents capitalizing on their language skills in the first language by activating the proper resources. This is not possible for all children-age and attitude toward the first language clearly plays a role. Parental attitudes also play a role—I have found with many of the parents with whom I have worked that when it is possible, they are interested in exploring bilingualism as an option. The key issue is to remember when dealing with an internationally adopted child, their receptive language is important to remember and take into consideration as it may be affecting the second language development

Just because a child does not speak their first language, does not mean that the reception of the first language they may have mastered is not impacting English language development. Often, the fact they did not learn to express their first language may actually complicate and make more difficult their ability to master the second language of English. Again, going back to the premise that first language system intactness does have positive transfer to second language abilities particularly in speaking—this would be expected. (Cummin's Common Underlying Proficiency Hypothesis speaks of an interdependence of two language systems).

## Continuing Education

SLLLC's status as an [ASHA](#) approved provider allows us to bring to you specialized, industry-leading speakers meeting high standards in the offering of topics including special education topics, bilingualism, and others relevant to second language learning. Our highly qualified speakers, often with national reputations, provide webinars and workshops to our diverse audience of educators.



Second Language Literacy and Learning Connection is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area. ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.



APPROVED PROVIDER of CONTINUING EDUCATION by The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.



Approved by the Pennsylvania PDE

## Announcing our New Webinar (live/phone) Seminars The Culturally Linguistically Diverse Child” series

SLLC has new online webinars designed to increase your comfort level when working with culturally linguistically diverse children. Deborah has a reputation that is well known in this area and has put together online courses designed to increase clinical judgment when working with students who are diverse, provide practical strategies that have efficacy when working with this population. The Culturally Linguistically Diverse Child series consists of the following webinars. Check our website [www.sllc.org](http://www.sllc.org) for additional information and time ordered agendas.

**Check out our Webinars for February and March!  
Buy One at \$39.95, Get One Free until May 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Check out our current offerings.....**



Monday, May 16, 2011 at 12:00PM

### **[Webinar - Differential Diagnosis: Language Difference vs. Disorder?](#)**

The objective of this webinar is to equip the audience with an understanding of how the differential diagnosis process works. And to further define non biased methods of assessment so important to be used in this arsenal.



Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 12:00PM

### **[Webinar - Dual Language Instruction in Early Childhood](#)**

Dual language instruction for young children provides many benefits and long-term gains in achievement. For children ages 3-5 in classroom settings, instruction may be divided into the two languages, (i.e., Spanish/English) by time, subject or teacher. Curriculum, instruction, strategies and assessment should be thoughtfully planned and should include family partnerships and resources that incorporate literacy and cultural activities.



Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 08:15AM

### **[Workshop - Second Language Analysis Tool in Support of SLL in the Classroom - Shepherdsville, KY](#)**

With the increasing representation of culturally linguistically diverse (CLD) children in the schools, it becomes important to understand how to effectively support their educational needs. These workshops are intended to provide the tools for those working with CLD children to have a clear idea of appropriate assessment techniques and sociocultural influences that must be taken into account when dealing with the CLD population. Workshops will also cover information professionals need to know including guidelines for referral to special education and best practices for literacy development in the young English language learners.



Friday, May 20, 2011 at 08:15AM

### **[Workshop - Conducting Bilingual Speech Language - Educational Evaluations - Shepherdsville, KY](#)**

With the increasing representation of culturally linguistically diverse (CLD) children in the schools, it becomes important to understand how to effectively support their educational needs. These workshops are intended to provide the tools for those working with CLD children to have a clear idea of appropriate assessment techniques and sociocultural influences that must be taken into account when dealing with the CLD population. Workshops will also cover information professionals need to know including guidelines for referral to special education and best practices for literacy development in the young English language learners.



Monday, May 23, 2011 at 08:15AM

### **[Workshop - Second Language Analysis Tool in Support of SLL in the Classroom - Madison, WI](#)**

With the increasing representation of culturally linguistically diverse (CLD) children in the schools, it becomes important to understand how to effectively support their educational needs. These workshops are intended to provide the tools for those working with CLD children to have a clear idea of appropriate assessment techniques and sociocultural influences that must be taken into account when dealing with the CLD population. Workshops will also cover information professionals need to know including guidelines for referral to special education and best practices for literacy development in the young English language learners.



Monday, May 23, 2011 at 08:00PM

### **[Webinar - Differential Diagnosis: Language Difference vs. Disorder?](#)**

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Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 08:15AM

### **[Workshop - Conducting Bilingual Speech Language - Educational Evaluations - Madison, WI](#)**

With the increasing representation of culturally linguistically diverse (CLD) children in the schools, it becomes important to understand how to



effectively support their educational needs. These workshops are intended to provide the tools for those working with CLD children to have a clear idea of appropriate assessment techniques and sociocultural influences that must be taken into account when dealing with the CLD population. Workshops will also cover information professionals need to know including guidelines for referral to special education and best practices for literacy development in the young English language learners.

Wednesday, June 01, 2011 at 12:00PM



### **Webinar - Differential Diagnosis: Language Difference vs. Disorder?**

The objective of this webinar is to equip the audience with an understanding of how the differential diagnosis process works. And to further define non biased methods of assessment so important to be used in this arsenal.



Wednesday, June 08, 2011 at 12:00PM



### **Webinar - Differential Diagnosis: Language Difference vs. Disorder?**

The objective of this webinar is to equip the audience with an understanding of how the differential diagnosis process works. And to further define non biased methods of assessment so important to be used in this arsenal.

**PHONE/FAX:**  
Interested in volunteering?

**(609) 737-7225**

Deb also has a non-profit  
Multi-Language Kids She  
is looking for new board  
members and other  
expertise. Contact her at

**E-MAIL:**

<http://multilangkids.org/>

[founder@multilangkids.org](mailto:founder@multilangkids.org)

[djcslp@sllc.org](mailto:djcslp@sllc.org)

### **Pre-Referral package**

Receive 10 % off for joining our “members only” at any level of their choosing. 20% bulk discount offered for School District on all our Books, E-Book and Self Study Courses

### **Young ELL package**

This package will focus upon helping professionals understand and respond to the needs of young ELLS. 15% discount offered to attendees on our E-book; Language Features Analysis and our Second Language Analysis Tool, designed to increase educator and clinical discretion and understanding of this population.

Receive 10 % off for joining our “members only” at any level of their choosing. 20% bulk discount offered for Schools on all our Books, E-Book and Self Study Courses.

### **About Our Organization...**

Deborah Jill Chitester,  
M.S.,CCC/SLP, Founder of  
SLLLC: received her  
Master of Science in  
Speech-Language  
Pathology from Adelphi  
University in New York and  
was granted her Certificate  
of Clinical Competence  
(C.C.C) by the American  
Speech and Hearing  
Association (ASHA). She  
has 15+ years experience

working with all age  
levels and with diverse  
populations, having  
received special  
certification by the State  
of New York as a  
Bilingual (English/  
Spanish) Speech-  
Language Pathologist.  
Deborah has worked with  
all age levels and all  
disabilities. Deborah is  
an advocate of “highest

quality service provider”  
having given many  
speaking engagements  
at parent/special interest  
support, and educational  
association groups to  
educate parents and  
professionals regarding  
appropriate educational  
practices for second  
language learners.

## Members Only Benefits and Rates

### SILVER:

Individual Membership: Monthly Subscription - \$40.00 includes One (1) 30 min call with Moderator

### BRONZE:

Individual Membership: 6 Month Subscription - \$150.00 Includes Two (2) 30 min calls with Moderator per membership term

### BRONZE - GROUP:

Members: 6 Month Subscription - \$200.00 Includes One (1) 30 min calls with Moderator per member per membership term

### GOLD:

Individual Membership: 12 Month Subscription - \$250.00 .Includes Seven (7) 30 min calls, One per Month Limit, with Moderator per membership term.

### GOLD - GROUP:

3-5 Members: 12 Month Subscription - \$350.00 Includes Five (5) 30 min calls, One per Month Limit, with Moderator per member per membership term

**Monthly Topic of Interest Article Members- only monthly database of case studies, articles and research. Ask the Expert Q & A. Have a particular question about ELL's, review past Q & A or ask your own question..Professional Development preferred pricing for SLLC members on our workshops, webinars, self-study courses and books.**

Choose One of these offers.

