

Finding and Using Authentic Spanish Resources

*Katie Vazquez
kvazquez@wcusd200.org
Woodstock CUSD 200
Bilingual Instructional Facilitator
Dual Language Program*

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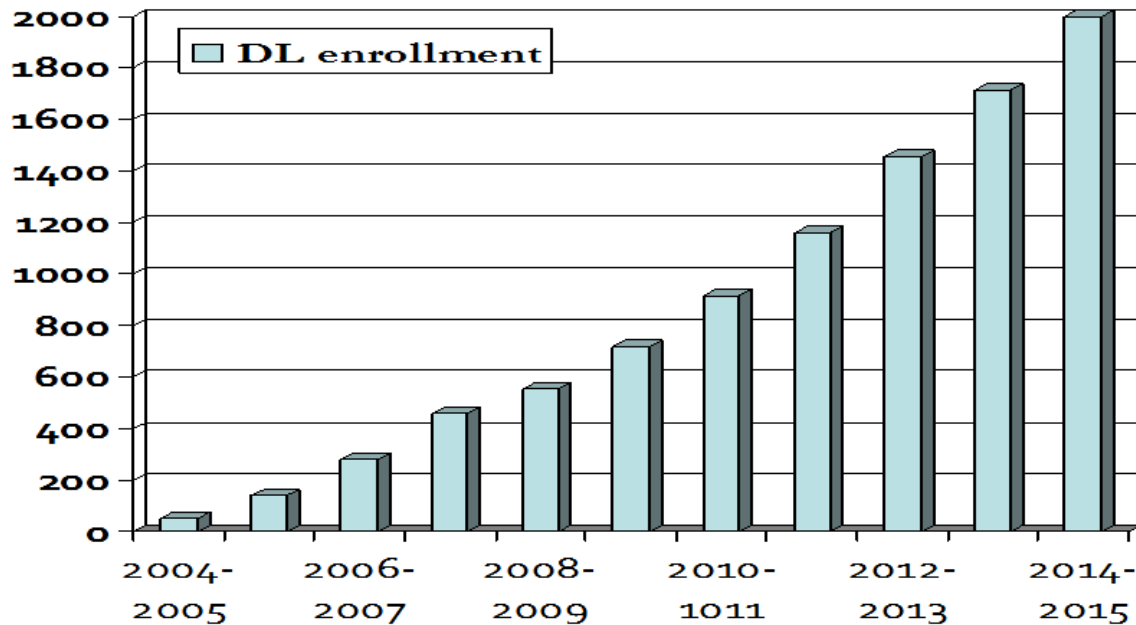
- Located 55 miles northwest of Chicago
- Student population of about 6600 students Pre-K to 12
- 36% Hispanic and 50% low income
- 110 square miles
- Twelve schools
 - One early childhood center (PreK-K) (DL Pre-K & K)
 - Six elementary (Gr. 1-5) (5 DL schools)
 - Two middle (Gr. 6-8) (2 DL schools)
 - Two high schools (Gr. 9-12) (2 DL schools)
 - One therapeutic day school (Gr. Pre-K-12)

D200's English Learners

- Approximately 950 EL students or 14% of the district's student population
- 800 ELs in DL program; 110 in Sheltered English classes (grades 6-12)
- 10 languages other than Spanish with only 40 students speaking these languages (ESL teacher services these students or opt for DL)

Dual Language Program

- Approximately 31% of D200's student population is enrolled in DL.
- 2 models: 8 strands of 50/50 and 1 strand of 90/10



First class will graduate HS this coming school year!

Literacy Program Decision

- 2014-2015 school year D200 began the process to adopt a new literacy program.
 - We looked at two programs because they offered programs in Spanish:
 - Pearson: Reading Street/Calle de Lectura
 - McGraw Hill: Wonders/Maravillas
- We ended up going with...neither program!

Why Ready GEN?

- built on Common Core (depth and complexity)
- not a basal
- authentic English texts
- integrated reading and writing
- performance based assessments

However, the program only comes in English!

Our **Golden** Opportunity

- We decided to take on the opportunity to write our own dual language curriculum!
- We are customizing the curriculum by:
 - hand-selecting authentic Spanish texts
 - integrating our science & social studies content with literacy
 - including authentic Spanish instructional practices
 - planning for the facilitation of language acquisition

Planning for Biliteracy

From ReadyGEN:

- Coverage of standards
- Lesson structures
- Text authenticity
- Text complexity
- Content integration
- Performance based assessment
- Thematic unit structure
- Unit/Module structure

Dual Language Best Practices:

- Language acquisition focus
- Content Integration
- Build Background--content and language knowledge
- Build oracy before literacy
- Differentiation, scaffolding
- Metalinguistic awareness through the Bridge
- Avoid reteaching in other language

Unit Writing Process

- With teacher representatives from each grade:
 - Decide which modules to teach in English and which to teach in Spanish
 - Dissect modules:
 - to make sure we cover each standard
 - to make sure English-specific language lessons remain in English and we account for Spanish-specific language features.
 - Select texts that fit standards
 - Plan performance-based assessments
 - Plan daily lessons
 - Create supplemental resources

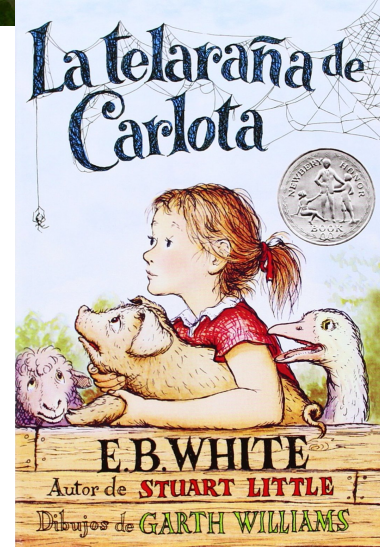
The Need for Authentic Spanish Materials

- authentic Spanish discourse
- figurative language (similes, metaphors, idioms)
- cultural perspective
- rich vocabulary
- new authors, illustrators, characters, experiences...



Why do we avoid translations?

- translations can have errors
- translations often don't convey the same message
- translations can drastically change the reading level (especially in primary grades)
- translations might be familiar to students, so they don't have the opportunity to experience a *new book*
- However, *sometimes* translations are fine!



Finding Authentic Spanish Materials

La Feria Internacional del Libro (FIL) www.fil.com.mx/

- Guadalajara, Mexico
- November-December
- ALA Free Pass Program-apply now!
- HUGE! vendors and many publishers

LéaLA www.lea-la.com/

- Los Angeles, California
- May
- Professionals program
- small--a few vendors, fewer publishers



LA librería <http://www.la-libreria.net/>

- “books for kids in español”
- Chiara & Celene, the founders, are extremely knowledgeable, helpful, and friendly...and true book-lovers
- relationship with numerous publishers
- fair pricing



Small storefront in LA



LA librería contact information

Chiara Arroyo y Celene Navarrete

4732 1/2 Washington Blvd.
Los Ángeles, CA 90016

Cell. 310-866-7630

Email/ chiara@la-libreria.net

www.la-libreria.net

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Tramuntana



Cautions

- notions of modesty
- nudity
- cursive
- political correctness
- point of view
- treatment of touchy subjects



Using Authentic Spanish Materials in the US

- It is important to consider the sociocultural context.
- Texts with unfamiliar contexts will require more background building.
- We cannot assume that our students of hispanic heritage will relate to hispanic characters or a book set in their heritage country.

Questions?