

Crosswalks Care Package

August 2007

News and Updates

Oct. 29-30 2007 English Language Learners with Language Disorders: Assessment and Intervention

Presenter: **Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin, PhD, CCC-SLP**

The workshop is designed workshop is designed to help practitioners assess the language skills of children from any language background and increase the overall language skills of English Language Learners with language learning disabilities. The two-day workshop will be held at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. There are a limited number of spaces available. Registration information and additional details are available at <http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/sphs/clinicaledu.htm>

Oct. 31- Nov. 4 2007 17th Annual International National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) Conference

Theme: Charting the Course to Academic Excellence and Equity through Multicultural Education

This multi-faceted learning opportunity will feature presentations by dynamic speakers like Beth Harry and Sonia Nieto, along with multiple opportunities to discover methods, models and materials for addressing and incorporating diversity in its many forms. Join Crosswalks presenters and investigators in Baltimore for this mind-opening conference. Go to <http://www.nameorg.org/conferences/2007/Baltimore2007brochure.pdf> for additional information.

Content Resources

Islam in America

A set of materials assembled by Newsweek offers current insights into the lives of Muslims in America. In addition to a special report on Islam in America, the series offers interviews, surveys, a brief video (*The American Muslim*), and other resources that could support exploration and consideration of this aspect of culture. Access the materials at <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19876834/site/newsweek/from/ET/>.

Is there a Culture of Poverty?

For too long, educators' approach to understanding the relationships between poverty, class and education has been framed by studying the behaviors and cultures of poor students and their families. So says Paul Gorski in "The Question of Class," a provocative article published in *Teaching Tolerance*. This article raises issues for consideration, exploration and/or debate when used thoughtfully as an instructional resource. <http://www.tolerance.org/teach/magazine/features.jsp?p=0&is=40&ar=777>.

Provocative Video Highlights Lack of Progress

In 1950, Dr. Kenneth B. Clark published the results of a study in which young black children were shown two dolls, one black and one white, and asked to select the doll that was the nicest/prettiest/smarest/best to play with. Consistently, the children selected the white doll. Recently, a young black woman named Kiri Davis, reconducted Dr. Clark's study, and obtained very similar findings. Ms. Davis' study is highlighted in her seven-minute video, *A Girl Like Me*, which is available to watch or download at <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=1091431409617440489>. The film places the struggle of young women of color to define themselves against a solid backdrop of preconceived notions and stacked decks. While the video is very troubling, it is also a very compelling resource for professional development, highlighting why we must prepare future personnel differently.

Resources to Support Preschool English Learners

This website (<http://www.sonoma.edu/cihs/cpin/p/pel/overview.htm>) provides a concise and multifaceted source of information related to values, skills and strategies for preserving home language and supporting the capability of young children with and without disabilities. For example, the Core Values document offers beliefs that stem from research and reflect an understanding of the challenges, complexities, and strengths that exists in the development, everyday experiences, and education of preschool English Learners. The Core Values document could be used to promote exploration of relevant research, examine current practices, and/or support self-assessment.

Instructional Resources

Handouts from the Crosswalks National Institute Available Online

Whether you were able to join us last month in Asheville or not, please consider accessing the handouts from institute sessions online. Many are already available to download at http://www.fpg.unc.edu/news/present_detail.cfm?eventID=137. Among the topics covered at the four day meeting were how to prepare your students to support young English language learners; how to collaborate with culturally and linguistically diverse family and community partners as part of coursework and practica; how to use instructional dilemmas to explore issues of culture; approaches for using state and national standards as a framework for increasing the emphasis on diversity; and resources for use in professional development.

We're working on creating a section of the Crosswalks website where you'll be able to access all handouts, including the PowerPoint presentations used by the presenters. We'll let you know as soon as those resources are available. In the meantime, access the Crosswalks toolbox at <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~scpp/crosswalks/toolbox/index.cfm>, and past Care Packages at <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~scpp/crosswalks/pages/carepackages.cfm>.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact Camille Catlett at (919) 966-6635 or catlett@mail.fpg.unc.edu