



English Language Learner Resource Collection

(updated as of 4/29/2020)

In response to New York State school closings due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) at the New York State Education Department (NYSED) has collected resources for educators to provide continuity of instruction for English Language Learners (ELLs) and World Language students. We are also providing educational resources for students and parents to continue moving ELLs toward English proficiency in the absence of face-to-face classroom instruction, and to support their remote learning of core content areas.

A guiding principle of [The Blueprint for English Language Learner Success](#) is that “ALL teachers are teachers of ELLs.” Given instructional interruptions due to the COVID-19 emergency, providing appropriate supports and scaffolds to ELLs is more crucial than ever. Utilizing resources such as those below with fidelity will allow our ELLs to not only move forward in obtaining English proficiency but also in mastering content area knowledge.

The following resources will enable teachers to adapt and develop lessons and units of study to meet the needs of ELLs at all levels of proficiency and develop appropriate scaffolds for use in the virtual classroom. However, please keep in mind that this list of resources is not intended to be exhaustive, and the inclusion of a resource does not denote endorsement by, nor an affiliation with, the New York State Education Department.

We urge teachers and districts to also reach out to their [Regional Bilingual Educational Resource Network \(RBERN\)](#) for further guidance regarding instruction for ELLs and World Languages students, in order that they can be supported to the greatest extent possible during this unprecedented challenge.

The resources listed are provided as options and examples only, in an attempt to provide helpful information. NYSED does not require, recommend, endorse, or advise on any specific program or product. All instructional decisions are made at the local level.

*Entries marked with an asterisk are resources created for the general education classroom. They have been included here as they are also appropriate for supporting ELLs, educators and families.



General Instructional Resources for ELLs

Name/Link	Description
PBS Resources for Emergency School Closings*	Resources organized by grade and subject area including videos, lesson plans, and activities that support learning at home.
Newsela*	Classroom materials with authentic content.
Starfall*	Educational games, movies, books and songs for children in Kindergarten through 3 rd grade in reading, phonics, and math.
Merlot	Humanities, World Languages, and English as a New Language teacher resources including lesson plans.
NYSED - Glossaries for ELLs	Glossaries are a test accommodation for ELLs in New York State and provide classroom support in content areas. Translated into the top 10 languages of NY State.
Literacy Center*	Pre-reading materials focusing on letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. Available in Spanish, French, German, and English.
The City College of NY	Lesson plans and resources for bilingual, English as New Language, and World Language teachers.
New York Times*	Newspaper articles written in simplified English.
COMMONLIT*	Reading program for students in grades 3 through 12 with high-interest informational and literary texts.
Oswego City School District - My ENL Page	Resources for English Language Learners, including SIFE.
The Teaching Channel Visual Scaffolding tips for ELLs	Tips for scaffolding language for ELLs in order to meet content objectives.
The EFL Playhouse	Resources for teachers of young ELLs including educational games, songs, fingerplays, action rhymes, craft ideas, printable materials, and tongue twisters.



Name/Link	Description
BBC Learning in English	Multimedia teaching materials for ELLs that can be used as full-length units or standalone lessons.
Hudson Valley RBERN Distance Learning for ELL Resources	Spreadsheet geared toward helping teachers of ELLs help their students in a home learning environment and is being updated regularly.
Colorín Colorado Reading Tip Sheets for Educators	Tip sheets for reading instruction in grades 4 through 12 including information on what to do first, vocabulary, and age-appropriate reading strategies. Available in English and Spanish.
NYSED - ELL Scaffolds for ELA & Math	Guides for ELA and Mathematics instructors on scaffolding the Engage NY curriculum for ELLs of differing proficiency levels including examples of how to apply the New Language Arts Progressions.
Listenwise*	Podcast non-fiction lessons and a library of listening comprehension quizzes for the classroom.
NYSED Targets of Measure for ELLs	Documents that describe what students should be able to do in each grade band to ensure instruction and assessment are aligned with these targets. Files are provided by each modality.
Readworks*	Content, curriculum, and tools for teaching and learning from Kindergarten to 12th Grade
Brainpop ELL	Interactive animated video lessons on grammar and vocabulary in all four modalities including a placement assessment and quizzes.
Unite for Literacy*	Non-fiction picture books with audio narration in English and many other languages.
NYSED - Bilingual Progressions	The New Language Arts Progressions and Home Language Arts Progressions provide a framework for teachers to ensure that students in English as a New Language and Bilingual Education programs are meeting the standards.



Virtual Learning Resources for ELLs

Name/Link	Description
Colorin Colorado Distance Learning for ELLs	This resource section includes numerous articles, blog posts, and links to online networks with tips for planning distance learning for English language learners (ELLs). New resources will be added as they become available.
SEAL - 6 Considerations for Supporting ELLs with Distance Learning	Guidance on key factors for teaching ELLs in a virtual environment.
TNTP Supporting ELLs during the COVID-19 Shutdown	Extensive guidance on providing distance learning for ELLs during COVID-19 shutdowns.
AFT Supporting English Learners During the COVID-19 Pandemic	A collection of resources including social emotional considerations, lesson sharing and supporting ELLs with disabilities.
Immigrant Connection ELL Family Engagement During Coronavirus	A resource collection focused on family support and engagement during COVID-19 crisis.
Talking Points	Free translation software platform to support schools in communicating with families in various languages.
TESOL Coronavirus Resources	A variety of resources for educators and students focused on distance learning.
Project Zero	Activities for use in virtual classrooms and for home learning at all grade levels.



Math Resources for ELLs

Name/Link	Description
NYSED - Translated Modules for Math Curriculum	NYSED mathematics curriculum modules translated into the top languages spoken in New York State, including Spanish, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Arabic, Bengali, and Haitian Creole.
Hudson Valley RBERN Math ELL Support	Strategies for ELLs in the math classroom.
Mid-West RBERN ELLs and Mathematics	Best practices for the content areas, including and strategies for teaching math to ELLs.
Mathematical Thinking Mathematical Supports for ELLs	Supports designed for math educators of ELLs in the middle grades including 14 mathematics tasks from and support tools for each task.
AAAKnow.com*	Interactive arithmetic lessons in over 100 languages.
Illustrative Mathematics Resources for Mathematics Educators*	Self-guided resources for mathematics educators to supplement professional learning.

ELA Resources for ELLs

Name/Link	Description
Empowering ELLs Language Scaffolds- Lowering the Barriers to Comprehension	Examples of implementing sensory, interactive graphics, language, and emotional scaffolding.
Edutopia - 6 Scaffolding Strategies to Use with Your Students*	Information on supporting students by putting information into chunks and providing a structure for each.
NYSED Guide for Aligning local Curricula to the Next Gen ELA Standards	This guide is designed to support school districts and educators as they implement the Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards.



Social Studies Resources for ELLs

Name/Link	Description
TESOL Intl Challenges for ELLs in the Social Studies Classroom	Overview of understanding the challenges for ELLs in a social studies classroom. Provides scaffolds and strategies for student success and understanding.
NYU Steinhardt ELLs and Social Studies	Discusses effective strategies for teaching content and language in social studies including using students' culture and prior knowledge.
Colorin Colorado Preparing Engaging Social Studies Lessons for ELLs	Describes strategies for planning social studies lessons with ELLs in mind, with an emphasis on building background knowledge.

Science Resources for ELLs

Name/Link	Description
Community Resources for Science *	Resources for science learning experiences. Includes distance learning information.
Because Science *	Real-world science concepts to help solve, measure, and make sense of pop culture questions using comics, video games, movies, and TV.
Mid-West RBERN ELLs and Science	Overview of ELL strategies for science including vocabulary learning and mini lesson planning.
University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Scaffolding Science Inquiry Instruction	Scaffolding instruction for science based on Vygotsky's theory on the zone of proximal development (ZPD).
NYU Steinhardt ELLs and Science	Effective strategies for teaching content and language in science using students' prior knowledge and culture.
Colorin Colorado Science Instruction for ELLs	Articles and resources regarding Science instruction for ELLs including, Using Science to Develop ELL Language Skills and Communication/Language Strategies for the Science Inquiry Classroom.



Resources for Parents of ELLs

Name/Link	Description
Reading Rockets Reading Tips for Parents*	Tips for parents to help students become successful readers in multiple Languages. Tips are divided by age but can be used based on student’s abilities.
NYSED - Parents’ Bill of Rights and ELL Parent Hotline	Summarizes rights concerning educational access and programming for ELLs. Translated into 27 languages. Hotline for parents of ELLs to learn about their rights and the delivery of services for their children based on state regulations. It also provides a mechanism for parents to receive responses to specific inquiries about the delivery of these services. Parent Hotline provides services in the ten languages: Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Bengali, Russian, Haitian Creole, Urdu, French, Karen, and Nepali.
NYSED - A Guide for Parents of English Language Learners in New York State	Guide includes Bilingual Education and English as a New Language program descriptions, Frequently Asked Questions , links to ELL parent resources, and tips on “Participating in Your Child’s Education.” Translated into 26 Languages.
NYSED - A Guide to Community-Based Organizations for Immigrants	Guide to organizations by region throughout New York State. Services include, advocacy/community engagement, health care/insurance, housing, employment, legal services, public assistance, and safety. Guides are translated into ten languages.
NYSED - Participating in Your Child's Education	Information for parents of ELLs on how they can help their child succeed in school.
NYSED - Roadmap to College for English Language Learners	An interactive College Access Guide for English Language Learners in New York State. Roadmap is available in nine languages.
NYSED - Exemplars for ELLs K-2	Exemplars focusing on skills and I routines introduced in kindergarten, first and second grade.
NYSED - Links for ELLs, Parents, and Families	Resource links and information for ELL families.



Resources for ELLs (Students)

Name/Link	Description
ESL Lounge Student	Grammar, reading, listening, and vocabulary exercises for students at different English levels.
ESL Kids World	Printable worksheets, Flashcards, Songs, Phonics, Games, and PowerPoints and for English as a New Language and World Languages lesson planning.
English Club	Test your English with quizzes on grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Go online or use a phone, tablet or desktop. Quizzes can be printed and completed offline too.
National Geographic Kids*	Magazines, books and videos offering stories available in 41 languages that enable students to better understand the world.
The Fable Cottage*	Stories told in English. Most stories are also available in Spanish, French, Italian, and German.



<i>SIFE Resources</i>	
Name/Link	Description
Colorin Colorado	External resources supporting ELLs that are SIFE.
Mutually Adaptive Learning Paradigm (MALP)	Prior education assessment questionnaires in multiple languages.
NYSED - SIFE Resources	NYSED resources available for Students with Interrupted/Inconsistent Formal Education (SIFE).
Learning Chocolate*	Web site featuring exercises to practice vocabulary and listening skills.
Mid-State RBERN SIFE Resources	Multiple resources for different ELL subpopulations.
NYSED/CUNY Graduate Center - Bridges SIFE Curriculum	Includes resources designed for current Bridges teachers and administrators using the sheltered ENL/ELA curriculum.
NYSED/CUNY Graduate Center - Bridges SIFE Virtual Resources	Resources to aid teachers in virtual instruction including web-based texts, audio guides, and vocabulary cards.
NYSED/CUNY Graduate Center - Bridges SIFE Manual	Guides for the identification and differentiation of ELLs/SIFE, assessment, programming, and instructional methods.
NYSED/CUNY Graduate Center - Bridges SIFE Instructional Videos	Video topics include: "Read, Retell, Respond with Multilingual Students," "Teaching English Syntax to SIFE with Developing Literacy," and Literacy Centers for Multilingual Students