

INVENTORY OF BILITERACY DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH STUDIES

UC LMRI Biliteracy Development Research Forum

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Principal investigator(s)	Marjorie Faulstich Orellana
Title	Latino Children as Family Translators: Links to Literacy
Funding agency	NICHHD
Funding period	September 2000 – January 2003 (continuing write-up of results)
Research questions	<p>The aim of the project is to explore how the language competencies that Latino bilingual children display when they translate between English and Spanish, in their lives outside of school, relate to the kinds of competencies required for reading and writing in English in school. As a pilot study asks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What kinds of language strategies that children use when they broker between English and Spanish in a range of daily-life situations? 2. How do these strategies with the kinds of strategies that the same children use when they read and write in school and on school-related tasks? 3. How do these strategies compare with strategies that “non-brokers” use when they read and write in school and on school-related tasks? 4. How can the brokering skills that bilingual children use, mostly in settings outside of school, be leveraged for the development of English literacy in school?
Sample description	5 th and 6 th grade students in a Chicago public school
Sample size	Survey of 280 students in 1 school and sub-samples, including 18 qualitative case study cases (“brokers” + “nonbrokers”)
Data collection dates (grades)	Survey – Winter 2001 Observations – Spring 2001-Fall 2002 (grades 5, 6, 7)
Source of data (primary, secondary, both)	Both (secondary data for early test scores)
Data instruments	Survey Process-focused reading assessment + interview
Dependent measures	5 th and 6 th grade reading and math (Iowa Test of Basic Skills)
Independent measures	Translating/Brokering experiences
Methods of analysis	<p>Quantitative: Longitudinal regression models</p> <p>Qualitative: Domain analyses (of translation experiences) Activity setting analyses (of audiotaped translation situations) Analytical induction Discourse analytic methods</p>
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