

INVENTORY OF BILITERACY DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH STUDIES

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Principal investigator(s)	Mark S. Innocenti
Title	The Bilingual Early Language and Literacy Support Project (BELLS)
Funding agency	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Institute for Education Science
Funding period	July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2005
Research questions	<p>The research objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does a program focused on early language with programmed English experiences for infants from Spanish-speaking families, beginning at ages 1, 2, or 3, facilitate English language and emergent literacy skills by ages 4 and 5? 2. Does an enriched home language & literacy environment, whether in English or Spanish, facilitate language and emergent literacy skills in relation to early English immersion? 3. Do specific intervention strategies, focused on language and emergent literacy, that are individualized and developmentally appropriate in naturalistic contexts improve the acquisition of language and emergent literacy in both English and the home language? 4. Are these relations moderated by other factors such as: child factors (age, developmental level, gender), parent factors (language, literacy, educational values, responsiveness), family factors (socioeconomic status, family size), and social factors (cultural and ethnic identity, immigrant and generational status).
Sample description	Low-income Spanish-speaking children primarily of Mexican origin in Salt Lake City, Utah. Beginning at ages 18, 24, or 36 months of age.
Sample size	192
Data collection dates (grades)	Ages 18, 24, 36, and 48 months. Pre-Kindergarten Kindergarten First grade.
Source of data (primary, secondary, both)	Primary – direct child and family assessment.
Data instruments	Variety of measures: Child assessment. Parent interview. Mother-child direct observations with transcripts. Classroom observations. (see tables for more specific info)
Dependent measures	Language skills in both Spanish and English . Pre-literacy skills.
Independent measures	Participation in a program that provides services from birth through third grade compared with a group not participating.
Methods of analysis	Hierarchical linear models Other analyses as appropriate.
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