**Teaching to English Language Learners – a few tips and resources**

**Tips**

* Realize that there are many different “types” of ELL students – each with strengths, weaknesses and particular needs.
* Use the “funds of knowledge” of the EL learners to engage (e.g. knowledge of other places, vocabulary roots, geologic hazards, etc.)
* Consider assessment techniques that take into account linguistic and cultural influences and/or are less prone to “misunderstandings” by ELL

Activate their background knowledge by:

* Brainstorming
* Semantic mapping
* Vocabulary preview
* Utilizing photos & illustrations
* Lesson overviews

Provide additional support

* Pointing out contextual clues to difficult semantics
* Developing metacognition
* Modeling of behavior (such as response to prompts)
* Incorporate literacy instruction (including reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and representing) as possible

**Resources**

Jarrett, D., The Inclusive Classroom: Teaching Mathematics and Science to English Language Learners, Mathematics and Science Education Center,

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, Nov. 1999

Nutta, J., Bautista, N. and M. Butler Teaching Science to English Language Learners, Routledge Press, 2011

Herr, N., (2007) Strategies for Teaching Science to English Language Learners. <http://www.csun.edu/science/ref/language/teaching-ell.html>