

ICMEE eWorkshop

Home Languages in the Classroom (Grades 2-8)

Essential Question: How can I set up routines and learning activities that promote the use of home languages in my classroom?

Guiding Questions:

- **Unit 1:** What are some warm-up activities to bring home languages into my classroom?
- **Unit 2:** How can I leverage the use of home languages when studying vocabulary?
- **Unit 3:** How can I structure learning activities that require two or more languages, even if I am not in a bilingual school?
- **Unit 4:** How can I help learners reflect upon their own bilingualism?
- **Unit 5:** How can I encourage conversations about the language use of our students, families and communities?
- **Unit 6:** Answer the Essential Question.

What is an eWorkshop?

Our eWorkshops are innovative online multi-media resources available free of cost to professional learning communities of educators who wish to collaboratively inquire into and improve their practice with bi/multilingual learners.

eWorkshops are inquiry oriented and are guided by an essential question and a guiding question for each of the six units in an eWorkshop. Each unit follows the same three-part learning cycle that we call *Explore*, *Make-It-Work*, and *Share*. In *Explore* participants spend 30-60 minutes exploring new ideas, content, concepts or perspectives. In *Make-It-Work*, participants are offered a minimum of two designed and completely supported options of how to make the new learning from *Explore* work in an actual classroom context. *Make-It-Work* takes around one hour of a participant’s time and always has a “You Make-It-Work” option, which gives participants the flexibility to design their own approach or tweak one of the options we offered. Finally, participants *Share* their learning either in our online space (a threaded discussion) or Face-toFace. Share usually takes 30-60 minutes of a participant’s time meaning that completing the three-part learning cycle of each unit takes about three hours. eWorkshop participants who complete all six units can receive a certificate of completion as well as use their work towards a course that will earn them one graduate level credit at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. To learn more about our eWorkshops, please visit: <https://cehs.unl.edu/icmee/>