

ICMEE eWorkshop:

Science Inquiry: Engaging Bilinguals in Scientific Questioning (Grades 4-8)

Essential Question: Why does inquiry science especially benefit bilingual learners?

Guiding Questions:

- **Unit 1:** How can open-ended pre-assessments inform me of my learners' assets in language and science?
- **Unit 2:** How can we use student observations to launch the inquiry cycle?
- **Unit 3:** How can teachers help bilingual students generate testable questions?
- **Unit 4:** How can we support bilingual learners as they make plans to test a scientific hypothesis?
- **Unit 5:** What strategies facilitate great discourse?
- **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/>