

Dual Language Weekly Focus

Word Walls

Word Walls are an instructional tool that students use in their reading and writing. There are several different types of word walls:

- High Frequency Word Walls
- Content Area Word Walls
- Functional Print Word
- Thematic Unit Word Walls
- Interactive Word Walls

Since Word Walls are a reference tool for student usage, there are no restrictions placed on the types of word walls that teachers implement in the Dual Language Classroom. The environment is hugely critical in supporting dual language instruction and equal representation of English and Spanish is necessary. Separate word walls should exist for English and Spanish.

Guidelines for Word Walls in the Dual Language Classroom:

- ★ Maintain the use of color to delineate between the languages: Red for Spanish and Blue for English.
- ★ The separate English and Spanish Word Walls should have equal prominence in the classroom.
- ★ Word Walls are not simply decoration, teachers model and encourage the usage of the words on the word wall and hold students responsible for knowing those words.
- ★ Teachers review vocabulary on Word Walls with students in the Language of the Day.