Biliteracy Snapshot

Purpose: This document provides a quick-reference snapshot of a Spanish instructional program. The Biliteracy Snapshot can be used along with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Instructional Program Review Tool to identify programs that are inclusive of culturally and linguistically diverse student groups.

This document is divided into two sections. Pages 1–2 provide a snapshot with abridged responses highlighting key points from vendor responses, while the unabridged original vendor responses begin on page 3. The information included in the snapshot was provided by the vendor; it is intended to support districts in reviewing and selecting Spanish instructional programs that promote bilingualism and biliteracy development for various program models. This document is informational only and does not constitute an endorsement by the CDE of any specific product, practice, service, publisher, or viewpoint.

Name of Program: Imagine Español

Program focus: The program teaches students how to read **in Spanish** using an explicit and systematic lesson sequence aligned to the Spanish language. It **does not include** a scope and sequence and explicit and systematic instruction for teaching students to read in English.

Instructional program goal or goals:

- **Spanish Heritage Language Program:** The program builds on the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of heritage Spanish speakers to strengthen academic language and literacy in Spanish, while reinforcing connections to family, community, and cultural identity.
- **Other:** Spanish Language Acquisition Program: The program supports students acquiring Spanish as a second language by developing language and literacy in Spanish through instruction aligned to the Spanish language. The program incorporates language supports to strengthen vocabulary, oral language, reading, and comprehension, and promotes meaningful engagement with Spanish language and cultures.

Explain and provided evidence of how the instructional program supports each of the goals or the goal above: Imagine Español is a Spanish language arts and literacy program designed to help students develop strong literacy skills in Spanish while supporting transferable skills that contribute to bilingualism and biliteracy. It is commonly used in dual language, transitional bilingual, and world language programs to complement English literacy instruction and promote balanced growth across both languages. Designed to address the diverse instructional needs of native speakers, Imagine Español teaches foundational literacy skills in an engaging, game-like environment that celebrates the cultures of the Spanish speaking world. The program helps students develop critical literacy skills in Spanish, which can accelerate reading proficiency in both Spanish and English. Imagine Español is grounded in the 3 pillars of dual language education: bilingualism & biliteracy, high academic achievement, and sociocultural competence. Created to address the unique characteristics of the Spanish language, Imagine Español provides direct instruction and contextualized practice through a culturally relevant learning environment.

Alignment and Integration Across Bilingual Models:

- Imagine Español provides guidance and resources that are intentionally designed to be adaptable across a range of bilingual education models, including dual language (90/10 and 50/50), transitional bilingual, and heritage language programs.
- Imagine Español aligns instruction to the linguistic features of Spanish and addresses key literacy domains, including phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. **Additional Resources:** Implementation Models that Maximize Learning; Dual Language Instructional Models Brochure

Evidence-Based Biliteracy Trajectories:

- Access Imagine Español research studies by clicking on the Imagine Español button in the *Product* box to search through the program's impactful research studies.

Bilingual Language Development Support:

- Imagine Español supports biliteracy and bilingualism by delivering authentic Spanish literacy instruction, fostering cross-language transfer, honoring cultural and linguistic identity, and providing research-validated pathways to literacy growth in both Spanish and English. When paired with English literacy instruction, it helps students become confident, capable readers and writers in two languages.

Curriculum Mapping Across Languages:

- The **Colorado Reading, Writing, and Communicating (RWC) Standards Correlation for Imagine Español** serves as a curriculum map that explicitly links each Spanish lesson and unit to grade-level state standards. This document allows districts to see which standards are addressed in Spanish at each grade and supports intentional language allocation planning. Additional resources include: Common Core SLA Standards; WIDA Standards Alignment

Comprehensive Biliteracy Support:

- Imagine Espanol also provides instruction in all four language domains: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Additionally, it gives students direct, explicit, and systematic instruction and practice in all areas of language and literacy to improve academic outcomes. Please review page 3 of the overview brochure for more information about Imagine Español's commitment to biliteracy support.

Note: The unabridged original vendor responses are presented in full below.

1. Alignment and Integration Across Bilingual Models: Describe how the program provides guidance and resources adaptable to various bilingual education models (e.g., dual language, transitional bilingual, 90/10, 50/50, heritage language, etc.). Provide evidence (e.g., teacher guides, scope and sequence) demonstrating how Spanish and English program components are intentionally aligned to support integration and cross-language transfer.

Vendor Response: Imagine Español provides guidance and resources that are intentionally designed to be adaptable across a range of bilingual education models, including dual language (90/10 and 50/50), transitional bilingual, and heritage language programs. The program is model agnostic and focuses on delivering explicit, systematic Spanish literacy instruction that can be flexibly scheduled within different program structures.

Imagine Español aligns instruction to the linguistic features of Spanish and addresses key literacy domains, including phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Recommended usage models outline flexible time allocations, such as short, consistent instructional sessions, and support use in whole-group, small-group, or individualized settings. This flexibility allows districts to adjust instructional minutes and placement without altering the core instructional design.

Additional supporting documents include:
Implementation Models that Maximize Learning
Dual Language Instructional Models Brochure

2. Evidence-Based Biliteracy Trajectories: Explain how the instructional design aligns with research-based biliteracy trajectories. Cite research and provide examples from the program showing how literacy skills are developed and connected across both languages.

Vendor Response: Multiple quasi-experimental studies reviewed by Evidence for ESSA show that students using Imagine Español demonstrate significantly higher Spanish literacy outcomes. Additional findings indicate positive effects on English reading growth, underscoring the program's role in biliteracy development. Access Imagine Español research studies by clicking on the Imagine Español button in the *Product* box to search through the program's impactful research studies. This study from Arizona School District shows a positive impact on English reading performance after using Imagine Español: Imagine Learning conducts rigorous, ESSA-aligned research every year that shows the impact of its curriculum and programs on student achievement. Besides demonstrating evidence of effectiveness, these studies and research partnerships provide a wealth of information that is translated into product enhancements, added supports for educators, and research publications for the advancement of effective educational practices. Learn more about Imagine Learning's commitment to ESSA-aligned research via the following webpage: https://www.imaginelearning.com/essa-effectiveness/

3. Bilingual Language Development Support: Describe and provide evidence of how the program guides teachers in selecting and implementing language supports based on students' proficiency levels in Spanish, English or both languages. Include examples of differentiation for diverse learner profiles, such as dually identified students, newcomers, sequential bilinguals, and simultaneous bilinguals.

Vendor Response: Imagine Español supports biliteracy and bilingualism by delivering authentic Spanish literacy instruction, fostering cross-language transfer, honoring cultural and linguistic identity, and providing research-validated pathways to literacy growth in both Spanish and English. When paired with English literacy instruction, it helps students become confident, capable readers and writers in two languages.

Additionally, the program has the SmartSequencer tool to support personalized pathways that automatically delivers individualized content to each student. Please review page 4 of the Imagine Español brochure to learn more about Imagine Español's adaptive pathways. This flexibility allows districts to align the program to their specific biliteracy goals and instructional models.

4. Curriculum Mapping Across Languages: Provide evidence (e.g., pacing guides, language allocation plans, curriculum maps) showing how the instructional program intentionally designates which standards or units are taught in each language by grade level, and integrates thematic units to support simultaneous language and content development. Explain how cross-linguistic connections are intentionally built to support both content mastery and biliteracy development.

Vendor Response: The Imagine Español Scope and Sequence functions as a pacing guide, outlining grade-specific units and themes and clearly identifying which Spanish literacy skills and standards are taught in each unit by grade level. Units are organized around meaningful themes that provide context for vocabulary, reading, and comprehension, supporting content learning alongside language development.

In addition, the **Colorado Reading, Writing, and Communicating (RWC) Standards Correlation for Imagine Español** serves as a curriculum map that explicitly links each Spanish lesson and unit to grade-level state standards. This document allows districts to see which standards are addressed in Spanish at each grade and supports intentional language allocation planning.

Cross-linguistic connections are intentionally built through parallel instructional design across Spanish and English programs. Imagine Español use literacy domains, comparable instructional routines, and consistent skill progressions, enabling students to transfer strategies such as phonological awareness, decoding, vocabulary development, and comprehension across languages. This alignment supports content mastery while fostering biliteracy development across bilingual education models.

Additional resources include: Common Core SLA Standards; WIDA Standards Alignment

5. Comprehensive Biliteracy Support: Demonstrate how the program provides explicit, coherent instruction in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in both Spanish and English. Provide examples showing how literacy components are aligned and reinforced across both languages.

Vendor Response: Imagine Español supports biliteracy and bilingualism by delivering authentic Spanish literacy instruction, fostering cross-language transfer, honoring cultural and linguistic identity, and providing research-validated pathways to literacy growth in both Spanish and English. When paired with English literacy instruction, it helps students become confident, capable readers and writers in two languages. Imagine Espanol also provides instruction in all four language domains: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Additionally, it gives students direct, explicit, and systematic instruction and practice in all areas of language and literacy to improve academic outcomes. Please review page 3 of the overview brochure for more information about Imagine Español's commitment to biliteracy support.