



Building a Translanguaging Mindset: Every Educator Can Support Multilingual Learners

Translanguaging Toolkit for Every Educator

These resources can help you develop a translanguaging **stance**, intentionally **design** for multilingual learners, and make responsive **shifts** that increase access, participation, belonging, and learning.

I want to...	Resource	How It Can Help
Put a translanguaging stance into practice	CUNY-NYSIEB Translanguaging Guides	Free educator guides connecting translanguaging theory to classroom design and practice across grade levels, content areas, writing, and different program models.
See what this looks like when I don't speak my students' languages	Teaching Bilinguals (Even If You are Not One)	Short classroom videos show educators leveraging students' language practices even when they don't share those languages. Includes knowing your students, advocacy, classroom culture, and leveraging bilingualism.
See translanguaging in real classrooms	CUNY-NYSIEB Classroom Videos	Videos of educators putting translanguaging pedagogy into practice across different classrooms and grade levels.
Build a multilingual classroom ecology	CUNY-NYSIEB Nurturing a Multilingual Ecology	Resources for learning about students' languages and cultures and considering how their language practices can become part of the classroom and school environment.
Find multilingual texts and stories	StoryWeaver	A large collection of free children's stories across many languages. Useful for multilingual reading, background knowledge, home-language literacy, and finding texts when you don't speak the student's language.
Make text more linguistically AND disability accessible	Microsoft Immersive Reader	Provides read-aloud, decoding and comprehension supports, picture dictionary, and translation. Translation is available in 100+ languages, with read-aloud in 40+ translated languages; features vary by language and Microsoft product.
Reduce barriers to reading, writing, and responding	Microsoft Accessibility Tools and Learning	Includes Immersive Reader, Translator, dictation, accessibility supports, and other tools that can reduce barriers for multilingual learners with disabilities.
Learn about the languages my students use	Guide to Languages	Provides accessible background information about languages students may use, including linguistic features and considerations for educators.
Design for language AND disability	CAST UDL Guidelines	Helps educators anticipate barriers and provide multiple ways for learners to access information, participate, and demonstrate learning. Use alongside a translanguaging stance.

Technology Can Expand Access, People Make It Meaningful

Use translation, AI, text-to-speech, speech-to-text, and multilingual digital resources to expand students' access to information, processing, communication, and participation across languages.

Technology does not replace bilingual educators, interpreters, families, multilingual specialists, or professional judgment, particularly for IEPs, evaluations, eligibility decisions, family communication, or other high-stakes decisions. Verify translations and AI-generated materials before using them with students or families.

Always ask: *Does this resource increase access, participation, belonging, or learning?*

Keep This Lens With You

Assets before Deficits — What does this student already know and do?

Instruction before Identification — Have we provided equitable access to instruction before asking whether a disability exists?

Competence over English Proficiency — What evidence best reflects what this student knows and can do?

Every Educator Can Support Multilingual Learners — What can I do today to expand access for this learner?

Shared Responsibility — Who else needs to be part of this conversation or decision?

Translanguaging Is a Means, Not the Goal — Does this increase access, participation, belonging, or learning?

Across the series, ask: *What does this mean for instruction, for multilingual learners with disabilities, and for the decisions our team makes?*

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