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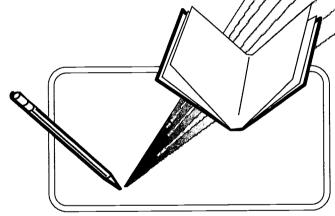
Literacy Learning

#### ABSTRACT

California Early Literacy Learning (CELL) and Extended Literacy Learning (ExLL) are professional development programs designed to help elementary teachers strengthen their teaching of reading and writing. Research-based teaching methodologies are organized into a framework for classroom instruction. CELL training (pre-K-Grade 3) emphasizes that the instructional focus in the primary grades is to teach reading and writing. ExLL (Grades 3-6) focuses on reading and writing in the content areas while recognizing that some children in the intermediate grades are still struggling readers. The frameworks have been designed to structure classrooms that use literacy activities throughout the day of every school day. This CELL and ExLL framework training booklet is divided into the following sections: Overview; CELL Framework; ExLL Framework; Major Components of CELL and ExLL; Training Model; Research; Implementation: Second Chance at Literacy Learning; CELL+Math; Collaborations and Partnerships; and Literacy Coordinators. Contains a 140-item bibliography and 10 tables of data. (NKA)



# **C**ALIFORNIA EARLY LITERA LEARNIE



# EXTENDED LITERACY LEARNING

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GOOD FIRST TEACHING FOR ALL CHILDREN

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# Professional development for teachers is the single most important decision we can make.





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## **OVERVIEW**

California Early Literacy Learning (CELL) and Extended Literacy Learning (ExLL) are professional development programs designed to help elementary teachers strengthen their teaching of reading and writing. Research-based teaching methodologies are organized into a framework for classroom instruction. CELL training (PreKindergarten-Grade 3) emphasizes that the instructional focus in the primary grades is to teach reading and writing. ExLL (Grades 3-6) focuses on reading and writing in the content areas while recognizing that some children in the intermediate grades are still struggling readers.

Both California Early Literacy Learning and Extended Literacy Learning are designed to help teachers meet the needs and strengths of each individual child. The model stresses and encourages active participation from each child regardless of his or her current level of literacy acquisition. High progress children are encouraged to continue their rapid growth while low progress children are guided through the process with continuous support and an opportunity to accelerate their learning. The opportunity to try new learning in a risk-free environment and practice new strategies throughout the day are encouraged.

Teachers are trained to use a gradual decline of teacher support and a gradual increase in student independence based on demonstrated student capability. This reduction of teacher support is based on observations of individual child growth in understanding the process of literacy. The child's use of a variety of problem-solving strategies is supported through good teacher decision-making about ways to assist each child toward the goal of independence. The elements of the CELL and ExLL instructional frameworks are designed to help each child and the whole class move together toward that goal. The frameworks have been designed to structure classrooms that use literacy activities throughout the day of every school day. Other curricular areas are delivered using literacy activities as the method of instruction. The CELL and ExLL frameworks include oral language, phonology, higher-order thinking skills, and reading and writing activities.

California Early Literacy Learning and Extended Literacy Learning have been developed with the strong belief that improved classroom instruction and increased student achievement are best achieved by providing more support and professional development for teachers. Helping teachers become more effective in their work is the primary goal of CELL and ExLL. The CELL and ExLL training programs are based on a high level of confidence in the ability of classroom teachers to become more powerful in their teaching, given appropriate training and long term support.

The programs are based on a high level of confidence in the ability of classroom teachers.





# CALIFORNIA EARLY LITERACY LEARNING (CELL)

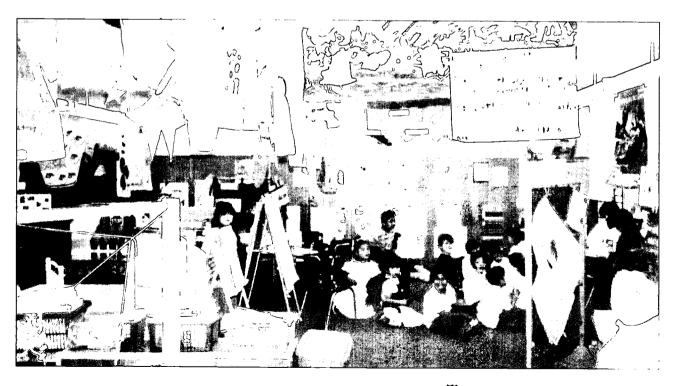
CELL (PreK-3) helps primary teachers learn how to use the framework effectively in their classrooms and how to integrate the individual elements into an overall system of classroom instruction. Oral language is the foundation for all of the elements of early literacy learning. The dialogue, discussion, verbal interaction, and active oral engagement of each child are stressed as each of the framework elements is used. Knowledge of the structure of language is known to increase with communication that occurs surrounding the literature that is read aloud

Emergent readers must have the opportunity to develop phonemic awareness and to practice phonological strategies and decoding skills. These skills are best acquired in the context of meaningful activities and should be given extensive practice by reading quality literature and engaging in authentic writing activities.

The elements of the CELL framework provided during the inservice training are reviewed and discussed by both experienced and new teachers from a participating elementary school. Schoolwide staff

The PreK-3 Framework is carefully designed to help the beginning reader develop the necessary skills to master alphabetic principle, phonemic awareness, and concepts about print in a literature-rich environment.

and the themes that are studied across the curriculum of the classroom. The practice of oral language and the development of new vocabulary through discussion and reading from a broad range of genre are reciprocal in nature. Skills development is also emphasized across each of the framework elements. development is provided by a specially trained Literacy Coordinator skilled in both the theory and practice of effective literacy learning. Literacy Coordinators also provide peer coaching to assist teachers in taking on the new learning and instructional methodologies of the CELL framework.





# **CELL FRAMEWORK FOR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION**

ORAL LANGUAGE Assists students in language acquisition Develops and increases vocabulary Promotes the use of accurate language structure	Bruner (1983); Cazden (1992); Chomsky (1972); Ferreiro & Teberosky (1982); Holdaway (1979); Wells (1986)	
PHONOLOGICAL SKILLS Uses oral language to access reading and writing Builds a foundation of phonemic awareness for explicit skills learning Teaches systematic phonics through writing, spelling, and reading Supports development of accurate spelling	Adams (1998); Bear, Invernizzi, Templeton, & Johnston (1996); Kirk, Kirk, & Minskoff (1985); Shook, Klein, & Swartz (1998)	
READING ALOUD Builds vocabulary Introduces good children's literature through a variety of genre Increases repertoire of language and its use	Adams (1990); Clark (1976); Cochran-Smith (1984); Cohen (1968); Durkin (1966); Goodman, Y. (1984); Green & Harker (1982); Hiebert (1988); Huck, Hepler, & Hickman (1994); Ninio (1980); Pappas & Brown (1987); Schickedanz (1978); Wells (1985)	
SHARED READING Promotes the development of early reading strategies Encourages cooperative learning and child-to-child support Stresses phonemic awareness and phonologic skills	Holdaway (1979); Martinez & Roser (1985); Pappas & Brown (1987); Rowe (1987); Snow (1983); Sulzby (1985); Teale & Sulzby (1986)	
GUIDED READING Allows observation of strategic reading in selected novel texts Provides direct instruction of problem-solving strategies Allows for classroom intervention of reading difficulties	Clay (1991a; 1991b); Fountas & Pinnell (1996); Holdaway (1979); Lyons, Pinnell, & Deford (1993); McKenzie (1986); Routman (1991); Wong, Groth, & O'Flahavan (1994)	
INDEPENDENT READING Allows children to practice strategies being learned Develops fluency using familiar texts Encourages successful problem-solving	Clay (1991a); McKenzie (1986); Taylor (1993)	
INTERACTIVE WRITING Provides an opportunity to jointly plan and construct text Develops letter-sound correspondence and spelling Teaches phonics	Button, Johnson, & Furgerson (1996); McCarrier, Fountas, & Pinnell (2000); Pinnell & McCarrier (1994);	
INDEPENDENT WRITING Encourages writing for different purposes and different audiences Fosters creativity and an ability to compose	Bissex (1980); Clay (1975); Dyson (1982; 1988); Ferreiro & Teberosky (1982); Goodman, Y. (1984); Harste, Woodward, & Burke (1984)	
	·	



# EXTENDED LITERACY LEARNING (EXLL)

ExLL (Grades 3-6) training supports intermediate teachers in learning how to effectively teach reading and writing to students with a wide range of ability levels in the intermediate grades. It is aligned with the CELL framework and helps teachers learn how to integrate the individual elements into a seamless curriculum of classroom instruction. The active engagement of each child is stressed throughout the ExLL framework, with verbal interaction and reading and writing activities taught across the content fields. Knowledge of the structure of the language, new vocabulary and concepts are developed

through literature and the study of genre across themes in the curriculum. Ongoing skills development at a higher level of phonological analysis is balanced with systematic, direct instruction of decoding and comprehension for struggling readers. These skills are acquired in the context of meaningful activities that motivate the gifted and reluctant reader alike. Students are given extensive practice by reading a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books and engaging in authentic writing activities in all content areas.

#### **EXLL FRAMEWORK FOR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION**

PHONOLOGICAL SKILLS  Directly and systematically teaches essential skills  • Uses oral language to access reading and writing  • Builds a foundation of explicit skills learning  • Teaches systematic phonics through writing, spelling, and reading  • Supports development of accurate spelling	Adams (1990); Blau (1998); Brady & Moats (1997); Cunningham & Stanovich (1998); Cunningham (1990); Duffelmeyer & Black (1996); Foorman, Francis, Shaywitz, Shaywitz, & Fletcher (1997); Fry (1998); Fry (1997); Liberman, Shankweiler, & Liberman (1989); Lowe & Walters (1991); Lowery (1998); Lyon & Moats (1997); McPike (1995); Moats (1994); Morris, Ervin, & Conrad (1996); Shaywitz (1996); Stanovich (1993); Tierney (1998); Torgesen (1998); Torgesen, Wagner, & Rashotte (1997); Triplett & Stahl (1998); Wolfe (1998)
READING ALOUD  Expands concept development and language structure  • Fluent, expressive reading  • New and familiar concepts and context  • Language and grammar usage	Andrews (1998); Barrentine (1996); Schickendanz (1978)
SHARED READING Increases fluency and extends phonological awareness  • Phonological awareness for explicit skills learning  • Choral reading  • Reader's theater	Beck, McKeown, & Ormanson (1997); Blum & Koskinen (1991); Clark (1995); Dowhower (1991); Hasbrouck & Tindal (1992); Miller (1998); Nathan & Stanovich (1991); Samuels, Schermer, & Reinking (1992); Samuels (1997); Tangel & Blachman (1995)



#### EXLL FRAMEWORK FOR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION (Continued)

DIRECTED READING Provides explicit skills and comprehension instruction for readers at various ability levels, integrates reading into the content areas, and teaches study and reference skills  • Guided reading  • Reciprocal teaching  • Literature circles	Beck, McKeown, Hamilton, & Kucan (1998); Brown & Cambourne (1990); Chomsky (1976); Fletcher & Lyon (1998); Gilliam, Peña, & Mountain (1980); Jones, Coombs, & McKinney (1994); Juel (1988); Klein (1981); Klein (1996); Klein (1997); Lee & Neal (1993); Pearson, Roehler, Dole, & Duffy (1992); Perfetti (1995); Shanklin & Rhodes (1989); Showers, Joyce, Scanlon, & Schnaubelt (1998); Stahl & Shiel (1992); Tomlinson & Kalbfleisch (1998); Weir (1998)
<ul> <li>INDEPENDENT READING</li> <li>Allows for extended practice, increased comprehension, and higher-order thinking skills</li> <li>Specific reading strategies and text organization</li> <li>Content area study</li> </ul>	Anderson (1996); Henk & Melnick (1995); Metzger (1998)
DIRECTED WRITING Supports the accurate construction of text and effective spelling strategies  • Interactive writing and interactive editing  • Writer's workshop	Ehri (1998); Fletcher & Lyon (1998); Foorman, Francis, Fletcher, Schatschneider, & Metha (1998); Greene (1998); Heald-Taylor (1998); Henry (1988); Invernizzi, Abouzeid, & Bloodgood (1997); Moats (1998); Juel (1988); Zutell (1996)
<ul> <li>INDEPENDENT WRITING</li> <li>Encourages creativity and the ability to write for different purposes</li> <li>Language structure and correct grammar usage</li> <li>Accurate spelling and punctuation skills</li> </ul>	Cassady (1998); Dyson (1982; 1988); Ferreiro & Teberosky (1982)
ORAL PRESENTATION  Formalizes the process of sharing ideas and reporting information  • Content area oral reports  • Oral interpretation of literature  • Drama/performance	Bruner (1983); California Department of Education (1998); Cazden (1992); Chomsky (1972); Ferreiro & Teberosky (1982); Klein (1997)

The ExLL 3-6 Framework is aligned with the CELL Framework and is designed to help the wide range of readers in the intermediate grades extend their essential skills while reading and writing in the content areas.



# MAJOR COMPONENTS OF CELL AND EXLL



California Early Literacy Learning and Extended Literacy Learning share a number of components that have been found important to their success and essential to effective implementation. Participants have reported that CELL and ExLL are a unique blend of intensive professional development that matches theory and practice and supports new learning by teachers.

CELL recognizes that the teaching of reading and writing is the foundation for all later academic achievement. Teachers are encouraged to teach all subjects using the framework of literacy activities. ExLL continues this emphasis in the intermediate grades with the additional focus of using reading and writing in the content areas.

CELL and ExLL also restructure how we teach children to read and write. Schools who join the projects have determined the need to change their approach to teaching reading and writing. Schools are committed to providing massive opportunities for children to practice reading and writing. Teachers are encouraged to use literacy activities as their primary teaching method, all day, every day.

National and various state level legislative initiatives emphasize that improving reading and writing in elementary schools is a high priority. California Early Literacy Learning and Extended Literacy Learning help schools meet this goal by providing professional development that helps teachers be more effective in providing literacy instruction. The

teaching of phonemic awareness, systematic, explicit phonics instruction, sound/symbol relationships, decoding, word attack skills, spelling instruction, and diagnosis of reading deficiencies are all emphasized. Training sessions also provide a multitude of authentic and literature-rich teaching methodologies for use in primary and intermediate classrooms.

The inservice trainings also incorporate research on how children learn to read, how proficient readers read, the structure of the English language, and the relationship between reading, writing, and spelling. Teachers are provided a means to plan and deliver appropriate reading and writing instruction based on assessment and evaluation using independent student reading of high quality books. Reading instruction is based on improving reading performance and comprehension. The reciprocal nature of reading and writing is emphasized.

CELL and ExLL are an important part of any school reform effort.



CELL and ExLL are balanced reading and writing programs that combine skills development with literature and language-rich activities. Children are provided direct instruction using high quality, appropriate materials. Teaching methods are used that have substantial support in the research literature. Teaching methods are aligned within and across grade levels. Achievement gains are enhanced when transition from grade to grade is accompanied by teachers who use the same teaching methods. Classroom instruction, early intervention, and special education are also aligned.

CELL and ExLL collect diagnostic information to inform instruction and assessment data to ensure accountability. Teachers are trained in various assessment procedures to improve their observation of children to better inform instruction. Standardized test measures are used to track both individual student and class achievement.

The training model provides intensive professional development with follow-up. School-Based Planning Team and Literacy Coordinator training are both year-long. Follow-up support for the three to five year implementation is provided through onsite training, class visits, and monthly guided meetings.

A capacity-building model that ensures longterm support is used. The School-Based Planning Team and the school-based Literacy Coordinator both help establish a system of support that continues year after year. CELL and ExLL also provide long-term support through continuing professional development opportunities during periodic training updates and at the Annual West Coast Literacy Conference and the Rocky Mountain Literacy Conference.

High quality teaching materials from a wide variety of sources are used during the training. Professional books and an extensive list of professional readings are provided during training. Recommendations for children's literature books and books for shared and guided reading are available. The effective use of other materials, such as basal reading series, is also included in the training

CELL and ExLL have been designed to support English language learners. Schools report that the frameworks have been effective in various instructional models. Book lists used in CELL are available in both English and Spanish.

Special education teachers are included in all phases of CELL and ExLL training. Using the same teaching methods from the frameworks facilitates the inclusion of special needs children in regular classrooms. Children are supported in their learning by this cooperation between special and regular education.

CELL and ExLL success is measured by student performance. Intensive staff development and ongoing support should be a condition of teacher accountability. Data reported in the research section show various procedures used to document success.

# Major Components of CELL and ExLL

Increase the emphasis on reading and writing in the curriculum

Focus on the professional development of teachers

Support school reform and school restructuring

Use a balanced reading and writing program supported by scientific research

Align teaching methods within and across grade levels

Support English language learners

Facilitate inclusion of special needs children

Use a capacity-building model

Measure success by student achievement gains



# TRAINING MODEL

# School-Based Planning Teams

To ensure schoolwide support, a School-Based-Planning Team participates in a year-long series of planning activities and framework training sessions. The School-Based Planning Team is composed of the school principal, a reading specialist, a special education teacher, and teachers from each grade.

The teachers from each team receive initial training in the elements of the framework and begin implementation of the framework immediately after the first session. They receive feedback regarding their efforts at each subsequent session. This format allows a school to begin partial implementation and develop a resource for observation, demonstration, and support of the project.

Training for these sessions is provided by the CELL and ExLL training staff and the team of trained Literacy Coordinators. School-Based Planning Team training sessions include five full-day activities (one additional assessment training day for CELL teams) and attendance at either the West Coast Literacy Conference or the Rocky Mountain Literacy Conference. The training sessions focus on systematic observation of children's learning and specific

#### **ROLE OF THE TEAM**

Support implementation by:

- Beginning to practice the elements of the framework daily in your classroom.
- Learning the theoretical constructs of literacy learning through professional reading.
- Making decisions on how the implementation of literacy instruction can be supported and extended throughout your school.
- Attending and actively participating in all training days.
- Helping to coordinate guided meetings at the school site.
- Supporting colleagues on the team as they attempt new learning.
- Reflecting on your own teaching.

instruction in the effective use of elements of the CELL and ExLL frameworks. Between training sessions teams participate in guided meetings at their school site. Guided meetings are an opportunity for further study and collegial support.

The School-Based Planning Team also works together during the training days to develop a vision for future literacy instruction in their school. Planning for long-term professional development over the next three to five years is a role of the School-Based Planning Team at each school. Supporting the Literacy Coordinator while in-training is another function of each School-Based Planning Team. The Literacy Coordinator-in-training practices observation skills and peer coaching with the School-Based Planning Team members.

# **Literacy Coordinator**

The Literacy Coordinator is the school-based staff developer who supports the implementation of the CELL and ExLL frameworks. This individual has no supervisory responsibility, but rather serves as a coach and mentor to colleagues on the instructional team. There is a separate and distinct training for CELL and ExLL Literacy Coordinators because of the varied needs of primary and intermediate teachers.

The Literacy Coordinator-in-training participates in five full-week trainings (Sunday through Friday) throughout the traditional school year. This training consists of observations in classrooms, group meetings to reflect on the teaching and learning observed, and seminars that combine theory and practice. Throughout the year, the Literacy Coordinator-intraining teaches a half-day in a classroom using the elements of the framework and attends biweekly guided meetings. In addition to teaching a half-day in their own classrooms, the Literacy Coordinators support the continued learning of the School-Based Planning Team by observing in classrooms half days and conducting awareness sessions with the rest of the instructional team.

"This training is powerful. It changed the way I teach."

Literacy Coordinator-in-Training



Literacy Coordinators also receive leadership training that focuses on peer coaching and the construction of the staff development model. One of the major strengths of the CELL and ExLL model is the effectiveness of peer coaching. The Literacy Coordinators use their classrooms for demonstration opportunities for their colleagues. It is recommended that a Literacy Coordinator have responsibility for supporting approximately twenty teachers. Additional Literacy Coordinators are recommended for larger schools.

For smaller schools it is possible to combine the CELL and ExLL training so that one Literacy Coordinator can support grades PreK-6. This extended training model requires completion of CELL and ExLL School-Based Planning Team training, CELL Literacy Coordinator training, and a supplemental three-week training in the ExLL Framework.

# Training Schedules

CELL and ExLL implementation has three distinct phases. During the first phase, School-Based Planning Teams are trained. This training helps establish the culture for change in the school and provides an initial training for team members. During phase two, a Literacy Coordinator is trained to provide support to team members. This position is an important part of the capacity-building effort for the school. In the final phase, phase three, teachers who were not part of the School-Based Planning Team are trained. The Literacy Coordinator begins full implementation at the site by providing the five day training sequence. Observations in the classrooms of the School-Based Planning Team and in the classroom taught by the Literacy Coordinator are also part of full implementation training.

The training model is designed to make elementary schools self-sustaining through the training of Literacy Coordinators who can provide professional development and peer coaching to teachers in their own schools. This capacity-building model has been found to support long term change in participating schools.

Different schedules of training and implementation are used by various schools. Some schools choose to complete School-Based Planning Team training in the same year as the training of their Literacy Coordinator. Full implementation using this schedule begins in year two. Other schools choose to

train a team in year one, a Literacy Coordinator in year two, and begin full implementation in year three. Likewise, participation in CELL and ExLL trainings vary across schools. Some schools train teams and Literacy Coordinators in CELL and ExLL at the same time. Other schools have initiated CELL training and progressed into ExLL training in a subsequent year.

# Implementation Schedule

# **School-Based Planning Team**

- Assessment Training
   CELL (One-day workshop)
   ExLL (during training days)
- 5 One-day Training Sessions
- Monthly Guided Meetings
- West Coast or Rocky Mountain Literacy Conference

# **Literacy Coordinator Training**

- Assessment Training CELL (One-day workshop)
   ExLL (during training days)
- Monthly Guided Meetings
- 5 Week-Long Training Seminars
- 3 Interim Training Days
- Monthly Colleague Meetings
- West Coast Literacy Conference

# Schoolwide Training

- Assessment Training CELL (One-day workshop)
   ExLL (during training days)
- 30 Hours Training for Staff
- Biweekly Guided Meetings
- West Coast or Rocky Mountain Literacy Conference



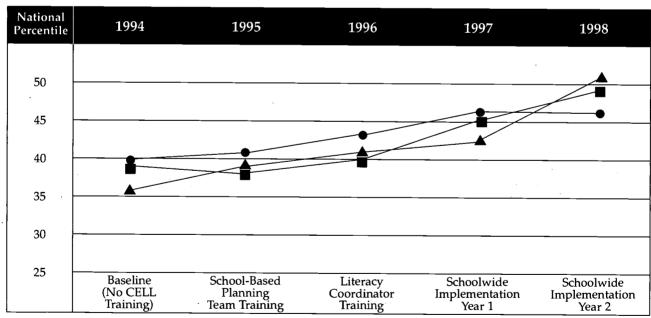
# RESEARCH

California Early Literacy Learning and Extended Literacy Learning are research-based programs. This research is reflected in both the selection of training components as well as the collection of data from participating schools. All elements of the frameworks were selected because of their substantial support in the research literature. The frameworks represent best practices in literacy learning. Participants assist in the collection of data that are used to document program success and individual student gains. It is a primary focus of CELL and ExLL research to analyze and report data generated by individual participating schools and districts. This research focus is a more reliable predictor of the likely impact of CELL and ExLL training on achievement in a particular school than a set of aggregated data from all CELL and ExLL participants.

Specific focus is given to the standardized test scores of each participating school. In addition to the language arts test results, content area scores are also monitored to determine the impact of increased literacy learning on achievement in mathematics and other subject matter. In addition, as soon as possible after the opening of school, approximately six children chosen at random from each classroom, are individually assessed, using various measures as a pretest. The posttest for this same group is completed in the last three weeks of school. This procedure is used to monitor specific learning in a group of focus children at each grade level.

The primary goal of California Early Literacy Learning and Extended Literacy Learning is to increase the literacy achievement of children. Table 1 is a longitudinal study of student achievement over a five year period. A steady trajectory of growth is seen from the 1994 baseline of no training to the second year of full implementation in 1998 with scores in the average range. This growth was seen in reading and language arts as well as in mathematics.

**Table 1**Sustained Growth on SAT-9\* in Reading, Language Arts and Mathematics Achievement in a Four Year CELL Implementation – Summary of scores for grades 3-5



Reading

▲ Math

Language Arts

\*Stanford Achievement Test - Ninth Edition Riverton, Wyoming Title I School



Table 2 shows Fall and Spring Observation Survey (Clay, 1993) mean scores and grade equivalents in text reading for children in grades K-2 at a fully implemented CELL school. Kindergarten students began the year as non-readers and reached a level equivalent to mid-first grade by the Spring testing. Achievement of first-graders increased from upper Kindergarten to beginning second, and second-graders began the year just below grade level and scored high fourth grade in the Spring testing. These randomly selected children received no intervention

or support services other than effective classroom teaching using the CELL framework.

An additional research focus is the impact of professional development. Table 3 reports a study completed where half of the staff participated in training and the other half served as a control group who received no training. Significant increases in text reading scores were reported in each grade level for children of teachers who participated in training compared to those who received no training.

**Table 2** *Mean Text Reading Scores for Fall and Spring – Focus Child Testing* 

Text Reading Level*	Grade Level Equivalent	Fall	Spring
			26
25	4th Grade		
20	3rd Grade		Grade 2
15	2nd Grade	14	18
• 10	1st Grade		Grade 1
. 5		4	Grade K
0	Kindergarten	41	

Implementation Year One School, Northern California, 1996.

\*Observation Survey

 Table 3

 Year End Mean Text Reading Scores for Children of Training Group and Control Group

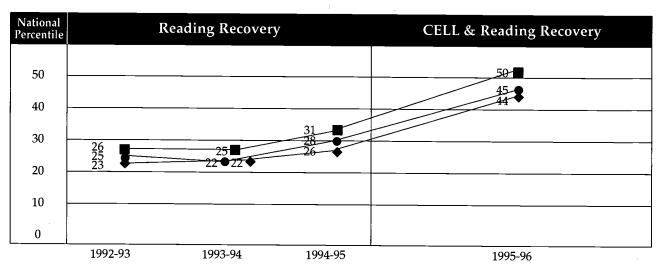
Text Reading Level*	Grade Level Equivalent	Control	Trained
20	3rd grade		→ Grade 2
15	2nd grade		
10	1st grade		→ Grade 1
5	Kindergarten	•	Grade K
0	Kindergarten	<b>*</b>	Glade K

Wyoming Indian School (N=200), 1996.

\*Observation Survey



**Table 4**Impact of California Early Literacy Learning (CELL) on Standardized Test Scores\* for First Graders in Schools with Reading Recovery

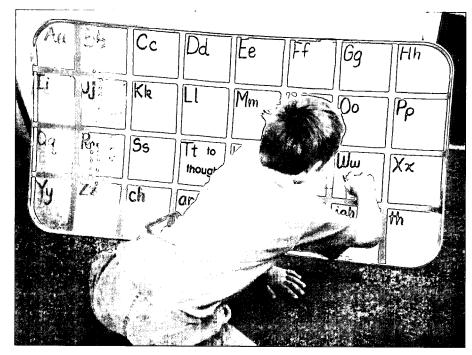


- Mathematics
- Reading
- ◆ Total Battery

\*Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) Six Northern California Title I Schools

Many schools who have selected CELL as a professional development program also participate in the Reading Recovery (Clay, 1979) program. Though Reading Recovery, by design, is an inter-

vention and not expected to impact the cohort, many districts track these data. Table 4 shows standardized test data for first-graders over a four-year period in mathematics, reading, and total battery. The three years of data during Reading Recovery participation yielded scores in the 22-31 national percentile range. Year-end scores following the first year of CELL implementation showed a dramatic increase in all three areas to the 44-50 percentile range. The achievement increase was also seen in mathematics. These data help support the primary importance of reading and writing instruction in the elementary grades. It also suggests that even a powerful intervention like Reading Recovery improves with the support of effective classroom teaching.





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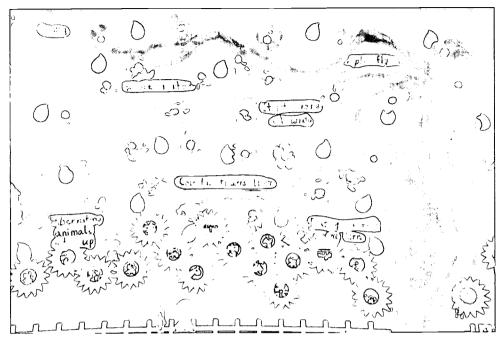


Table 5 also has data that compare Reading Recovery implementation and CELL implementation. In addition, it compares CELL implementation at the School-Based Planning Team level and the Literacy Coordinator level. The benefits of full CELL implementation are demonstrated in this study as well as the benefits of a school-based staff developer.

It is hoped that powerful instruction and access to good first teaching for all children will impact the

remedial need for reading and special education services. Table 6 reports special education referrals over a three year period. Non-Title I schools with neither Reading Recovery nor CELL support showed an increase in percentage of referral from 2.6 to 3.7. Title I schools supported by Reading Recovery showed a referral reduction from 3.0 to 2.8 percent. The demonstration school supported by Reading Recovery and CELL showed a significant

reduction in referrals to special education from 3.2 to 1.5. These data confirm both the effective combination of a balanced program of reading and writing instruction with a powerful early intervention and the cost effectiveness of schoolwide training in CELL.

One of the CELL demonstration schools was able to exit eight of 32 children from special education resource placement during 1997-98 after two years of CELL implementation. The district

**Table 5**Comparison of First Grade Text Reading Level Averages\* for Reading Recovery, CELL Year One (Team) and Year Two (Literacy Coordinator) Implementation Years

Reading Level	September January May
2	
1	
P	
PP3	*
PP2	*
PP1	***

★ 94-95 Reading Recovery Implementation

95-96 CELL School-Based Planning Team Training

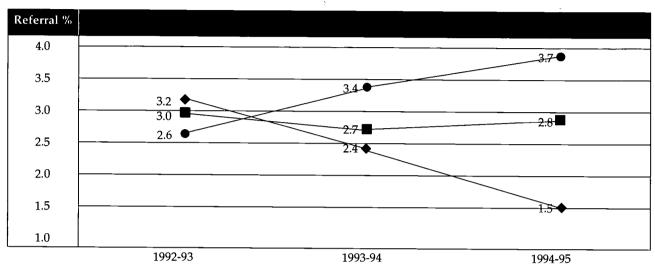
96-97 CELL Literacy Coordinator Training

\*Observation Survey Milpitas (CA) Unified School District, 1997



 Table 6

 Comparison of Non-Title I, Title I, Reading Recovery, and California Early Literacy Learning Referrals to Special Education



- Non-Title I Schools
- Title I and Reading Recovery Schools
- ◆ Title I, Reading Recovery and CELL School

Colton (CA) Joint Unified School District, 1996

used a typical ability/achievement discrepancy determination to both establish and maintain eligibility. The children who exited made sufficient gains in reading and writing to fall below the threshold of eligibility. The decision to exit special education was also reviewed and endorsed by the staffing team. This exit from a special education resource room placement can be attributed to the use of more powerful teaching strategies and to the fact that special

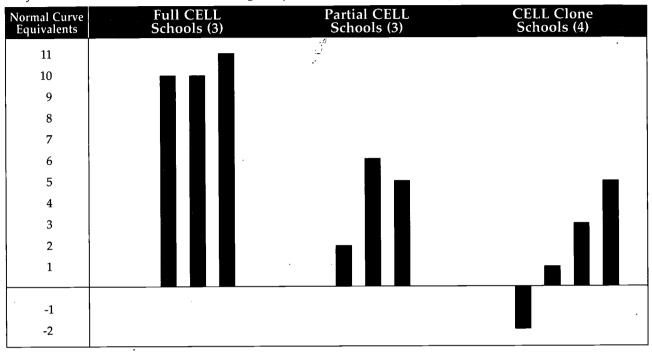
to regular class transition is facilitated by the alignment of teaching strategies when both regular and special education use the CELL framework.

Referrals to special education have decreased.



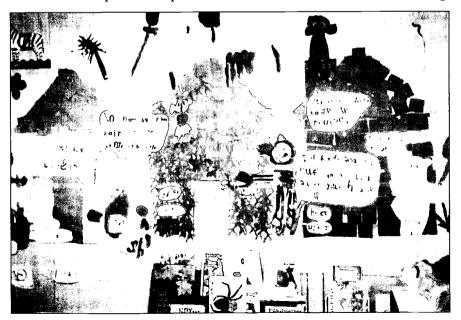


Table 7 California Achievement Test (CAT-5) Reading Comprehension Four Year Summary, Grades 1-4



Southern California CELL Pilot District, 1997

Table 7 compares achievement in grades 1-4 on . the California Achievement Test (CAT-5) over a four year period. Schools who had full CELL implementation showed increases of 10, 10, and 11 normal curve equivalents in reading comprehension. Schools with partial implementation of CELL showed increases of 2, 6, and 5. And schools that participated in a district developed CELL clone had normal curve equivalent scores of -2, 1, 3, and 5. These data are a strong indication that program replication is affected by altering standards, procedures, or training.



"CELL and ExLL are the most professional training sessions that I have ever attended. They believe in the integrity of teachers."

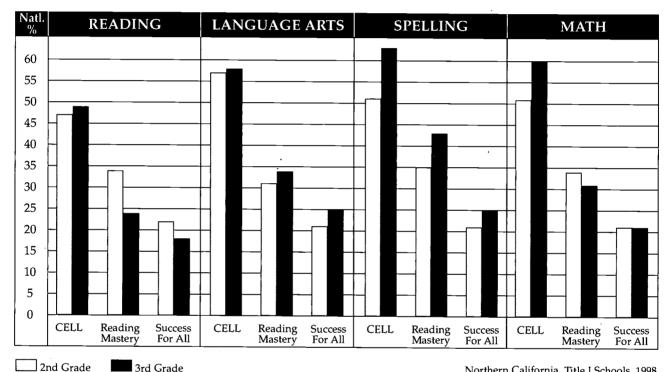
> Elementary School Principal



Tables 8 and 9 compare the SAT-9 scores in three Title I schools in a California district. Schools were in comparable implementation stages of Reading Mastery (Engelman et al., 1998), Success for All (Slavin et al., 1993), and CELL in Table 8 and ExLL in Table 9. CELL and ExLL posted higher scores in

all categories measured (reading, language arts, spelling, and math). By comparison, CELL and ExLL support the development of independent decision-making by teachers where, Reading Mastery and Success for All are constructed to be more directive and scripted.

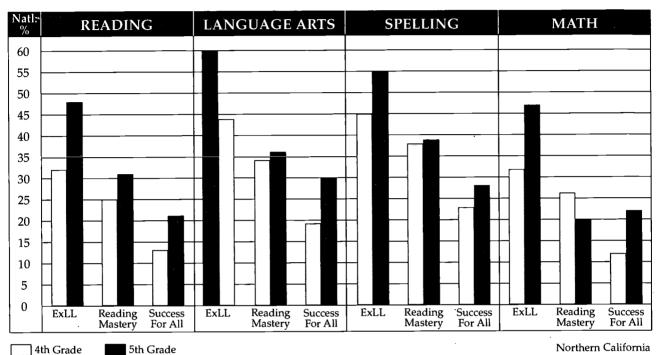
**Table 8**District SAT-9\* Scores in Three Title I Schools Using California Early Literacy Learning, Reading Mastery and Success For All (2nd and 3rd Grade)



Northern California, Title I Schools, 1998 \*Stanford Achievement Test - Ninth Edition



**Table 9**District SAT-9\* Scores in Three Title I Schools Using Extended Literacy Learning, Reading Mastery and Success For All (4th and 5th Grade)



Title I Schools, 1998
\*Stanford Achievement Test - Ninth Edition

Reading achievement was measured for English language learners in three immersion models. Scores for first-graders in CELL trained schools are compared to those from schools that received no training in Table 10. Children from CELL schools outperformed the other schools in all three models by 14, 9, and 10 percent.

#### **External Reviews**

In addition to the studies conducted by CELL and ExLL schools, two external reviews were conducted during the 1999-2000 school year. Both evaluations were independent and used data provided by participating schools.

The Nevada Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation reviewed data from CELL schools in the state to evaluate its continued effectiveness on increasing the academic achievement of low performing students. Based on this evaluation CELL was included on the List of Effective Remedial Programs as a program of curricular reform recommended to schools in Nevada.

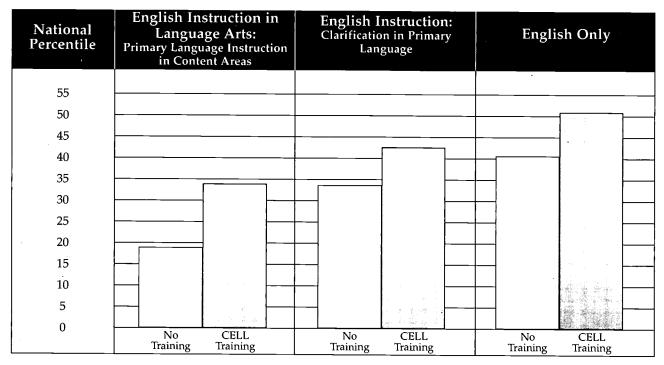
A large scale study of the impact of CELL and ExLL on reading achievement was completed by the Program Evaluation and Research Branch of the Los Angeles Unified School District. The conclusion that both programs were effective was based on overall increases in achievement as well as the comparison of data from schools that received CELL and ExLL training compared to schools that received no training.

Two independent evaluations found CELL and ExLL to be effective programs.



 Table 10

 Reading Achievement\* for English Language Learners Using Three Immersion Models



\*Stanford Achievement Test - Ninth Edition  $N=1595\ (9\ Schools)$  Los Angeles Unified School District

# **Summary**

These studies demonstrate that CELL and ExLL are effective programs of professional development. The most important data are those that show good achievement gains in literacy in CELL and ExLL schools. Schools who have committed to training a Literacy Coordinator show greater gains than those who received only the School-Based Planning Team training. Both level of implementation and adherence to the model are seen as important variables.

The impact on special education was also measured in two studies. The savings that would result in the reduced referral to special education and spe-

cial education exit would, by themselves, cover the cost of all CELL and ExLL training. This is a powerful measure of cost effectiveness.

Professional development for teachers was found to be more important than the use of a particular instructional model. CELL was also found to be an effective way to support English language learners.

This research provides strong support for the relationship between professional development for teachers and gains in student achievement.



## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Training of both School-Based Planning Teams and Literacy Coordinators has been conducted in California, Hawaii, Kentucky, Mexico, Montana, Nevada and Utah. Schools from Arizona and Texas have also been trained. During the past six years CELL has trained approximately 5000 teachers who have in turn provided instruction for more than 300,000 children. ExLL, in three years of implementation, has trained almost 2000 teachers and impacted an estimated 73,000 children.

CELL and ExLL training site development is underway in Arizona and Texas. In addition to sites in Mexicali, Baja California and in Mexico City as Enseñanza Inicial de la Lectura y la Escritura (EILE), training has been provided in the Mexican states of Guanajuato and Puebla.

The implementation tables include yearly totals for teachers, teams, and Literacy Coordinators trained. The number of children impacted by CELL and ExLL is estimated both for each year and as an accumulative total.

CELL and ExLL training staff and Literacy Coordinators have conducted awareness and inservice sessions throughout the United States. Internationally, the trainers have presented literacy learning research at conferences in Aurba, Australia, Bermuda, Belize, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Hungary, Jamaica, Mexico, and New Zealand.

Implementation of California Early Literacy Learning, CELL (PreK - 3)

CELL	Teachers	School-Based Planning Teams	Literacy Coordinators	Ch Per Year	ildren Grand Total
1994-95	-	<u>-</u>	8	200	200
1995-96	344	23	13	8,925	9,125
1996-97	604	43	23	15,675	24,800
1997-98	1084	78	33	27,925	52,725
1998-99	1452	99	56	37,700	90,475
1999-00	1532	108	54	38,300	128,775
TOTAL	5016	351	187	· _	306,100

Implementation of Extended Literacy Learning, ExLL (3-6)

ExLL	Teachers	School-Based Planning Teams	Literacy Coordinators	Ch Per Year	nildren Grand Total
1997-98	70	9	-	1,750	1,750
1998-99	608	76	3	15,110	16,860
1999-00	1319	91	50	39,570	56,430
TOTAL	-1997	176	53		73,290



# SECOND CHANCE AT LITERACY LEARNING

Second Chance is professional development for secondary schools based on the research and training completed in ExLL. The challenge of providing support for teachers and curriculum alignment has much in common with the intermediate grade project, but there are unique differences. Considered in the development of Second Chance were the differences in the school schedule and the types of subject matter courses offered in grades 6-12.

Second Chance has been piloted for two years, both with School-Based Planning Teams and with middle school Literacy Coordinators who have been trained in association with their ExLL colleagues. The teachers involved with Second Chance teach language arts, reading, ESL, resource or special education. Teachers may be prepared in other content fields but have a primary assignment in teaching English or reading. The goal is to promote best classroom practices for teaching reading and writing and small group intervention for struggling readers in secondary classrooms.

# Second Chance takes best practices and intervention to secondary schools.

Findings in the pilots conducted parallel the work in CELL and ExLL where the importance of intensive professional development for teachers has been demonstrated. Second Chance includes an emphasis on the use of a balanced reading and writ-

ing program supported by the scientific research in the field.

The Second Chance framework is an extension of the ExLL framework and includes an emphasis on the needs of the struggling reader and the importance of balancing phonological skills with the direct instruction of comprehension. Other framework elements are adjusted to focus on the needs in secondary classrooms. Read Aloud is used to expand concept development and model language structure. Directed Reading includes instruction in successful methods modified for the secondary level including shared and guided reading, reciprocal teaching and literature circles. Independent Reading is incorporated for extended practice and increased attention is given to comprehension, higher-order thinking skills, and motivation. In Directed Writing, the accurate construction of text and effective spelling strategies are the focus. Independent Writing encourages creativity and expression and the ability to write for different purposes. Lastly, the curriculum framework incorporates Oral Presentation which formalizes the process of sharing ideas and reporting information.

Second Chance has been designed to continue the work of the CELL and ExLL programs into secondary classes. The primary focus is to give teachers intensive professional development and new ways to ensure that each secondary child who is a struggling reader has a Second Chance at Literacy Learning.





## CELL + MATH

# Finding the Common Denominator

CELL + Math: Finding the Common Denominator is a two-day workshop that assists teachers in teaching mathematics using the CELL framework. This inservice is designed for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 3 teachers. CELL + Math is an advanced training that involves teachers who are currently participating in CELL School-Based Planning Team training or those who have trained in previous years.

The focus of the two-day workshop is on using reading and writing activities as well as hands-on investigations to more effectively teach mathematics. Emphasis is also placed upon problem-solving and reasoning as important aspects in promoting the connection between mathematics and literacy.

CELL + Math recognizes that children learn by being actively involved in the learning process. Children's literature is one effective classroom tool for motivating students to think and reason mathematically. By integrating math and literature, children begin to communicate their thinking and explore alternate problem-solving strategies. Many children's books related to mathematics are examined in detail during the workshop. Participants receive a bibliography of quality children's literature arranged by mathematical strand.

These workshops provide teachers with practical

activities on how to immerse children in mathematics. The teaching of both mathematical concepts and skills in texts is emphasized. Academic content standards for mathematics are examined and used to ensure students are understanding the math they are studying.

CELL + Math shows teachers how to restructure their mathematics teaching. CELL + Math helps teachers provide substantial mathematical knowledge so students can make sense of the world around them. Students must be engaged and motivated to become self-reliant, to feel competent investigating questions, and to solve problems in school and life.

Through the use of the CELL Framework: Reading Aloud, Shared Reading, Guided Reading, Independent Reading, Interactive Writing, Independent Writing, and in association with mathematical investigations, students encounter powerful instruction all day, every day in literacy and mathematics. CELL + Math: Finding the Common Denominator promotes integrating literacy and mathematics so children can simultaneously learn in both areas.

Because of the success of the CELL + Math workshop, an extension to the ExLL grades of 3-6 is under development.

# "This is an important connection. CELL supports math."

Elementary School Principal

#### CELL + Math

#### **DAY ONE**

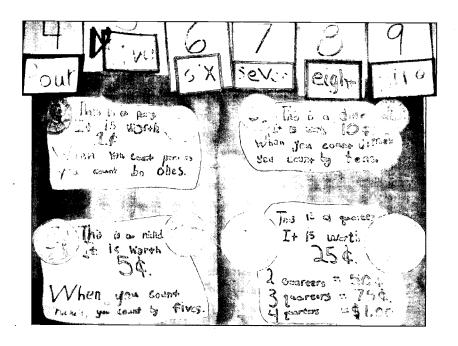
- The CELL Framework in Relation to Mathematics
- The Language of Mathematics
- Reading Aloud to Enhance Mathematical Reasoning
- Examining the State Mathematics Standards
- Exploring Number Sense and Estimation

### CELL + Math

#### **DAY TWO**

- What is Mathematics?
- Writing and Mathematics
- Assessment in Mathematics
- Exploring Geometry and Measurement
- Exploring Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability
- Professional Reading Discussions



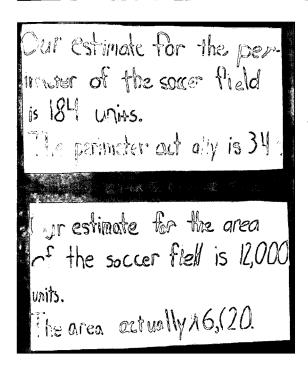


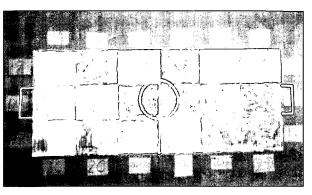
# Major Components of CELL + Math

Finding the Common Denominator

Assist children in making sense of the world around them
Use knowledge of the academic content standards in planning for instruction
Emphasize rich oral and written language activities
Recognize the importance of a collaborative learning environment
Engage children in hands-on investigations
Utilize a wealth of quality children's literature
Teach problem-solving strategies
Collect diagnostic information to inform instruction
Believes the math-literacy connection has a powerful role in providing a balanced instructional program







Grid of Soccer Field

"CELL + Math taught me how to use all the CELL elements to make math fun and more meaningful for my students."

Classroom Teacher

# CELL + Math training elaborates on activities, methods, and strategies for teaching in each of the following mathematical strands:

#### Number Sense

- Construct number meanings through real-world experiences and use of physical materials
- Recognize the multiple uses of numbers in the real world

#### Algebra and Functions

- Use number sentences to solve problems
- Model, represent, and interpret number relationships

#### Measurement and Geometry

- Make and use estimates of measurement
- Develop spatial sense and recognize geometry in their world

#### Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability

- Formulate and solve problems that involve collecting and analyzing data
- Explore the concepts of chance

#### Mathematical Reasoning

- Use problem-solving approaches to investigate and understand mathematical content
- Verify, interpret, and justify results with respect to the original problem



# Development of Demonstration Schools

Professional development benefits from the demonstration of effective teaching. Demonstration schools are developed as a way to provide this opportunity to teachers and Literacy Coordinators-in-training.

Numerous schools in California currently serve as CELL and ExLL demonstration schools. To expand training capacity in other geographical areas, three new demonstration sites have been under development during 1999 and 2000. These include schools in Wyoming, Utah and Mexico.

The five elementary schools, Coffeen, Sagebrush, Highland Park, Meadowlark, and Woodland Park in Sheridan, Wyoming and Whittier Elementary School in Salt Lake City, Utah have been involved in a yearlong series of CELL trainings and visits. These schools will begin as CELL demonstration schools in the 2000-2001 school year.

The Foundation is also supporting the development of a demonstration school in Mexico City.

Named the Redlands School, after the location of the Foundation office, this private bilingual preschool and Kindergarten will serve as a demonstration of CELL as an effective method to teach English language learners and children whose primary language is Spanish.

# Conferences and Training Institutes

Two major literacy conferences are held each year to provide a forum for professional development and collaboration. The West Coast Literacy Conference, held each year in California, and the Rocky Mountain Literacy Conference, rotated in the Rocky Mountain states, are ongoing opportunities for training and current information in literacy learning. In addition, the Foundation has committed to developing a literacy conference in Lanai, Hawaii in 2001 and in Mexico in 2002. Negotiations are also in progress for a national conference to focus on the literacy needs of Native Americans.





# WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY:

#### **Classroom Teachers:**

"With all the elements being used, the children are receiving good first teaching."

"ExLL is finally something for us upper grade teachers. Thank you!"

"Second Chance validated the importance of literacy in the upper grades for me."

"CELL provided a framework with which I could teach according to my understanding of how kids think and learn. I watch my students making literacy connections daily. My students are learning at a pace I never imagined possible for at-risk kids."

"ExLL has provided us with important tools to help intermediate grade children who are still struggling to learn to read."

"My first year at a CELL school was one of new learning, rethinking, and change. I admit I was very reluctant to change my way of thinking. However, given time, my Literacy Coordinator, guided meetings, professional growth, and the support of my peers, I have come to the conclusion that CELL has taught me how to teach!"

"Even special education is included. You could never have persuaded me that this kind of growth was possible."

#### **Literacy Coordinators:**

"Now that I have been in CELL (this wasn't true at first) my expectations have steadily increased and continue to rise, and also, my preconceived ideas (limitations) have been drastically decreased and continue to be reduced."

"CELL has developed among our teachers a common frame of reference as we discuss our students' growth and needs. We have also developed a much stronger and clearer sense of purpose and cohesiveness."

"CELL has changed my life. I will never be the same again and I certainly will never teach the same."

#### **Principals:**

"I am the principal of a large, urban, year-round school with 95 percent Title I-identified and 80 percent limited English proficient (students). . . I can see children achieving more and at higher levels than ever in the history of this school."

"CELL and ExLL are aligned perfectly. This will make all the difference."

"At long last, Second Chance gives literacy support to the secondary schools."

"We are just starting CELL. I visited a CELL school and I would like to hire nine teachers just like the one I observed."

"The strongest effect of CELL has been the improvement in the regular classroom. The base program has improved 100 percent. Pull-out and push-in programs are no longer the first line of intervention-good first teaching is!"

"CELL and ExLL are the most professional training sessions that I have ever attended. They believe in the integrity of teachers."

"We are seeing amazing results in our students reading and writing abilities as a result of the CELL strategies."

"I wish I had received this kind of training in college. All teachers should be trained in CELL."



# COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

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Darlene Ford Weller Elementary School / Milpitas Unified School District Cathy Fraser Sylvandale Junior High School / Franklin McKinley School District David Freedman Berkeley Arts Magnet Elementary School / Berkeley Unified School District Terri Fruit Bret Harte Elementary School / Corcoran Joint Unified School District Jeanne Gahagan Armada Elementary School / Moreno Valley Unified School District Jessica Gardner Desert View Elementary School / Lancaster School District Trina Gasaway Canterbury Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Yvonne Gatley Coffeen Elementary School / Sheridan County Wyoming, School District #2 Lisa Gattuso Jeanne R. Meadows School / Franklin McKinley School District Matthew Giller Windmill Springs Elementary School / Franklin McKinely School District Sonia Gomez-Berry Logan Street School / Los Angeles Unified School District Teresa Gonzalez Florence Avenue School / Los Angeles Unified School District Nanci Goodyear Los Banos Elementary School / Los Banos Unified School District Malina Gromo Bursch Elementary School / Baldwin Park Unified School District Rachel Grottke Downer Elementary School / West Contra Costa Unified School District Ingrid Gruen Kingsley Elementary School / Pomona Unified School District Elssy Gudino Vena Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Toni Gutierrez Fernangeles Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Nadine Haddock San Miguel Elementary School / Lemon Grove School District Carime Hagg Hagg Redlands School / Mexico, D.F. Lourdes Hale Garfield Elementary School / Montebello Unified School District Susan Hallgren Elysian Heights Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Brenda Harris Harrison Elementary School / Pomona Unified School District Christine Harris Parkview Elementary School / Salt Lake City School District Anne-Marie Harrison Maeser Elementary School / Provo City School District Carol Hartunian Cabello Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District Rebecca Haslemann G.W. Hellyer Elementary / Franklin McKinley School District Linda Hayes Franklin Elementary School / Salt Lake City School District Rosetta Henderson Manhattan Place Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Adriana Hernandez San Fernando Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Susan Hernandez Parkview Elementary School / Mountain View School District Anna Herrera-Salbeda Micheltorena St. Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Bobbi Higgley-Gibb Arapahoe School / Fremont County Wyoming, School District #38 Sonja Holm Ralph Witters Elementary School / Hot Springs County School District Teresa Huk Pioneer Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District Lisa Marie Humphrey Arminta St. Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Charlene Huntley Highland Elementary School / Sheridan County Wyoming, School District #2 Hazel Isa Camellia Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Marilyn Johnson James E. Moss Elementary School / Granite School District



Carmen Julian-Jones Bellevue Primary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Carol Brown Kane Fernangeles Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Diana Kaylor Springville Union School / Springville Union School District Geri Keskeys Charles Mack Elementary School / Elk Grove Unified School District Colleen Kilzer John Muir Middle School / Corcorangloint Unified School District Laura Kimbell-Gorgonio Baker Elementary School / Mountain View School District Joanne King Pearl Zanker Elementary School / Milpitas Unified School District Laurie Koehler Alvarado Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District Christy Kropacek Crestmore Elementary School / Colton Joint Unified School District Susan Lantz Mark Twain Elementary School / Corcoran Joint Unified School District Carol Lau Washington Elementary School / Bellflower Unified School District Rose Leazer Hoopa Valley Elementary School / Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified Elise Legaspi Noble Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Paul Lemcke Wilton Place Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Debbie Lewis Canyon/Bass School / Gateway Unified School District Lorraine Leyva Foster Elementary School / Baldwin Park Unified School District Donna Lindsay Searles Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District Herlinda Lopez Florence Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Juana Judith Lopez Middleton Street Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Carol Lowe Franklin Elementary School / Provo City School District Karen Lummus Desert View Elementary School / Lancaster Unified School District Eleanor Lynch Camellia Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Isabel Maldonado Tuolumne Elementary School / Modesto City Schools Dolores T. Malovich Guadalupe Schools / Alternative, Salt Lake City, UT Blanche McClure Yorkdale Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Erin McFadden Stonegate Elementary School / Franklin McKinley School District Benilda Medders Alvarado Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District Terrie Meneses Greenwood Elementary School / Montebello Unified School District Lynn Merkwan Smith Elementary School / Colton Joint Unified School District Cathy Miller Washington Elementary School / Salt Lake City School District Lisa Monahan Refugio M. Cabello Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District Carmen Moody Menlo Avenue Elementary / Los Angeels Unified School District Christy Moreno Cogswell Elementary School / Mountain View School District Janice Moroney Woodlawn Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District Janice Morse Los Arboles Elementary School / Franklin McKinley School District Lauren Mullen Jackson Elementary School / Salt Lake City School District Elizabeth Murphy Union House Elementary School / Elk Grove Unified School District Iris Nelson Pleasan Green Elementary School / Granite School District Deborah Nemecek Decoto Elementary School / New Haven Unified School District



Sara Nevarez Eastman Avenue Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District

Phillip Newport Ruus Elementary School / Hayward Unified School District

Maria Noriega-Petti Esperanza Elementary / Los Angeles Unified School District

Florine Nystrom Mary Peacock Elementary School / Del Norte County Unified School District

Michele O'Toole Canterbury Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District

Dawna Ogden Agnes Risley Elementary School / Washoe County School District

Liisa Oliver Lincoln Elementary School / Salt Lake City School District

Marge Osborn Monte Vista Elementary School / Santa Ana Unified School District

Anabel Painton Garfield Elementary School / Montbello Unified School District

Kathy Parker Ashgrove Elementary School / Fremont County Wyoming, School District #25

Kathy Parrish Armada Elementary School / Moreno Valley Unified School District

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Deanna Patino Utah Street Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District

Beth Patrick San Altos Elementary School / Lemon Grove School District

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Jo Payton Lincoln Elementary School / Salt Lake City School District

Kathy Ann Peterson Glenwood Elementary School / Los Angeles Unified School District

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Karen Pohlmann Weller Elementary School / Milpitas Unified School District

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