

Cultivating Oral Language and Literacy Talent in Students (COLLTS)

The Need

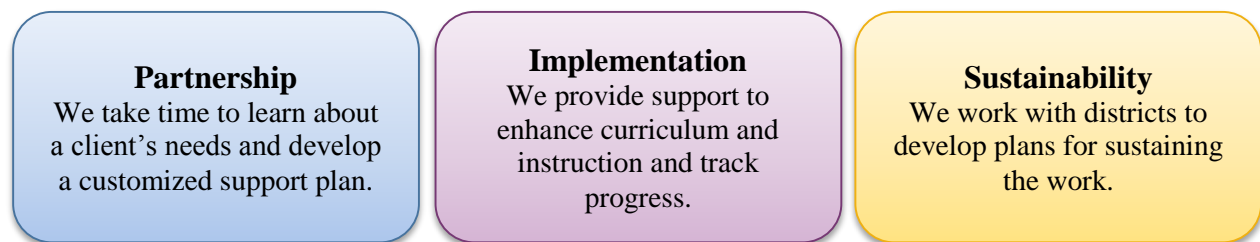
Many children in the United States come from homes where English is not the predominant language spoken. High-quality early childhood education programs have been effective in enriching the oral language and literacy skills of these young learners.

COLLTS

Cultivating Oral Language Literacy Talent in Students (COLLTS) is a research-based, early childhood language and literacy program developed by staff at the Center for English Language Learners at American Institutes for Research (AIR). COLLTS enhances the oral language proficiency, foundational reading skills, and background and conceptual knowledge of young language learners. It is aligned from the ground up with college- and career-ready standards.

Our Approach

At the Center for ELLs at AIR, we work closely with districts and schools to provide customized support that prepares instructional staff to meet the demands of high academic standards for English learners, using the process summarized in the figure below.



More information about the Center for English Language Learners at AIR can be found on our website:

www.air.org/Englishlearners

Contact us today to learn more about how we can bring the COLLTS program to your district or school:

Lisa Tabaku, in our Washington, DC, office: 202-403-5993 or ltabaku@air.org
Patricia Garcia-Arena, in our Chicago office: 312-588-7324 or pgarcia-arena@air.org
Or send us an e-mail: ELLcenter@air.org



More About COLLTS

COLLTS uses shared interactive reading of high-quality children’s books to develop language learners’ early language and literacy skills. Program materials include an overview; six high-quality children’s books, with teaching guides, writing activities, and picture cards for each book; and an observation protocol for coaches.

COLLTS lessons can easily fit into an ongoing early childhood program. Each teacher-directed component of a COLLTS lesson is 15 minutes long. Ten-minute center activities complement and extend the teacher-directed lessons.

Bringing the COLLTS Program to You

Professional developers from the AIR Center for English Language Learners are available to come to your district or school to prepare your early childhood education teachers and/or coaches to implement the COLLTS program.



About AIR

Founded in 1946, AIR applies science to real-world issues. AIR is a national leader in teaching and learning improvement, providing the research, assessment, evaluation, and technical assistance to ensure that all students—particularly those facing historical disadvantages—have access to a high-quality, effective education.

About the Center for English Language Learners at AIR

The Center for English Language Learners at AIR is committed to reducing the achievement gap and improving outcomes for English learners by connecting rigorous research to policy and practice. In addition to professional development related to COLLTS, Center staff conduct research related to teaching and learning; perform policy studies; provide technical assistance to states and districts to enhance English language learning; and support schools in implementing Attaining Core Content for English Language Learners (ACCELL), the AIR research-based approach for supporting teachers with English learners in their classrooms.