



## NEWS BRIEF

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### **TeachingBooks.net Resources Assist English Language Learners**

MADISON, WIS. (Feb. 3, 2006) – By 2015, more than 50 percent of all U.S. public school students will not speak English as their first language. Faced with higher dropout rates and significant achievement gaps on state and national assessments, English language learners (ELL) as a group struggle in school. In fact, of the ELL students tested for reading comprehension in 2001, less than 19 percent were assessed at or above the norm.

With fewer than 13 percent of teachers receiving professional development on English language instruction, educators need effective resources that can be tailored to meet the needs of each student. TeachingBooks.net, a provider of engaging multimedia resources that help integrate books throughout the K-12 curriculum, offers ELL students the opportunity to learn about books and strengthen their language skills at the same time.

#### Teaches ELL students about the English language

TeachingBooks.net resources allow students to learn about letters and word sounds through alphabet book guides and audio recordings. With more than 1,000 book readings, students can hear the pronunciation of unfamiliar words while following along with the text in the book.

#### Helps ELL students keep up with course work

With resources available online anytime, ELL students can listen to an excerpt of an assigned book at their own pace to help with reading comprehension. Additional resources such as links to author web sites and book guides help ELL students understand the text, enabling them to participate in class discussions.

#### Encourages students to learn about their culture

As TeachingBooks.net continues to increase the number of online resources available, students are able to search more than 10,000 author programs and other multimedia resources for authors of their cultural background. Watching and listening to a variety of authors with whom they relate allows students to see they are not alone.

MORE

TeachingBooks.net also offers educators an ELL resource guide developed by a student who immigrated from Mexico when she was young. As an English language learner herself, Maria highlights the ELL resources TeachingBooks.net provides. To learn more, visit <http://www.teachingbooks.net/support/ELL.html>.

Launched in 2003, *TeachingBooks.net* is licensed by more than 8,000 schools across the United States and Canada, including Boston Public Schools, Calgary Board of Education in Alberta, Dallas Independent School District, Brevard Public Schools in Florida and all schools in Wisconsin. Pricing for *TeachingBooks.net* varies depending on the number of schools per district. For more information, or to sign up for a free 14-day trial, visit [www.teachingbooks.net](http://www.teachingbooks.net) or phone 608-257-2919.

#### **About TeachingBooks.net**

TeachingBooks.net LLC is committed to bringing books to life by providing thousands of author programs, book readings, book guides, and other K-12 multimedia resources that reveal the spirit and personality within books. The company delivers an interactive online service designed to facilitate learning about and discussion of books to inspire students to read. The company was established in 2000 and is headquartered in Madison, Wis. For more information, visit [www.teachingbooks.net](http://www.teachingbooks.net) or phone 608-257-2919.

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