

Dándole vida a los Dichos

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Why Dichos?

- Cultural and linguistic resources that are appropriate vehicles for instruction. (Sanchez, 2009; Sanchez et al., 2010)
- Short traditional guides of conduct that express moral & ethical values
- Funds of knowledge- cultural resources (Gonzalez, 2005; Moll, Amanti, Neff & Gonzalez, 1992; Vélez-Ibañez & Greenberg, 1992)
- Teach lessons about life and offer advice
- Relevant in everyday oral discourse
- Brief, often develop in rhyme, and have abstract meaning (Sanchez, 2009; Sanchez et al., 2010)

What does the research say?

- Sharing stories helps children build oral language- developing speaking and listening skills, introducing new concepts or information, and increasing vocabulary and the ability to define and explain the meaning of new words." Goodson & Layzer, 2009, p.10
- Oral Language development is a critical foundation for reading, writing, and spelling, and it is the 'engine' of learning and thinking."
- "...children's ability to use language and to listen to and understand the meaning of spoken and written words is related to their later literacy achievement..." Goodson & Layzer, 2009, p.2
- "Writing floats on a sea of talk," (Britton, 1970).

How did we begin?

- Parents- social media, face-to-face and written correspondence
- Exposure-purposeful use of Dichos in communicating with teachers & students, using Dichos for school events (holiday door decorations) & getting entire school involved (Dicho of the Week via morning announcements).
- Involvement- seeking parent volunteers for events that involve their culture.

Bringing Dichos Alive in the Classroom

- Purpose- Expose 3rd grade students in a two-way dual language program in culturally relevant pedagogical practices.
- Dichos- What does it mean to me?



Calabaza calabaza
todo mundo para su
casa.

Poco a Poco se llega Lejos...Dichos en el salón

- Co-teaching- students becoming storytellers, listening to stories, experiences of teachers
- Co-constructing meaning- authentic, valuable experiences in their everyday life

No hay que llegar primero, pero hay que saber llegar... los resultados

Dichos Festival: Literacy Night

- Literacy Alive @ UNT
- Performances by: Spanish Club & Salsa Club
- Free books
- Dichos Around the World: interactive map
- Door decorating contest
- Recruiting young artists

Cinco de Mayo Parade

World Diversity Day

- Identify different countries represented in school
- Involve diverse groups/clubs for performances
- Invite entire school

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