



ANATOLIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GUIDELINES FOR ENGLISH PROGRAM
2008-2009

1

The AES English Program has two major goals: oral language development and literacy (reading & writing) development. All efforts are geared toward these goals.

2

The program is based on the theoretical belief that, while some aspects of English are explicitly taught, many aspects are *acquired* by children through rich language *engagement*--through songs, stories, games, role play, and other carefully-designed activities.

3

English is the language of English class. The motto is *English only!* The process of preparing children to operate fully in English begins now. English-only classrooms foster oral fluency.

4

English only means the teacher speaks to the children in English whether it is the lesson, it is about the lesson (e.g., *It's a story about a dog*), it is classroom procedure (e.g., *Turn to page 12*), or it is something else (e.g., *Oh, look, a bird at the window!*).

5

English only also means the children speak to the teacher in English (e.g., *I don't understand*). The children speak English to each other (e.g., *May I use your pencil?*). And English teachers speak English to students outside the classroom.

6

To accomplish English only, teachers must teach the "tools" for carrying out classroom business (what we call "process language")--for example, *copy this from the board, write a sentence using the word "elephant."*

7

English classrooms are interactive--student-teacher, pair work, group activities. Students require training in operating interactively. In interactive classrooms, valuable learning "happens" beyond the pages of the textbook.

8

Oral language development requires teachers to model pronunciation, stress, and intonation and give students feedback on their spoken English.

9

Teachers coordinate grade-level by grade-level, according to their agreed upon curriculum and homework policy. In other words, they operate as--and within--a coherent program.

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