

## Strategies that Simultaneously Support Learning English and Learning Mathematics

MC – Make math comprehensible

OT – Provide opportunities for talk

ST – Support talk

- Activate prior knowledge.
- Reduce the stress level in the room.
- Use sentence frames.
- Create vocabulary banks.
- Practice wait time.
- Use native language as a resource.
- Make manipulative materials available.
- Ask questions that elicit explanations.
- Design questions for different proficiency levels.
- Use prompts to support student responses.
- Provide visuals.
- Pose problems in familiar contexts.
- Elicit nonverbal responses (e.g. thumbs up or down).
- Demonstrate and model.
- Use dramatization and gestures.
- Modify teacher talk.
- Consider language and math skills when grouping students.
- Facilitate whole-class discussions.
- Allow for small-group discussions.
- Utilize partner talk.
- Ask for choral responses from students.
- Rephrase strategies and ideas.
- Connect symbols with words.
- Recast mathematical ideas and terms.

*Supporting English Language Learners in Math Class, Grades K-2 and 3-5*, by Rusty Bresser, Kathy Melanese, Christine Sphar, pp. 8-13, Math Solutions Publications, 2009.