

Improving Mathematics Curriculum Support for Indigenous Language Speaking Students

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A resource to support teaching the Australian Curriculum: Mathematics to students who speak English as an additional language or dialect (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, 2014), including Indigenous language speaking (ILS) students, provides language and cultural considerations and suggested teaching strategies linked to content descriptions. Critical analysis of this resource shows much scope for improvement. There is inconsistency between the language expectations of the resource and curriculum and the English language learning progressions of ILS students (Northern Territory Department of Education and Training, 2009). Few suggestions are specific for ILS students. I provide recommendations to improve the resource for teachers of ILS students, drawing on substantial prior research.

References

- Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority. (2014). *English as an additional language or dialect teacher resource: Annotated content descriptions, mathematics, Foundation to Year 10*. Retrieved from http://www.acara.edu.au/_resources/EALD_Learning_Area_Annotations_Maths_Revised_February_2014.pdf
- Northern Territory Department of Education and Training. (2009). *Northern Territory curriculum framework: ESL early childhood and primary learners*. Retrieved from https://education.nt.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/270339/ESLPrimaryLearners.pdf