

The Bilingual Village

El Pueblo Bilingüe

Reigniting Biliteracy Collaborations
with Multilingual Families:
The Bilingual Village





The Bilingual Village is sponsored by the University of Central Florida (UCF) and funded by a grant—Dual Language STEPS—awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to promote proficiency in Spanish and English for children and adults.



Who are we?

The Bilingual Village is a physical and virtual network of schools and community partners that enables language learners to practice speaking their new language.

Community partners are public businesses, organizations, agencies, individuals, and institutions that welcome and interact with second language learners.



The Bilingual Village



The Bilingual Village involves a few main components:

- Dual Language and other school Partners
- Language Program partners
- Connections to bilingual leaders
- Partnerships with local businesses and organizations

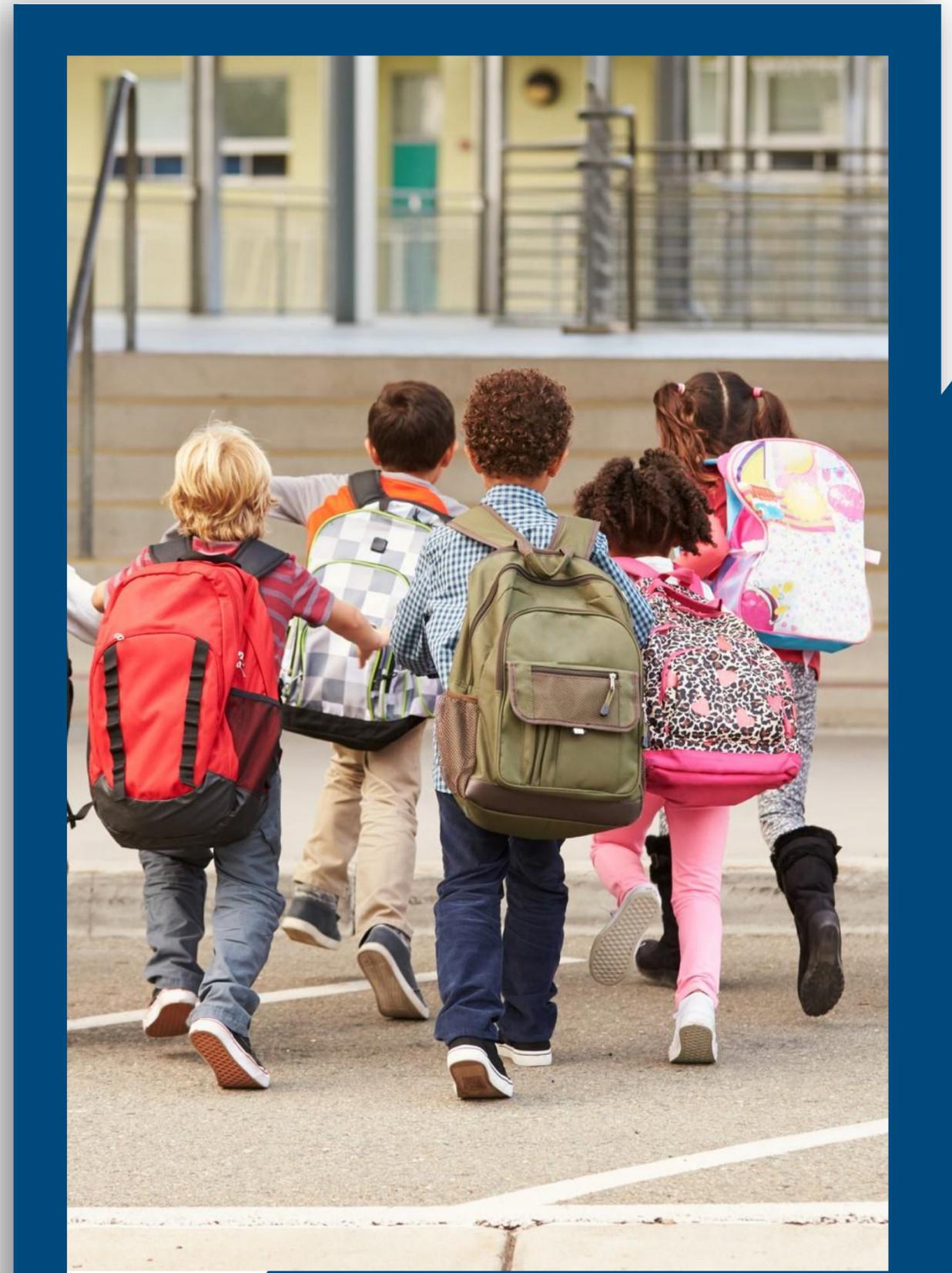


School Partners

The Bilingual Village partners with local schools including Dual Language schools. Partnerships include whole schools and individual classrooms.

Our school and classroom partners co-create Bilingual Village activities with us and create some of their own.

Students may conduct bilingual interviews to local leaders, and parents and students are given specific tasks to be completed at participating businesses.



Skills and Community

This program builds a stronger foundation within a learner's new language skills and provides them with a real-world learning activity where they make connections with community members who are representatives of another culture.

The program is designed for students to make real-life setting connections while at the same time introducing themselves and their families to local businesses that support their second language learning.



Why participate as a school?

- ✓ Becoming a participating school or classroom is a great opportunity to give students a chance to practice their language skills through activities and in a real-life setting!

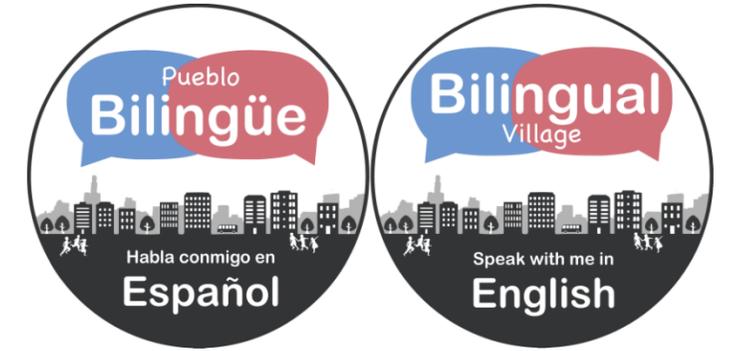


- ✓ The experience encourages bilingualism and assists your students' language development as they practice in a safe space.

The activities also foster collaboration and support students' involvement in their community.



The Value of Collaboration

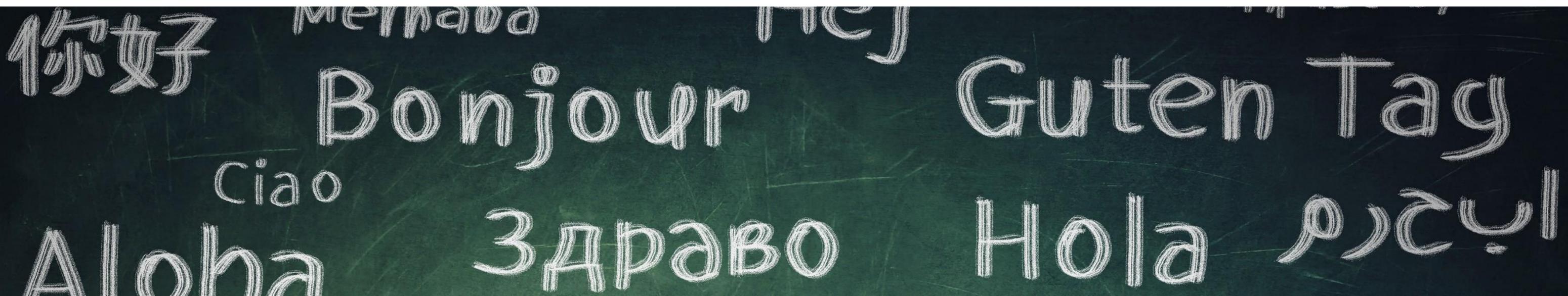


Parent Partners

Parents and students are presented with specific tasks to be completed at participating Bilingual Village local businesses. This helps develop the student's new language while providing them with a real-world experience in an authentic setting.

Community Partners

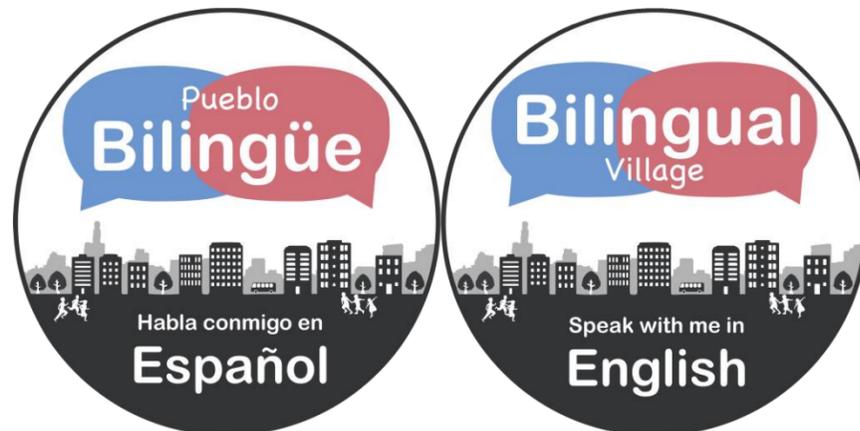
The hope is that with the implementation of this program, dual language students will be able to participate in extended learning experiences within the local community.



Business Partners

We partner with local businesses with the idea that language learners will visit these partner businesses and interact with the employees in the language that they are learning.

Businesses provide a welcoming safe space for students to practice, one where they don't feel self-conscious or embarrassed.



Why participate?

- ✓ Becoming a participating business is a great opportunity to get involved with the community by interacting with children and their families, as well as language learners of all walks of life while encouraging bilingualism.



Helping Businesses, Too!

- ✓ It is also a great opportunity to promote local businesses and welcome new customers.



✓ **Best Practices we encourage for interactions:**

- Be welcoming. Show language learners that you are excited to practice with them.
- Stay in the language. Do not switch languages even if the student seems to struggle.
- Be patient. Give the students time. They may take a bit longer to speak.

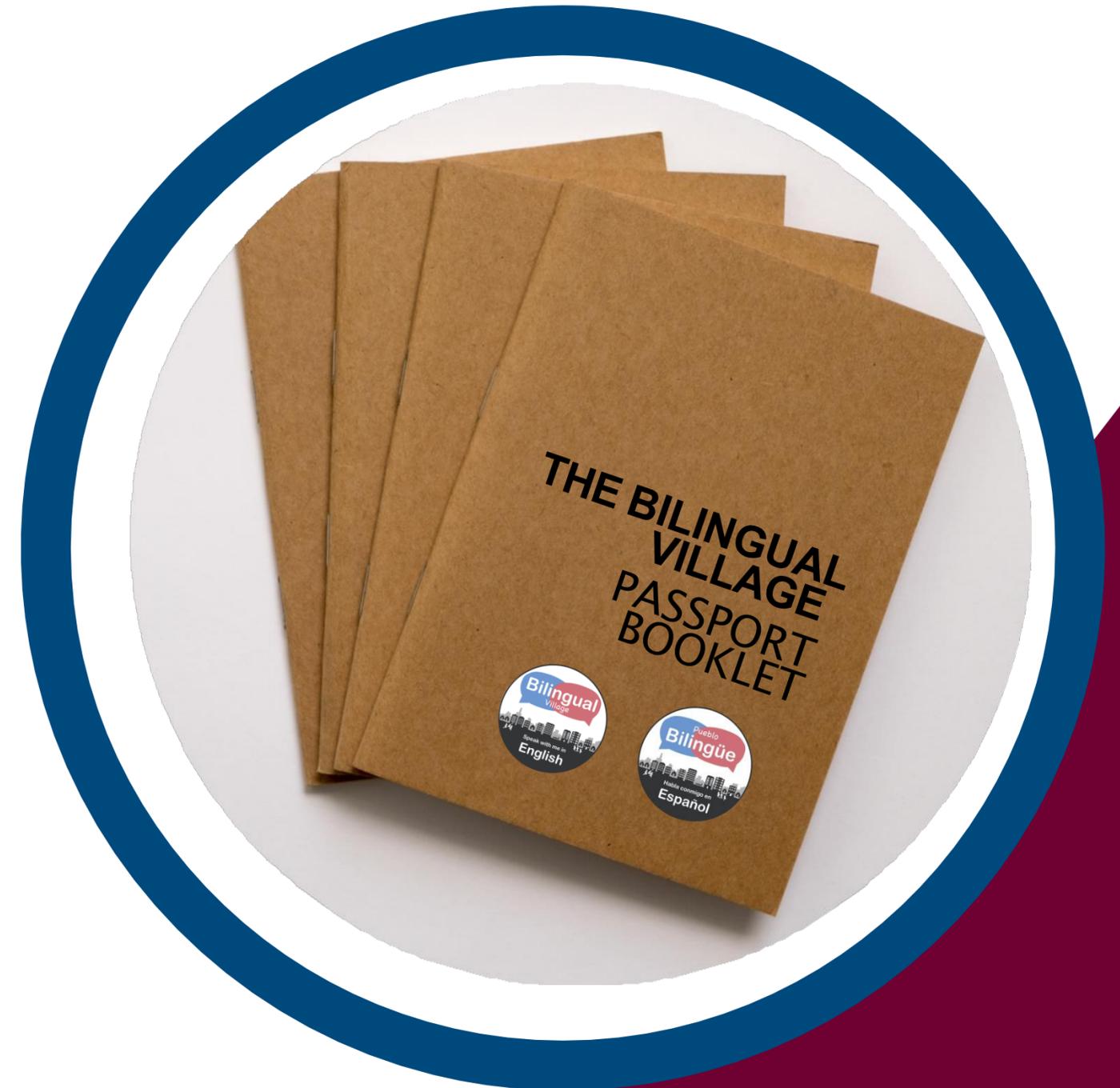


Bilingual Village Passport Booklet

- ☑ The Bilingual Village provides K-12 students with a passport booklet that they can get "stamped" when they visit a business. This gives students a way to track their visits in a fun way.

Bilingual Village Button Pins and Window Decals for businesses

- ☑ The Bilingual Village also provides businesses with button pins for their employees so that participants can easily and quickly identify participating employees and the language they speak.
- ☑ We also provide a window decal that identifies the participating business so participants can identify our business partners.



Community Leaders

The Bilingual Village partners up with bilingual community leaders and invites schools to co-create and create activities that help highlight the relevance and advantages of bilingualism.

Leaders in the community have a great opportunity to give back to the community and to inspire children by becoming a bilingual role model.



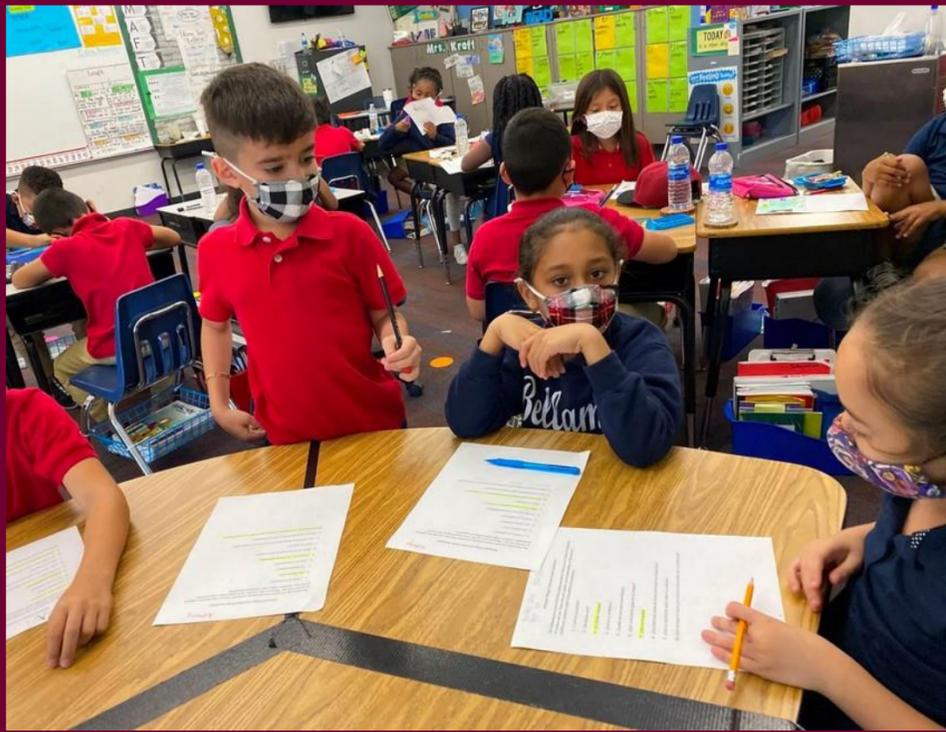
Interviews:

- ☑ Schools and classrooms can design activities that involve interviewing a local bilingual leader.

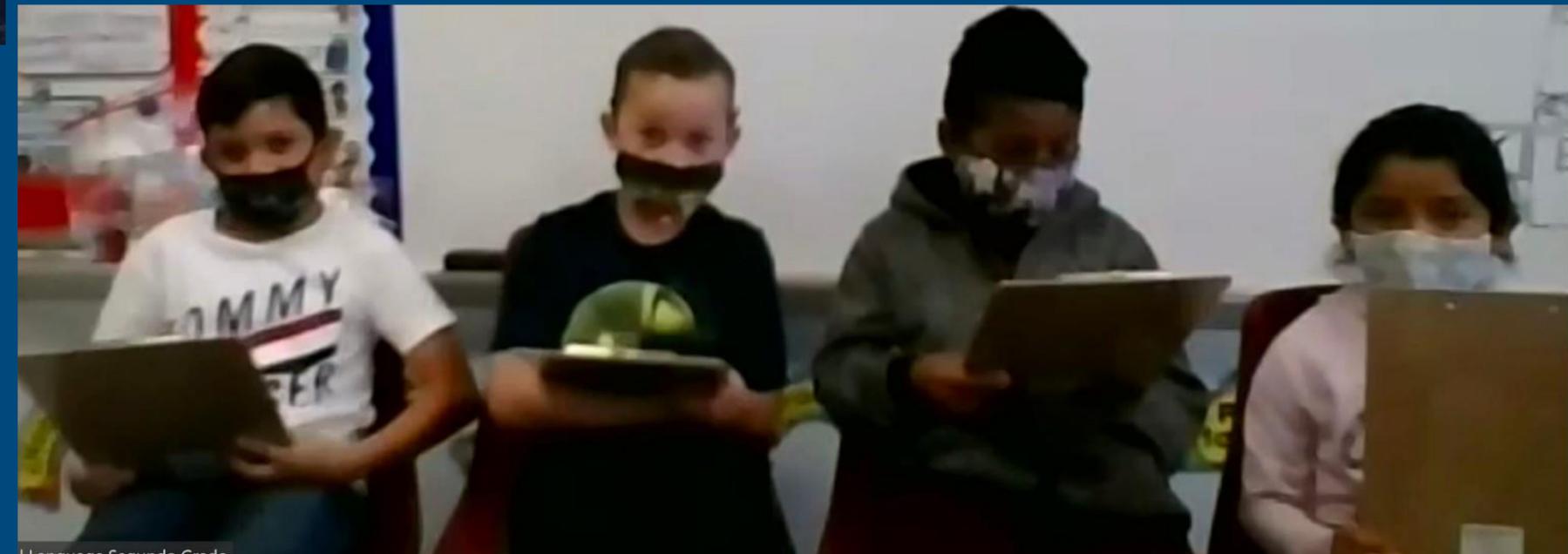


- ☑ Language learners can learn about the life experiences of community leaders including information about the work they do.

Above all, they have an opportunity to learn how bilingualism has impacted their lives and why it is important.



The Bilingual Village: Interviews!



Language Segundo Grado

Language Programs

The bilingual village offers a number of opportunities for language programs to provide their students with out-of-classroom language practice.

We provide a safe and welcoming "in-between" space, bridging the classroom and the real world.



A safe "in-between"

- › Students often observe a "gap" between the comfort of their classroom and the real outside world.

Our community partners are here to help them bridge that gap.





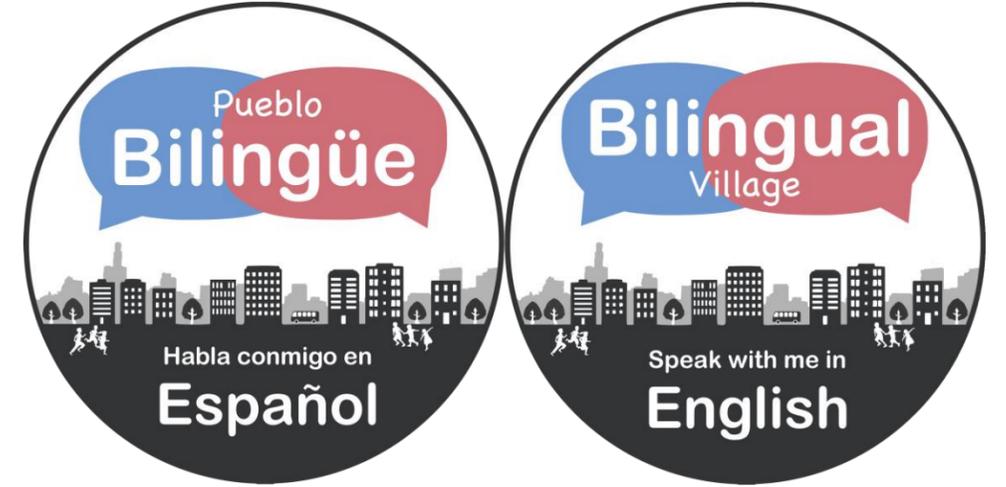
Who is it for?

Are you a(n)...	English Speaker?	Spanish Speaker?	By joining the Bilingual Village, you can...
	Yes	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with Spanish speaking Community partners • Help English Learners
	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become an English/Spanish Community Partner
	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with English speaking Community Partners • Help Spanish Learners



✓ New Practice Opportunities

- Students can identify and visit community partners to practice their language by following us on social media and having access to a list of our partners.
- Language Programs educators are able to create activities involving community partners, encouraging students to practice what they learned in class in a real-life setting.



Why have a Bilingual Village?

- Creating an engaging activity that is focused on the combination of the academic language use and knowledge for the students in their new language
- Authentic activities to help to expand their ability to use the new language in a culturally relevant setting
- Preparing language learners for a globalized world
- Making new language learners bilingual, biliterate, and bicultural
- Create authentic and culturally relevant learning opportunities for language learners
- Students can connect to the bicultural part of their learning focus while making culturally relevant connections to the second/additional language they are learning



Getting Started

Next steps to collaborate with your school or classroom in a Bilingual Village:

- Contact us! We are here to help
- Use the Bilingual Village Handbook
- Create a School Village Committee
- Collaborate with your local community
- Check out the BV Social Media resources
- Brainstorm with others, including students



Video Time!

Click on the links below to see examples
of the **Bilingual Village in action!**

[Welcome to the Bilingual Village](#)
[Bilingual Village Interview](#)

Resources

The Bilingual Village has multiple resources available for teachers, schools, and partners:

- ✓ The Bilingual Village Handbook
- ✓ Flyers for employers and employees, leaders, schools, and language programs
- ✓ We have a website! www.bilingualvillage.org
- ✓ The Bilingual Village Social Media: Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @TheBilingualVillage

the bilingual village
el pueblo bilingüe



follow us!



Thank You!

¡Gracias!

Contact Us

 www.bilingualvillage.org

 K-12, businesses, and Spanish speaker leaders:
Nadia Garzón
ngarzon@ucf.edu

Adult Ed. & college, businesses,
and French speaker leaders:
Sophie Cuocci at
sophie.cuocci@ucf.edu

 @TheBilingualVillage on IG and FB

