

About the Project

Pivot Learning believes that high-quality instructional materials are a key lever for educational equity. In the era of COVID-19, students have experienced significant changes to their learning environment and the world around them. They have also experienced significant learning loss. We believe that the quality of assignments students receive now is more important than ever before.

We are leading an evaluation of ELA and mathematics assignments given to English Learners in middle school. We will collect all assignments from three school districts in California — working with teachers across five school sites per school district. We aim to better understand each assignment's rigor and alignment to standards. We would like to also conduct short interviews with district administrators, focus groups with site administrators, and administer teacher surveys to understand the context in which the assignments have been given, including adaptations made to adjust for learning loss or distance learning. The surveys will be conducted by our partners at the English Learner Success Forum.¹

We will work with you to ensure that this work is the lowest lift possible. We will analyze this data to develop high-level findings about assignment quality that will inform a short research brief, to be released Summer 2022. We will share our findings with you first. Districts' names will be included, but no schools, classrooms, or individuals will be named or identifiable. We will not request any student work, lesson plans, or information about students' grades, so no student data will be collected.

Benefits to Districts

- Direct sharing of research results with districts, schools, and their educators. Research results that we hope will improve understanding of assignments given to English Learners this school year and drive continuous improvement.
- Stipends for each district involved in the study (to be used at their discretion)
- Virtual training and ongoing support for educators

District Commitments

- Work with us to select school sites and connect with school principals. Work with school principals to help us select a site-based point person and teachers to participate in the study.
- Work with the site point person and teachers to collect assignments in whatever way works best for your district and school sites, in alignment with your instructional model (distance, hybrid, in-person).
- Participate in short interviews and/or focus groups (district and school administrators) and complete a short survey (teachers).

[Apply Now](#)

About the Researchers

Pivot Learning partners with educators to design and implement solutions to their greatest challenges in achieving educational justice. Along with our subsidiary the [Consortium on Reaching Excellence in Education](#) (CORE), we collaborate with districts to improve teaching and learning through the adoption of high-quality instructional materials and the comprehensive implementation of these materials.

¹ [The English Learners Success Forum \(ELSF\)](#) is a collaboration of researchers, teachers, district leaders, and funders who are passionate about improving the quality and accessibility of instructional materials for English learners (ELs). The mission of the ELSF is to provide ELs full access to grade-level content and quality learning.