



What is Project STELLAR?

STELLAR aims to provide support to English learners and their families who reside in rural settings across the US. We do this through high quality preparation of teachers and administrators of English Learners (ELs), outreach and collaboration with EL families, and establishing networks with community organizations. In north Florida, we partner with the Rural Women's Health Project and Levy County School Board.

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<https://education.ufl.edu/stellar>

Key Accomplishments

- Development, validation and implementation of an EL-Modified Danielson Observation Rubric.
- Design and creation of a website that highlights rural EL education
- Coursework completed by STELLAR participating educators (ahead of schedule)
- One-on-one collaboration in classroom settings between participants and Program Coordinators
- Creation of a two-page document, "Eleven Things that Rural Teachers of EL Students Want You to Know"
- Conference presentation by five Project STELLAR participants (UF College of Education Research Symposium)



***Eleven Things Educators Working with English Learners in High Poverty,
Rural Settings Should Know***

by the Levy County Educators of Project STELLAR

1. Be a welcoming community for English Learners (ELs) and their families.
2. Be prepared to work with students with little to no English proficiency.
3. Be prepared to work with students with varying levels of English proficiency and academic proficiency in their home language.
4. Find different ways and tools to communicate with parents.
5. Prepare to have late evening conferences with families and impromptu meetings.
6. Figure out ways to grade EL students on grade level assessments.
7. Be aware that EL students and families are not all the same.
8. Prepare for students disappearing for weeks, months, or permanently.
9. Work and share with other teachers.
10. Every teacher is a language teacher.
11. Be an advocate for your ELs and their families.