

Professional Learning Institute

Elementary Science for Multilingual Learners

In partnership with:



**Fresno County
Superintendent of Schools**
Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher, Superintendent



Overview

With approximately 100 languages and dialects spoken across Fresno County schools, our students bring unique perspectives into the science classroom. How can we make scientific discovery more accessible and engaging for them?

Unlock the power of the **CA Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)** to support your multilingual learners (ML). This institute focuses on phenomenon-driven, three-dimensional science instruction that provides authentic contexts for language development and scientific sensemaking.



Classroom-Ready Tools

Get resources that make sensemaking accessible for every student — no matter what language they bring to the classroom.

Bridge the Gap

Discover how to select and embed ELD supports into lessons — so every student can dive into science thinking at grade level.

Designed for

K-5 Teachers
Instructional Coaches
School and District Leaders



Cultivate Confidence

Tap into the linguistic and cultural strengths your ML students already have — and watch them light up as capable, confident scientists.



Institute Highlights

NGSS for Multilingual Learners

Learn how to leverage the CA NGSS framework to create equitable pathways, ensuring ML can engage in high-level scientific discourse.

Hands-on Learning

Engage in inquiry-based experiences that you can bring directly to your students.

Grade-Band Breakouts

Partner with K–2 and 3–5 colleagues to strengthen support for your multilingual learners.

Expertly Designed

Developed by BSCS Science Learning in partnership with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.

University Credit

Optional one CE unit available through Fresno Pacific University.



Facilitators

Dr. Susan Gomez Zwiep

Program Director for Science Teacher Learning
BSCS Science Learning

Janna Mahfoud, MA

MLL and Science Instructional Coach
BSCS Science Learning

Institute Details

July 29-30, 2026

8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

FCSS

1111 Van Ness Ave.

Fresno, CA 93721

Price: \$500

Includes materials and lunch each day.

