

## **A Wealth of Free Resources from the Center for Applied Linguistics**

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Begin by getting on their news list for monthly updates. **CALnews** for April 2009 is here <http://www.cal.org/about/calnews/040809.html>.

In case you are welcoming new students who are refugees and you lack resources to understand their linguistic, cultural and experiential backgrounds, the Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) offers several in-depth downloadable PDF publications that will be invaluable resources for students from Iraq, Burma and a number of other places.

Their main page on Refugee Integration <http://www.cal.org/topics/ri/> may not lead you quickly and easily to these resources, so try these links to their Enhanced Backgrounders: <http://www.cal.org/topics/ri/backgrounders.html#1>

A COR logo in the lower left hand corner of CAL's homepage <http://www.cal.org/> will take you to their Cultural Orientation Resource Center <http://www.cal.org/co/> On the right side of this page under pictures of the covers of documents about Burma, Iraq, and a Guidebook for Refugees, you can click on **View all Publications** and be taken to <http://www.cal.org/co/publications/> a page which lists collections of publications by type of publication project as you scroll down the center of the page. In addition to the Backgrounders mentioned above, this list includes Culture Profiles <http://www.cal.org/co/publications/profiles.html>, which are mentioned on other pages but not linked.

As is the case with many websites maintained by large or complex organizations, you often cannot get there from here, and when you find a treasure, you should record the title of the publication as well as the current web location, because if they move items around, you may only be able to find it again by searching for the title!

Other items of interest might be their CAL Digests, located here <http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/subject.html>. A PDF document listing all these digests is located to the right on this page [http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/digest\\_pdfs/digestlist.pdf](http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/digest_pdfs/digestlist.pdf) and could be used to assign staff or students to prepare brief updates in classes or during staff meetings. Please note that while the links will show you an online format, to the right of the article is a link to download a printable PDF version.

One digest is now available in both Spanish and English and could be used with Spanish-speaking parents:

Raising Bilingual Children: Common Parental Concerns and Current Research  
<http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/RaiseBilingChild.html>

La crianza de niños bilingües: preocupaciones communes de los padres y las investigaciones actuales

<http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/RaiseBilingChild-Spanish.html>

Spanish for Spanish Speakers: Developing Dual Language Proficiency

[http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/spanish\\_native.html](http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/spanish_native.html)

Personally, I have enjoyed using these with my pre-service ESL and Bilingual education students recently:

Spanish for Spanish Speakers: Developing Dual Language Proficiency

[http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/spanish\\_native.html](http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/spanish_native.html)

Integrated Content and Language Instruction

<http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/integratedcontent.html>

Principles of Instructed Second Language Acquisition <http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/instructed2ndlang.html>