

**Mary Cappellini**, author of *Balancing Reading and Language Learning: A Resource for Teaching English Language Learners, K-5*, is an educational consultant who has worked with English language learners and teachers of ELLs for over 28 years. She works in school districts and county departments of education across the country and is often asked to be a Keynote and Featured Speaker at conferences and universities. She is also the author of numerous children's books, bilingual adaptations and chapters in professional books for teachers.

**Areas of Specialty—Topics of Focus:**

*Working with English Language Learners, K-8, in all areas of Literacy.*

Some topics include: Reading and Writing Workshops; Balanced Reading Program; Content Area Literacy; Guided Reading in both English and Spanish; Effective Instruction for ELLs; Helping Districts set up Bilingual Programs and ESL/ELD Programs; Assessing English Language Learners

**Keynote and Featured Speaker at Large Annual Conferences:**

American International College Annual Teaching of Literacy Conference  
New York State Association of Bilingual Educators Annual Conference  
Illinois State Reading Association Conference  
California Association of Bilingual Educators Annual Conference  
Dual Immersion Annual Conference, New York  
Dual Language Education Annual Conference, New Mexico  
California Reading Association Annual Conference

**Keynote and Featured Speaker at Universities:**

**New York**—Teacher's College, Columbia University; New York University; Fordham University; Hunter's College  
**Pennsylvania**—Millersville University  
**California**—University of California, Riverside; University of California, Irvine; Cal State University, Fullerton and California State University, San Marcos

**Speaker at Conferences and Member of Professional Organizations:**

**NCTE**—Annual National Conference  
**IRA**—Annual International Conference  
**CABE**—Annual State, Regional and local conferences  
**NABE**—Annual National Conference

**Consulting Experience:**

For over 20 years Mary has worked in the following states at the district, region, county and state level, including the 5 largest urban districts in the nation, working with teachers, coaches, district leaders and administrators, helping them improve the literacy of their English language learners through workshops, in-class demonstrations, district-wide planning and on-going staff development with teachers and administrators:

**California, Texas, New York, Illinois, Kansas, New Jersey, Florida, Washington, Oregon, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona and Pennsylvania**

Large Urban Districts include: New York City, Los Angeles Unified, Houston Unified, San Diego Unified, Cook County Unified, Dallas Unified and Oakland Unified

**Teaching Experience:**

Her experience includes being an elementary teacher, a bilingual resource teacher, a literacy coach, an ESL teacher, an Adult Literacy teacher and an adjunct professor.

She taught for 12 years at the elementary level from kindergarten to fifth grade in large urban public schools in Santa Ana, California, as well as at the American School in Buenos Aires for a year, Argentina. She was a mentor teacher for 7 years as well as a Title 1 Bilingual Reading Resource Teacher and literacy coach for 5 years. She was also an Adult ESL teacher for 4 years at Coastline Community College and Rancho Santiago College, and an adjunct professor and visiting lecturer over an 8 year period at Cal State University, Fullerton, CSU San Marcos and UC Riverside

**Published Writing—for Teachers:**

Mary is the author of *Balancing Reading and Language Learning: A Resource for Teaching English Language Learners, K-5*; published by Stenhouse and the IRA, 2005. She also wrote a chapter called: *Using Guided Reading with English Language Learners* in the book: *Supporting the Literacy Development of English Learners: Increasing Success for All Learners*; published by the International Reading Association, 2006. She also wrote, developed and edited the Award Winning Bilingual Multicultural Reading Program called *Greetings or Saludos* published by Rigby, 1994, which included teacher resources and 54 original titles. She also authored and edited the Spanish Language Guided Reading Edition of *Farolitos*, published by Learning Media, 1998, which included teacher guides as well as children's books.

**Published Writing—for Children:**

Mary is the author of 16 children's books—both fiction and non-fiction—in both English and Spanish. Two of her titles were chosen for the America's Award Honor for the best Hispanic Literature published in the U.S.: *The Story of Doña Chila*, (El cuento de Doña Chila) and *I Am of Two Places*, (Soy de dos lugares) as well as three other titles of her original Multicultural Bilingual Literature Program *Greetings or Saludos*. Two of her titles are written only in Spanish—*Farolitos* and *La Chirimia* and three of her books are translated and published in 5 languages. She has also photographed many of her non-fiction books, including *Whale Watching* and *Fish Prints*, published by Lee and Low. She is also the author of over 300 Spanish adaptations of children's books for Educational Publishers.

**Education and Degrees:**

Mary has a B.A. in History and a B.A. in Comparative Literature from the University of California at Irvine (UCI); she completed UCI's graduate teaching program with a Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential and with a Supplemental Authorization in English; she also has a California State Bilingual Certificate of Competence in Spanish and a lifetime California Community College Instructor Credential; she also studied as an undergraduate at the Universidad de Valencia, Spain; and completed graduate work at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and the Universidad Católica in Argentina in History and International Studies.