

CHELLO: Child/ Home Early Language & Literacy Observation



Susan B. Neuman, Julie Dwyer, Serene Koh



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Overview

- Why the CHELLO?
- Development of CHELLO
- Organization of CHELLO
- Comparing ELLCO and CHELLO
- Uses of the CHELLO



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Why the CHELLO?

- Wide use of home-based care, especially among low-income families
- Importance of home-based care
- Little known about language and literacy practice in home-based setting
- Importance of language and literacy environment for low-income children



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Development of the CHELLO

- Research foundations
 - Based on Bronfenbrenner's (1979) notion of ecology
 - Physical organization of the environment
 - Social environment
- Site visits/ observations
- Literature review
- Piloting
- Consultation with experts



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Organization of CHELLO

Three sections of CHELLO:

1. Literacy Environment Checklist
2. Group/ Family Observation
3. Provider Interview



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Organization of CHELLO

1) Literacy Environment Checklist:

- Book Area
- Book Use
- Writing materials
- Technology
- Toys



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Organization of CHELLO (Group/ Family Observation)

2) Group/ Family Observation

Focuses more on the psychological supports in the environment.

- I. Physical Environment for Learning
- II. Support for Learning
- III. Adult Teaching Strategies



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Organization of CHELLO (Group/ Family Observation)

I. Physical Environment for Learning

1. Organization of the Environment
2. Materials in the Environment
3. Daily Schedule



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Organization of CHELLO (Group/ Family Observation)

II. Support for Learning

1. Adult Affect
2. Adult-Child Language Interaction
3. Adult Control Behaviors



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Organization of CHELLO (Group/ Family Observation)

III. Adult Teaching Strategies

1. Vocabulary Building
2. Responsive Strategies
3. Use of Print
4. Storybook/Storytelling Activities
5. Writing Activities (drawing/writing; 'driting)
6. Monitoring Children's Progress
7. Family Support and Interaction



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Organization of CHELLO

3) Provider Interview

- 6 questions
- Help to score observation ratings
- Take into account different approaches



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Comparing ELLCO and CHELLO

- Areas of similarity
- Areas emphasized in the CHELLO
- Areas de-emphasized in the CHELLO



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Comparing ELLCO and CHELLO

Areas of similarity:

- Child-choice
- Reading materials and activities
- Writing materials and activities
- Facilitation of language development
- Technology
- Management/adult control
- Print around the room
- Assessment
- Parent involvement



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Comparing ELLCO and CHELLO

Areas emphasized in CHELLO:

- Language Interaction
- Affect
- Presence of Cognitively Stimulating Toys
- Vocabulary Development
- Contingent Speech
- Interactive Book Reading
- Responsive Strategies



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Comparing ELLCO and CHELLO

Areas de-emphasized in CHELLO

- Learning center activities
- Quantity of materials
- Emphasis on thematic units
- Accessibility (vs. availability)



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Psychometric Properties of CHELLO

- High inter-rater reliability
- Strong internal consistency ($\alpha > 0.90$)
- Sensitive to changes in practice
- Predictive of children's literacy outcomes.



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Uses of the CHELLO

- Research
- Professional development
- Home visiting
- Make general comparisons to center-based care



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Summary

- The CHELLO is the first tool that examines language and literacy practice in home-based child care.
- Provide setting-specific, research-based feedback to providers and directors.
- Enables improvement of children's language and literacy environment.



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Contact Information

Project Website:

<http://www.soe.umich.edu/greatstart>

Principal Investigator: Prof. Susan B. Neuman

Email: sbneuman@umich.edu

Presenter: Serene Koh

Email: serenek@umich.edu



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