## Tips for Working with English Learners in Mathematics



**Erin Sylves** 

Nichole Lindgren

Fairfax County Public Schools, VA

## Tips

- Connecting to and build background knowledge
- Modify the task, Amplify NOT simplify
- Use sentence frames/starters
- Build a bridge between grade-level concepts and the needs of the students in your classroom
- Provide open tasks with a low floor and high ceiling
- Have and use a word wall regularly



## Tips

- Use manipulatives and visual representations often
- Allow students to work individually and with others
- Facilitate discussions (more opportunities for student discourse)
- Anticipate language that students will process and produce
- Use purposeful sequencing to support access
- Ask questions that encourage higher-level thinking

