"First Things First" Bilingual Books for Head Start Aged Children

Bilingual Books for Head Start Aged Children

A grant was provided by the First Things First agency to promote the goals of early literacy that also incorporates Hualapai culture.

The result has been the development of 5 uniquely themed bilingual (Hualapai/English) children's books with an audio component which reads the sentences in both languages.

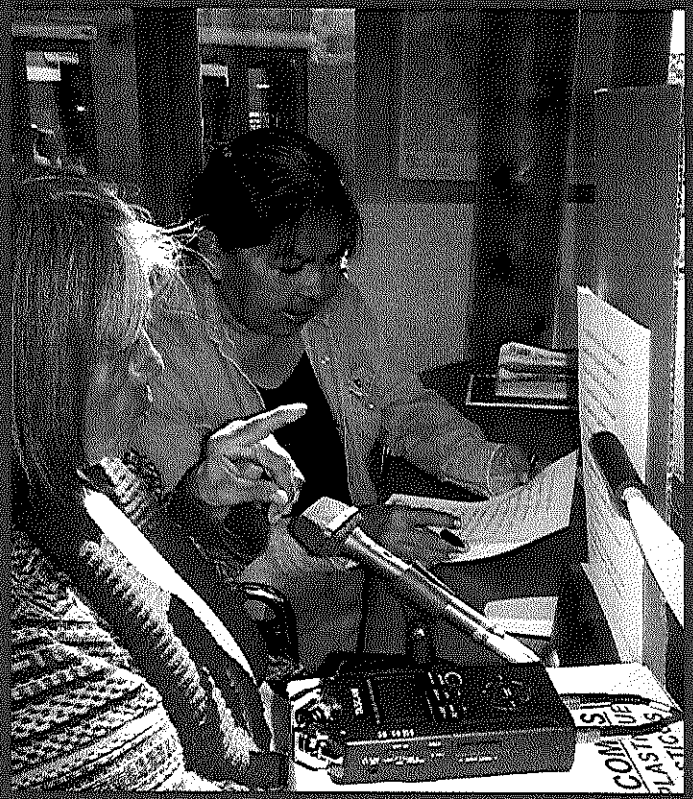
5 Uniquely Themed Bilingual Books

1. Hualapai Words and Phrases
2. Body Parts
3. Kinship Terms
4. Animals, Plants, & Geography
5. Lullabies

Collaborative Process

- 1 ½ year grant
-Weekly 2hr meetings throughout the calendar year
-5 fluent elders and one facilitator developed book themes and sentence content
-Cultural Resource staff contributed all original illustrations

Audio Recordings



Each elder was assigned one of the 5 themed books.

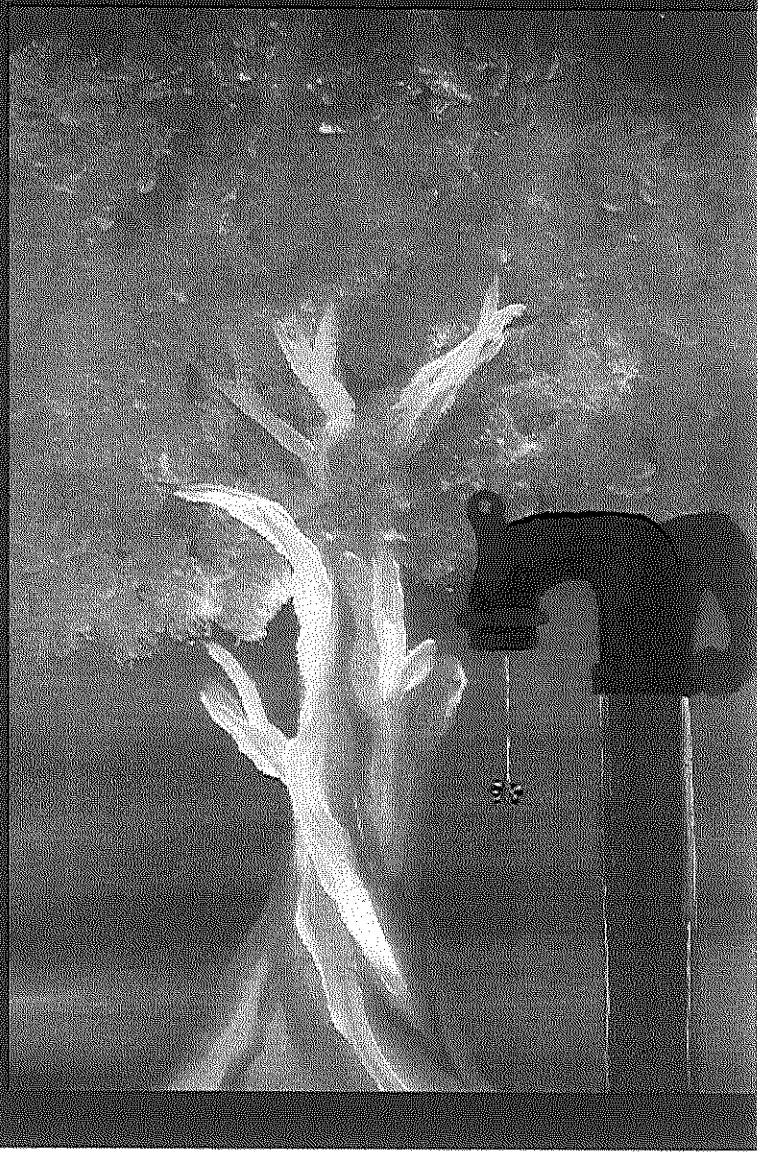
After all of the sentence content was created and meticulously edited, audio recordings in Hualapai and English commenced!

Excerpt from Book 5 Hualapai Lullabies

Ni:s Qecha

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Ni:s qecha jish'ch
Ha:'m jik bamo kyuny
Gwi:vok dtu vayumk
Ni:s a j'mano kwiny
Nya:h-ch nyi jiba:k
Matda bay dtadu:v'm
Ni:s qecha jishch
Ham jik ba:y yo kyuny



Excerpt from Book 5 Hualapai Lullabies

Hamsi Qecha
Twinkle Twinkle
Little Star

Halnyam halnyam Hamsi: qech
Gwe ga yu:v nyu yik wasi:va yu
Matdgal'ulk miya: da'l miyuh
'Wi: hal'ay miliwi:k m'm ya:ya
Gwe gayu:v nyu yik wasi:va
Halnyam halnyam Hamsi: qech
Halnyam halnyam Hamsi: qech

The 5 Bilingual Books are scheduled to be finalized and released June 2013!