



# Welcome to Heritage Elementary!

Madison City Schools is a diverse school system, and we have many families that speak a language other than English at home. Our English as a Second Language (ESL) program is designed to help our English learners become proficient in English, while encouraging families to maintain the use of their native language at home.

## How do we identify English Learners?

At registration, every family completes a Home Language Survey. If a language other than English is indicated on the survey, students in Grades K-12 must take the WIDA MODEL/WIDA ACCESS Online Screener. These assessment tools measure a student's English language proficiency on a scale of 1.0 – 6.0. We use the proficiency score, classroom teacher input, and other available assessment data to determine eligibility for our ESL program. Parents have the right to waive ESL services.

## What does the ESL program include at Heritage?

Our ESL Instructional Program is designed to teach ELs explicitly about the English language, including the academic language needed to access content instruction, and to develop their English language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. We offer instructional and assessment accommodations in the regular classroom to meet the specific needs of our English learners based on their individual language proficiencies.

In addition, English learners are provided with supplementary small group instruction to support their language development and attainment of the content standards. Student progress is measured each year through an annual assessment called ACCESS for ELLs 2.0. This assessment measures listening, speaking, reading, and writing proficiency in English on a scale from 1.0 – 6.0. Once a student scores an overall score of 4.8, he/she will exit the ESL program. We monitor all exited students for four years to ensure academic success.

## Need help with homework?

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library has on-line tutors if your child needs help with homework from 3 to 10PM. Check it out at <https://hmcpl.org/> under the research tab.

**EL Teacher: Jessica Mayes**  
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Languages represented at Heritage:

Arabic  
Bengali  
Chinese  
French  
German  
Gujarati  
Hindi  
Indic Languages  
Japanese  
Korean  
Marathi  
Marshallese  
Nepali  
North American Indian Languages  
Russian  
Spanish  
Swedish  
Tamil  
Telugu  
Urdu  
Vietnamese

