Study Suggests Early Learning in Native Language Can Help English Skills

By DAVID DESROCHES

Generated from News Bureau press release: “Spanish-Speaking Parents can Improve Children’s English Skills through Reading and Doing Math in Spanish”

Learning English can be tough for children whose parents speak a different language at home. But a new study suggests that, in Spanish-speaking homes, learning words and numbers in Spanish actually helps children pick up English faster.

Even if parents can't speak English, they can help their child learn it.

"Parents who want to foster their children's English acquisition in school can feel a little better about doing those activities in Spanish, because they seem to be helpful," said Francisco Palermo from the University of Missouri, one of the authors of the new study.

"It's the Spanish skills that foster the learning of English," he said. "We're better off trying to build on the skills children already bring into the classroom, as opposed to trying to replace the ones they already have."

Palermo suggested that teachers incorporate the skills kids bring to the classroom into their lesson plans.
His study looked at Spanish-speaking families, which, as a linguistic group, are the largest portion of non-English speakers in the U.S.

Researchers followed Spanish-speaking children for a year during preschool and found that building on Spanish skills led to improved English. Language learning during preschool can be a key factor in determining how well students learn other things as they progress through school.

“Most of these children will be attending English-only programs,” said Palermo, “and preschool seems to be an optimal time to develop some of those skills, before they go into kindergarten.”

The study’s authors say these findings are significant because of the rapid growth in the Spanish-speaking population. In Connecticut, nearly 10 percent of all students in the state speak Spanish as a native language -- an increase of over eight percent since 2011.

By the year 2030, the National Center For Education Statistics projects that non-native English speakers will account for 40 percent of all students in the country, and the vast majority of them being from Spanish-speaking homes.

WUOM-FM (NPR) – University of Michigan

**Take a number: endangered species running into long wait times**

By REBECCA WILLIAMS • 21 HOURS AGO

Generated from News Bureau press release: “Many Endangered Species Face Long Waits for Protection”
Endangered species are waiting in long lines for the federal government to make a decision.

That's the conclusion of a study in the journal *Biological Conservation* on wait times for listing a species under the Endangered Species Act.

**Emily Puckett is the lead author of the study. She's a postdoctoral associate with Fordham University who completed her graduate work at the University of Missouri. She analyzed what happened with 1,338 species since 1974. She says according to the law, it’s supposed to take about two years to get through the process.**

“The median time that they're waiting is 12.1 years and not that two years. Some species are being listed very quickly, but other species have essentially waited the entire length of the ESA, up to 38 years before they're ever listed,” she says.

Puckett says reptiles, fish, and mammals had much shorter wait times than invertebrates and plants. She says one reason might be that many people have an easier time feeling affection for, say, an eagle, than a snail.

"We’re vertebrates and we’re biased toward wanting to save things like us. And therefore the essentially cute species, or beloved species, they don't necessarily have to be cute, that's the reason why vertebrates move through the process faster,” she says.

A spokesperson with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said things have improved in recent years. They e-mailed this statement:

“In the last six years, the Service has experienced a more than 90% reduction in Endangered Species Act deadline litigation compared with the previous six years, yet this period has been the most productive in the last two decades for extending the protection of the ESA to those species that need it. Today, we have a sound priority system in place to tackle the outstanding list of species that may warrant listing in a manner that is both strategic and transparent.”
Logging roads can rob forest soil of water

Generated from a News Bureau release: “Logging Can Decrease Water Infiltration into Forest Soils, Study Finds”

The health of forests, especially forests that are being logged, depends on soil water infiltration—or the ability to absorb water and move it through different layers. This ability can affect how quickly forests regenerate after being logged.

Now, a new study in the journal *Geoderma* suggests that logging operations can negatively affect soil density and water infiltration within forests, particularly along makeshift logging roads and landing areas where logs are stored before being trucked to sawmills.

“We found that along these logging roads and landing areas, the soil was more dense and compact with slower water infiltration than in the surrounding, untouched areas of the forest,” says Stephen Anderson, professor of soil science at the University of Missouri.

“This can cause many environmental challenges in forests because dense soil prevents rainwater from soaking in; rather, this water will run off and cause erosion. This erosion can carry fertile topsoil away from forests, which enters streams and makes it difficult for those forests being logged to regenerate with new growth as well as polluting surface water resources.”

For the study, researchers took soil core samples up to 40 centimeters deep from logging roads, log landing areas, and logged areas in portions of the Mark Twain National Forest in Callaway County, Missouri. The soil from logging roads and landing areas was more dense, had much slower water infiltration, and lower water retention capacity than the areas of forest that had been logged. The finding highlights the need for treatment of these impacted areas within logged forests.

“It is clear that even though logging companies can take precautions to prevent many types of negative environmental impacts from their operations, soil density and water infiltration are being negatively affected,” Anderson says.

“It is important these areas of compacted soil be identified and treated to reduce soil compaction and prevent long-term effects on forest regeneration and production. It is in the land managers’ best interests to ensure that forest soils remain a healthy density because dense soil can lead to reduced tree production and poor wood quality for future logging operations.”
MU move-in is not what parents expected

COLUMBIA - Students living in University of Missouri residence halls unloaded their college essentials from tightly packed cars during MU's official move-in day on Wednesday. Move-in day is usually an exciting time for both students and parents, but some parents were surprised at how easy the process was.

Theresa McKee, a parent of an incoming freshman, said moving her student into Johnston hall took less than an hour.

"It was nothing like we expected," she said. "We had heard some horror stories in the past, so we were expecting long lines and craziness, but it was really, really nice, very organized. Nothing like what we had expected."

University of Missouri Residential Life said despite the decrease in the size of freshman class, it wants to focus on making sure the students living in residence halls have the best move-in experience as possible.

Ana Morales, a senior at the university reminisced about her freshman move-in experience.

"Moving in took hours when it really shouldn't take that long," she said. "I want to know what they're doing this year, like, if its more organized, if they have some system, but it was not easy my year."

McKee also said there were a lot of people around to help families move their items up to the students' room.

"It was very organized with lots of helpers," she said. "We were not expecting the help at all."

MUPD also said it didn't have any problems with traffic around campus, and no accidents had been reported.
As students move in, the University of Missouri struggles with enrollment


Ariel Rothfield

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The big day has arrived for Autumn Schwartz and her entire family.

On Tuesday, they packed up their car and drove more than six hours from Austin, Minnesota to Columbia, Missouri to move the soon-to-be freshman into her dorm.

“I got my computer and my clothes, my decorations for my room, a TV and I got a mini-fridge,” said Schwartz, who plans on majoring in journalism.

But this year, the University of Missouri is expected to see a drop in enrollment.

Last fall, a graduate student went on a hunger strike and students camped out in tents for weeks protesting social injustice on campus. The football team also threatened to boycott a game. Then-president Tim Wolfe ultimately resigned as did the Chancellor of the Columbia campus, R. Bowen Loftin.

“It didn’t deter me from coming back,” said Gabrele Banks, who will soon be starting her sophomore year.

41 Action News asked university representatives for specific enrollment numbers for fall of 2016. The assistant director of the communications department told us over the phone the exact numbers would not be made available until September as students are still enrolling. However, 41 Action News learned school officials expect enrollment to be around a 10-year low.

The school has closed three residential halls and repurposed one residential hall.

Laws and Lathrop Halls were scheduled to be used part of the school year then later demolished, but school officials decided to vacate the buildings and move the demolition date up because
“they did not need them.” Excellence Hall will be closed and Respect Hall will now be used for guest housing and for single graduate students.

**KSBI – Oklahoma City, OK**

**Breakfast Habits Play a Role in How Individuals Metabolize their Food**

Generated from News Bureau press release: “Breakfast Habits Affect Teens’ Metabolic Responses to Protein-packed Morning Meals”


**What made the Blue Cut fire so relentlessly fast**

This MU expert mention was the result of a direct pitch from the MU News Bureau.

Firefighters battling the fast-growing fire in the Cajon Pass faced a powder keg created by mountainous terrain, excessive dry vegetation and extreme weather conditions, experts said Wednesday.

In just over a day, the Blue Cut fire charred dozens of buildings, mostly single-story family houses, and forced the evacuation of 82,000 residents from 34,500 homes.
From the time the fire was reported at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday until 10 that night, the wildfire had grown to 18,000 acres. That day, Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency, in part citing the blaze’s rapid expansion.

By 7 p.m. Wednesday, the fire had consumed 25,626 acres, with 4 percent containment, said a representative for the San Bernardino National Forest. No one else has been told to evacuate.

“That’s a pretty fast-moving fire,” said Cathey Mattingly, a representative with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. “We’re seeing fall fire behavior early in the season.”

The area hasn’t had significant rainfall since early May. Dry timber, Joshua trees, pinyon-juniper woodland and extremely dry chaparral have provided ripe fuel.

It’s a wildfire that more closely resembles a blaze fueled by the Santa Ana winds most common in autumn and winter.

Winds of up to 20 mph channeled through the pass and surged into canyons, Mattingly said. Low humidity and high winds increased oxygen to feed the fire’s growth.

Some areas reported as little as 2 percent humidity Tuesday, said Brandt Maxwell, a meteorologist at the San Diego office of the National Weather Service.

“Whenever we have a combination of low humidity and high winds, then you have the potential for explosive fire growth,” Maxwell said.

The area is often visited by passing summer thunderstorms, Maxwell said, but those have mostly stayed east of San Bernardino: “It’s been over three months, and we’ve had almost nothing.”

These factors combined with other historical trends — climate change making rain less frequent and more people living in the area and suppressing natural wildfires — produced the perfect storm for a raging wildfire, said Richard Guyette, who has studied wildfires for nearly 40 years at the University of Missouri.

Dry vegetation that would otherwise be consumed in several smaller blazes accumulate and add to the intensity, Guyette said. “Just more and more fuel builds up on the landscape.”

Conditions aren’t going to change anytime soon. Wildfires that grow rapidly could become the new norm.

“I would say we’re going to see them all around in the United States,” Guyette said. “It’s unfortunate.”
COLUMBIA, Mo. - The Attorney General's office filed a lawsuit Tuesday in Boone County Circuit Court in support of a MU law professor who wants to keep his gun in his car on campus.

Professor Royce De Barondes sued the university Board of Curators and former UM System President Tim Wolfe in September 2015 citing the university's ban on guns on campus violates state law.

ABC 17 News reached out to Chris Koster's office Wednesday for comment on the lawsuit. Nancy Gonder, the office's Press Secretary responded the following in an email:

"This filing is a parallel step in the year-long litigation initiated by a University of Missouri-Columbia law professor against the University of Missouri. In September of 2015, the law professor, a full-time employee of the University, challenged the University’s rule against securing a lawfully owned weapon in the trunk of his car while parked on campus. The professor's action was filed in Cole County, Missouri."

"Attorney General Koster initiated this action to stabilize the legal issue in a proper venue, and to ensure that Missouri statutes and constitution are applied correctly and responsibly."

Current University regulations do not "allow concealed-carry permit holders to carry concealed weapons on University property."

However, Barondes' attorneys argue an amendment to Missouri's Constitution passed by voters in 2014 directly conflicts with the universities concealed carry policy.

The provisions to the state constitution, known as "Amendment 5", states 'every citizen has a right to bear arms and those rights are unalienable' and that 'any restriction on these rights are subject to strict scrutiny.'

The Board of Curators has argued the constitution allows it to govern and issue rules for the University.
But in the lawsuit, Koster said the University's concealed carry rule 'burdens more right to bear arms restrictions than necessary to ensure public safety.'

Seven stories likely to make news this fall at MU

After an eventful 2015–16 school year, this fall brings the possibility of more newsworthy events regarding administration and campus life.

The 2015–16 school year made waves with many newsworthy events, from student protests to a controversial Missouri Students Association election.

Fall 2016 will be no different: the UM System will hire a new president and campus will keep talking about the boundaries of free speech, among other things. Here’s what you should be on the lookout for this fall:

The end of the interims

Following a nearly yearlong search, which has included conducting public forums and assessing and interviewing candidates, the UM System presidential search committee is expected to appoint the 24th UM System president in November.

After former UM System President Tim Wolfe resigned in November 2015 and Mike Middleton was appointed interim president, a search began to find his successor. Since January, a search committee made up of the Board of Curators, students, faculty and staff has been working with search firm Isaacson, Miller to find the next president.

MU also has multiple vacant positions currently held by interims, including the deans of the College of Arts and Science and School of Law, and chancellor, which has been held by interim Chancellor Hank Foley since former Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin resigned in November 2015. Searches for deans will begin early in the fall semester. The chancellor search will begin sometime after the UM System president is announced and could involve a nationwide search. Foley could be named the permanent chancellor.

Running low on money … and students

This fall, MU is expected to have 2,600 fewer students and a $46 million budget shortfall, per projections from this spring.
Once classes begin, the enrollment numbers will be finalized and the Division of Enrollment Management will report the actual numbers for the 2016–17 school year. With the budget shortfall, the 5 percent across-the-board cuts that Foley implemented will be in effect — for some students, this means larger classes; for some employees, this means layoffs. Because of the lowered enrollment, the Department of Residential Life closed four residence halls for the 2016–17 school year.

Can we say what we want to say?

The debate over boundaries for free speech on campus will continue this fall.

A committee composed of students, administrators and faculty members tasked with discussing free speech reaffirmed MU’s commitment to free expression, and they included specific regulations for scheduling events on campus in a draft policy about free speech at MU. The proposed policy also includes recommendations for mediating conflicts over free speech.

As a draft policy, the report will be the subject of discussions on campus in the fall as it’s critiqued and possibly changed before being adopted as an official policy. The policy proposal comes after a semester of questions about what free speech is acceptable on campus following protests in November that left many unsure of how MU should regulate free speech.

Bring out the big guns

Currently, you can’t carry a concealed firearm on campus. But several 2015 state legislature bills proposed to lift the ban. One bill that passed through the House in May would allow full-time university employees, but not students, to have firearms on campus.

Law professor Royce de R. Barondes’ lawsuit against the school over the constitutionality of the concealed carry ban sparked debate on campus. Barondes said the UM System’s rules against carrying a weapon on campus violate his constitutional rights. In April, the UM System countersued Barondes and said the rules against carrying weapons on campus are in place to create a safe environment, according to the Kansas City Star.

The case is ongoing, and the verdict has the chance to pave the way for new limits on gun regulations.

MSA rebuilds after controversial election

The Missouri Students Association, under the administration of President Sean Earl and Vice President Tori Schafer, will have an increased focus on transparency this fall.

This comes after a controversial MSA election when it was found that the winning slate of Haden Gomez and Chris Hanner violated Board of Elections Commissioners rules when their campaign manager, Natalie Edelstein, sent a mass text encouraging people to vote for Gomez/Hanner and Gomez used the app Pocket Points to advertise for the slate.
“(We saw) how much a group of individuals could tarnish an entire association that represents over 27,000 students.” Earl said in a previous Maneater article. “We wanted to get back to what we came into when we first started in MSA and that was the true spirit of service, advocacy and representing our fellow Tigers.”

Earl previously said that he believes MSA will not continue to tolerate members who want to use the organization just to advance their careers.

“(The) last election was the last phase of transitioning the group out that is focused on the titles and ambition,” Earl said.

Where we can live and park

Columbia currently has a housing development freeze in effect within a one-mile radius of MU’s campus until Dec. 1.

City Council passed the ban on building new housing complexes in May, citing the drop in enrollment and new student housing developments as reasons for the freeze. According to the Columbia Daily Tribune, some housing developments already in progress will be affected, but most demolitions will not be affected.

While the freeze is in progress, a Parking and Traffic Management Task Force will evaluate downtown parking options.

Multiple city officials have acknowledged that the current parking infrastructure does not support the number of people who want to park downtown, who are mostly students. The Parking and Management Task Force will examine new parking regulations being considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The commission is currently working on a new zoning code.

Graduate workers sue the UM System

Graduate workers are currently suing the UM System over the right to unionize and be recognized as employees.

In April, graduate workers held a union authorization election after having attempted to organize a union since fall 2015 when it was announced that graduate students’ health insurance would not be renewed, although it was soon reinstated for the school year. In the election, 84 percent of those who voted were in favor of being represented by the Coalition of Graduate Workers in collective bargaining with MU and the UM System.

An attorney for the UM System told CGW they would not recognize the election results. CGW filed a lawsuit in May against the UM System. A judge has been assigned to the case, and it is unclear when a verdict will be delivered, but the case will move forward throughout the fall.
Frequently asked questions about MU’s historic fall

There’s a good chance you heard about MU last fall. We made a lot of headlines with numerous rallies and resignations. Maybe you saw The Maneater’s timeline that outlined events or you followed walkouts on Twitter. For those of you who aren’t quite sure what made fall 2015 such an iconic one for MU, here’s a quick refresher on what went down.

What was it that started everything?

Well, there’s not quite one thing that can be attributed to rocketing MU into the news. Tension toward the administrators at the time had been building on campus since August. Frustrations over graduate student health care, Planned Parenthood abortion services and swastikas drawn in feces were just some of the controversies occurring simultaneously. However, there were a few key moments that acted as catalysts.

The first was in September, when then-Missouri Students Association President Payton Head shared that he had been called a racial slur. His Facebook post went viral, and it resulted in the first “Racism Lives Here” rally that criticized administration for taking six days to respond to the incident.

A month later, graduate student Jonathan Butler started an indefinite hunger strike that he said would end in either UM System president Tim Wolfe’s resignation or Butler’s own death.

Five days later, the football team boycotted football-related activities until Wolfe was removed. Although numerous walkouts, demonstrations and statements had been issued before, this was the point when national media outlets could be found staking out the Concerned Student 1950 campground and administration began taking more action.

Whoa, that was a lot. Who was it that resigned, exactly?

That depends on who you’re referring to. Over 20 MU and UM officials have resigned since November. Some of the resignations include:

Tim Wolfe, former UM System president — Oversaw all four UM System universities (MU, S&T, UM-Kansas City, UM-St. Louis) and its more than 77,000 students. Wolfe’s resignation was one of CS1950’s eight initial demands.

R. Bowen Loftin, former MU chancellor — Head of MU. Loftin had only been chancellor for 22 months before his resignation. He was criticized by some for his lack of action regarding
graduate student housing and health care and for limiting the continuation of abortion services in Columbia.

*Chuck Henson, interim vice chancellor for diversity, equity and inclusion* — Henson was one of the many interims that were appointed after last fall. His position was created when many new diversity initiatives were also introduced on campus. He served for a little over five months.

*Ann Covington, Yvonne Sparks, David Steward, former UM System curators* — Members of the UM System Board of Curators, the head governing body of the UM System. All three resigned before their current terms were set to expire, including Sparks, who served for less than two months and whose term wasn’t set to expire until Jan. 1, 2021. Sparks and Steward resigned within five days of each other.

*Gary Pinkel, former head football coach* — His resignation came after 15 years at MU and his diagnosis with lymphoma, a cancer of the blood. Pinkel’s resignation was not directly related to the events of last fall, and he even tweeted out a photo of the football team writing, “The Mizzou Family stands as one. We are united. We are behind our players,” when the team announced its boycott.

**What does the acronym CS1950 stand for?**

CS1950 refers to the group “Concerned Student 1950,” a driving force of the demonstrations last fall. The group was founded by 11 members, including graduate student Jonathan Butler. Some of the original members knew each other from participating in the “MU4MikeBrown” movement in 2014 that was started by three queer black women, Butler said. CS1950 issued lists of demands and statements last fall in addition to holding demonstrations and meetings with campus officials.

**I saw a bunch of tents on the news. What was that about?**

Members and supporters of CS1950 camped out on the Carnahan Quadrangle until Wolfe resigned. They set up tents, even during the rain, and supporters brought them supplies throughout their protest.

**Wasn’t there a fight that broke out on the campground?**

Not exactly. The area was dubbed a “no media zone” by demonstrators, which was a factor in the viral video you may have seen of an altercation between student journalists and former MU professor Melissa Click. Demonstrators celebrating Wolfe’s resignation clashed with student journalists over their attempts to take get closer to the campsite to cover the event, and Click called for “muscle” to help remove a student journalist. The UM System Board of Curators later suspended her. CS1950 supported Click throughout the fall and spring.

**I heard the KKK was on campus. Is that true?**
MUPD never confirmed the presence of the KKK on campus. However, threats were made against black students on the anonymous social media app Yik Yak. Some professors canceled class in response to students’ fears of showing up on campus the next day. The Missouri University of Science and Technology student who posted the threats was later arrested.

Wait, did you say something about a swastika earlier?

Yes. It was found drawn with feces in a bathroom in Gateway Hall. Similar anti-Semitic incidents have happened in residential halls before, when a student drew two swastikas in Mark Twain Hall in 2015. And that wasn’t the only instance of vandalism on campus this past fall. The word “Black” on the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center sign was also painted over in black spray paint after Wolfe and Loftin’s resignations.

Some graffiti that appeared on campus was more benign, with someone painting a stop sign to read “Stop Hate” and students covering Speakers Circle with inspirational quotes written in chalk.

So now that all that happened, everything is back to normal now, right?

Not yet. While there may not be a hunger strike on campus or calls for resignations, MU is still in the process of healing and navigating the tumultuous events of the fall. Currently, both the UM System president and MU chancellor positions are held by interim administrators while a search for permanent replacements continue. Demonstrations, while fewer in number, still continued after Wolfe’s resignation. Enrollment is down, and multiple residential halls have closed as a result. We’re still working it out.

Is MU racist?

Many students shared their surprise last fall when it seemed as if there was a demonstration or resignation every other day. Some said they didn’t know racism still existed. The events of last fall were a wake-up call for some, and yet representative of the hostility many students on campuses across the nation feel. Students at over 100 schools across the globe stood in solidarity with MU, and similar student movements were simultaneously unfolding at universities such as Stanford and Yale. While MU’s historic fall was not only a result of issues surrounding race, it was also a build-up of issues with university leadership and student rights.
Summer brings increased exposure to possible rabies

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The summer time is a popular time for people to get outside and go hiking or camping. But with that extras outdoor time brings extra exposure to the possibility of rabies.

One doctor at the University of Missouri's Urgent Care Center says she's seen at least 10 patients this summer receive a rabies vaccination.

"We had a case a couple weeks ago where a couple was in a cabin and woke up and there were bats in there," Doctor Tara Flynn said.

Flynn said in the last seven years, there have been two people die from rabies in Missouri. The key is early treatment. Experts say once a person starts showing symptoms, a vaccine is often too late.

Flynn also said while people have more exposure to dogs or cats, there's more risk for contracting rabies from bats.

"Dogs are much less likely to have rabies than to say bats or skunks."

Oftentimes, bat bites go unnoticed. Their small teeth make it difficult to feel the bite or find a bite-mark.

"When it comes to bat bites, it's better to err on the side of giving the vaccination," Flynn said.

If a person is bit by a bat or other wild or stray animal, Flynn says, if they can, to catch the animal. The animal can then go to the state lab for testing or observation to determine if it has rabies.

The process for a rabies vaccine is an extensive one. Flynn said if a bite-mark can be found, there's one shot that goes directly in and around the bite area. Additionally, there's a series of four shots the patient will receive over two weeks.

"So usually its an initial shot, that's day zero. Then you have one at day three, day seven and then day 14."
Flynn also said a tenuous shot may be necessary as well.

Bats are common in caves including in the Devil's icebox are at Rock Bridge State Park.