

David and Yvonne Freeman
The University of Texas at Brownsville

Cognates

Cognates

- One way to draw on students' first languages is to discuss cognates and false cognates.

Using Cognates to Draw on Primary Language

- civilization
- history
- past
- pioneer
- colonial
- diary

- civilización
- historia
- pasado
- pionero
- colonial
- diario

Cognate Activities

- put book pages on an overhead and point out cognates
- have students work in pairs to find cognates in a text
- create a cognate wall
- create a cognate classroom dictionary

Cognate Activities

- Have students work together to find and then categorize cognates
- same spelling – colonial
- predictable variation – civilization / civilización
- same root – sport/ deporte
- fits only one meaning – letter/ letra (of the alphabet)
- Rodriguez, T.A. (2001) The Reading Teacher