

# Math and Cookies

## **Title: Elementary Preservice Teachers Supporting the Development of Mathematical Language**

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Abstract: When we hear the word "language", we usually think of different language types, such as English, Spanish, Hindi, Mandarin, Arabic, etc. However, there is also mathematical language, which is used to describe students' mathematical vocabulary usage. An emphasis throughout mathematics education literature is on students being able to voice their reasoning mathematically and using formal mathematical vocabulary and terminology. However, getting to that stage is no easy task as "teachers have a significant role to play to mediate between the use of learners' ordinary English and the verbalization of symbolic language in an appropriate mathematical language" (Molefe, 2006, p. 510). This talk will focus on how three elementary preservice teachers thought about and supported mathematical language. Additionally, we compare the typical teacher moves found in literature to the supports the preservice teachers mentioned and used in their own practice.

