

Biography

Anabelle Bouchard is from Moonbeam, Ontario. She is a 4th year student in the Speech Language Pathology program at Laurentian University. She plans to start the Speech Language Pathology masters at Laurentian in the next year. Her research interests are bilingualism and language in a minority context. Anabelle is currently doing her research on the language of use in French schools in a minority context.

Research

The use of the French Language in French Schools in a Minority Context

The french language is an example of a minority context in Canada (except for Quebec). This is the case for the Sudbury region, where English is mostly spoken between individuals and that is the object of this research. In order to determine if a franco dominant child starting school is still going to be franco dominant a couple of years later, some recording have been analysed. The children starting school in junior kindergarden have been recorded for a whole day so we could hear their way of communicating inside and outside of the classroom. A couple of years later, now in third grade, the children were recorded again in order to answer the question: "Are the francophone or bilingual children attending French schools in a minority context still using the same language to communicate at the age of 9 and 10 comparing to the age of 5 and 6.?" The recordings were analysed with the SALT program to analyse so we could answer the research question. The goal of this research is to determine if it is possible for young children to keep their language of use the minority language when they are surrounded by people communicating in another language.