Bilingual Books

Comment on translation and bilingual books

Karina: A group of students in my class are writing a bilingual book. They have written it in Chinese, and then one of the students is translating. He's done like a straight translation. So, some of the story telling and the language that you would use for a narrative and to make it interesting is lost. We did have a fairly long conference together, and I explored some of the language with them. They were thinking they had to do a straight translation, so that kind of needed unpacking which was really good... They were thinking they had to do a strict translation of the language, rather than how it was going to be read from an English perspective. Once they understood that, they said we want to do the rest because I was helping them with some of the translation. I've just had a read of it. They've done really well with it. I mean, it's not perfect, but for what they had to do, they had to put so much work into it, I think they've done a really great job.

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