



Mini Lesson: Supporting Language Development Basket 2 Learning to See

Focus

Supporting Language Development

Introduction

Language learning is not a single part of children's development; It is a journey with many steps along the way. Somehow, children blast from listening to speech as newborns to cooing and babbling as older infants. They race from learning new words as toddlers to speaking in complex sentences as preschoolers.

Language milestones are important, but it is how children develop these skills, the path that they take on their journey, that lays the foundation for later success. Whether children are learning one or more languages, they need high-quality language interactions with the adults in their lives. These interactions build a strong foundation for language learning.

Instructional Videos

Based on what you know about yourself and your learning preferences, choose at least two of the videos below to learn about the topic. Notice that these resources build on one another around a common topic.

- [Early essentials webisode 9: Language development](#)
- [Practices in action: Lunch conversation](#)
- [Practices in action: Talking about animals](#)
- [Practices in action: Old MacDonald](#)

Supporting Materials

Review the articles below to become more familiar with language development.

- Kuhl, P. (2011). [Early language learning and literacy: Neuroscience implications for education](#). *Mind, Brain, and Education*, 5(3), 128–142.
- Gardner-Neblett, N., & Gallagher, K. C. (2013). [More than baby talk: 10 ways to promote the language and communication skills of infants and toddlers](#). Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina, FPG Child Development Institute.
- Whitehurst, G.J. (2002). Dialogic reading: An effective way to read to preschoolers. *Reading Rockets*. <https://www.readingrockets.org/article/dialogic-reading-effective-way-read-aloud-young-children>.



Linked Media

Title

Early essentials webisode 9: Language development

Source Link

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/video/early-essentials-webisode-9-language-development>

Embeddable Media

N/A

Description

In this video Linda Espinosa, PhD, and others from the profession share information about early language development.

Duration

24:35

Title

Practices in action: Lunch conversation

Source Link

https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/v1_md_TeLwaYhe56Sb.mp4

Embeddable Media

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Description

In this video an educator sits with infants at lunch. She facilitates learning through conversation using encouragement, praise, narration, expansion, and novel words. Educator and children use sign language.

Duration

1:16

Title

Practices in action: Talking about animals

Source Link

https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/v1_md_zeXyijUf8UUO.mp4

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Description

In this video an educator and two children are talking about animals while the children explore plastic animals and a large cardboard box. The educator asks questions, engaging the children in continuous conversation. She provides back-and-forth exchanges, introduces novel vocabulary, and expands and clarifies on the children's responses and ideas. In this video an educator looks at a book with a toddler. They name animals together as the educator encourages the child to repeat the words.

Duration

3:15



Linked Media, cont.

Title

Practices in action: Old MacDonald

Source Link

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Description

In this video an educator looks at a book with a toddler. They name animals together as the educator encourages the child to repeat the words.

Duration

0:59

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