




National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

March 16, 2023

Brilliant Bilingual Preschoolers

Host
Marley Jarvis, PhD




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Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

Host
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Guest Expert
Xigris Soto-Boykin, PhD
NCECDTL

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Definitions

Dual Language Learners

Equity

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Bilingualism Is a Strength



Our culture and language are central to our identity

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Learning Objectives

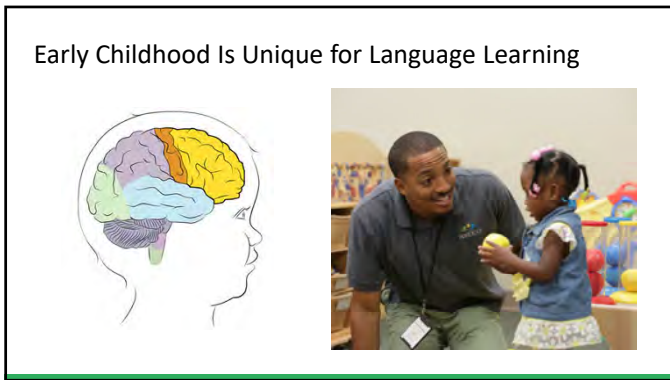
1. Describe the brain's role in supporting dual language learning.
2. Implement strategies to support preschoolers who are dual language learners, including children with disabilities or suspected delays.



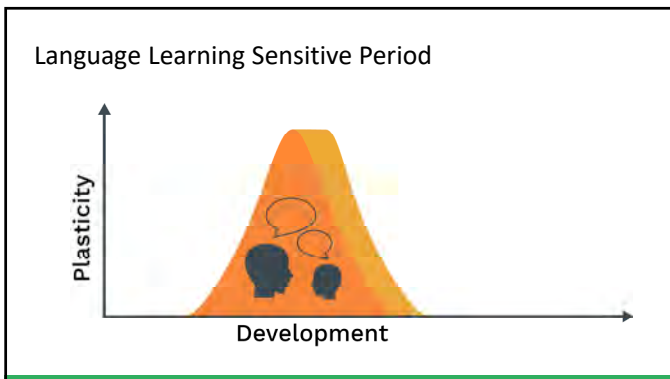
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Peek Inside the Bilingual Brain

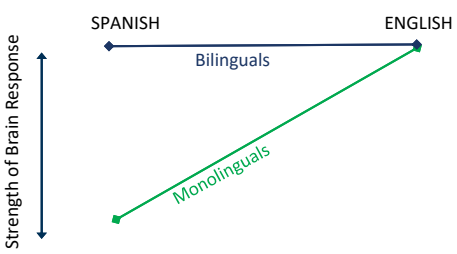


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Ferjan Ramirez et al. 2017

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A Peek Inside the Bilingual Brain



Strength of Brain Response

SPANISH ENGLISH


Bilinguals

Monolinguals

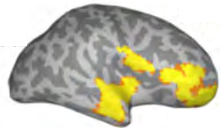
Adapted from Ferjan Ramirez et al. 2017

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Cognitive Benefits



Prefrontal cortex



Ferjan Ramirez et al. 2017

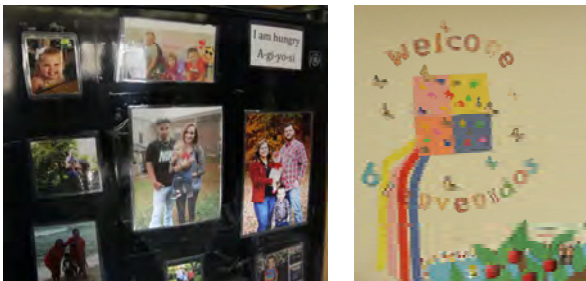
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Bilingual Environments Boost Cognitive Flexibility



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More Benefits of Bilingualism!



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Hello!
Salaan!
¡Hola!

Language Development &
Milestones

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Thumbs Up for Yes, Thumbs Down for No:

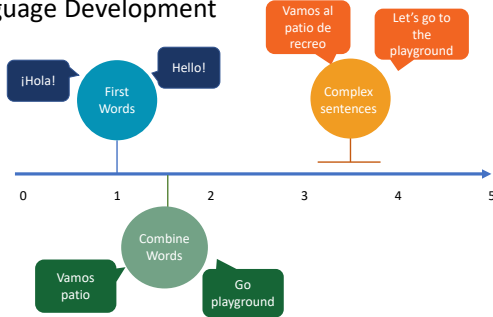
Have you ever been told or heard that learning more than one language confuses children or causes language delays?

This is NOT true! But commonly stated. It's important to counter this misconception.



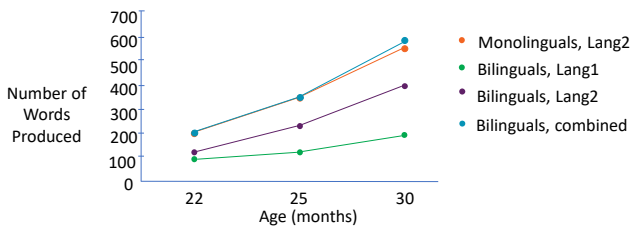
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Language Development



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Language Development



Adapted from Hoff et al. 2012

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Dr. Xigríd Soto-Boykin



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Multilingualism: A Beautiful Necklace



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Code Mixing: A Language Tool, NOT a Sign of Confusion



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Video: Code Mixing



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Code Mixing and “Translanguaging”



Educator: Do you want me to take off my veil?
Child: [Unintelligible]
Educator: You wanna braid?

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Dr. Xigris Soto-Boykin



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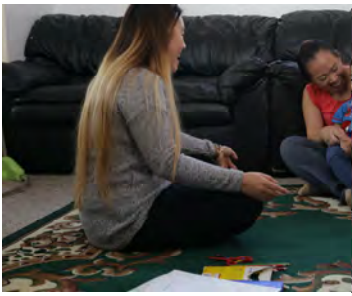
Children with Disabilities and Developmental Delays



Children with disabilities can learn multiple languages and benefit from bilingual environments and supports alongside their peers.

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Home Language is the Foundation



Gathering and Using Language Information That Families Share

One third of the children in Early Head Start and Head Start are Dual Language Learners (DLLs). Recent research provides insights into dual language development and key ways to support children's progress. The studies note:

- many similarities among ALL children (e.g., children are born with natural capacities for language and for learning);
- key differences between children growing up with one language and children who are DLLs (e.g., children may learn some ideas, such as counting, in one of their languages but not in the other); and
- children who are DLLs are each unique individuals with unique experiences, learning styles, and preferences.

When adults understand children's past experiences with language(s) they are able to build upon those experiences and support their optimal progress.

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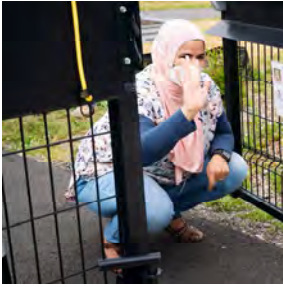
Build an Environment of Belonging



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Belonging Starts With Us



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Can You See the Children in the Environment?



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Create Opportunities for Children to Share Their Thinking



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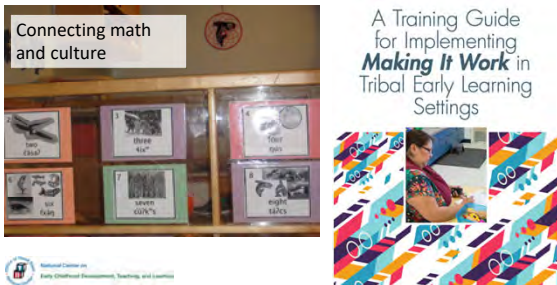
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Video Recap: Create Opportunities to Share Thinking



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Supporting Culturally Relevant & Strengths-based Approaches

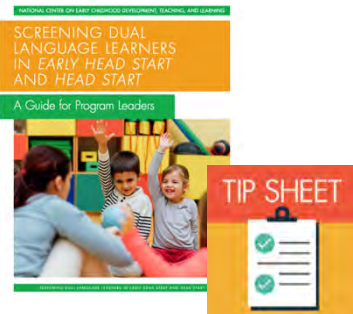


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Supporting Culturally Relevant & Strengths-based Approaches




Screening and assessing children who are dual language learners in their home language is:

- An equitable practice
- Essential to accurately identify children's abilities and to understand their needs and strengths
- Required by the HSPPS



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What's Your Why?
Dr. Xigríd Soto-Boykin


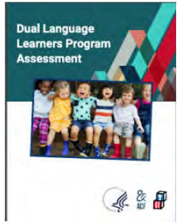

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Lead with Equity

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Dual Language Learners
Program Assessment (DLLPA):
Users' Guide

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Strengthening Equitable Learning Spaces

Building Belonging

http://bit.ly/iPD_ECLKC

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We Want to Hear From You!

Please take some time to complete the session evaluation.

For more information contact:
ecctl@ecetta.info
 (Toll-free 1-844-261-3752)

This training was supported by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the United States (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$10,200,000 with 100% funded by ACF. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACF/HHS, or the U.S. Government. This resource may be duplicated for noncommercial uses without permission.

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Thank You!

Join Us For Our Next Episode!

Thursday, June 15, 2023
 3pm- 4pm EST

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