

Effective Language Support Techniques for Preschoolers Learning Two Languages: Connections with Early Language Development

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Abstract

Abstract text describing the study's focus on language support techniques for preschoolers learning two languages, connecting to early language development.

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Keywords: Preschool; Dual language learners (DLL); Language development; Early language development; Bilingualism; Cultural and linguistic differences

Introduction

In today's multicultural and multilingual societies, the number of dual language learners (DLL) has increased significantly. Preschoolers who are dual language learners (DLL) face unique challenges and opportunities as they navigate the acquisition of two languages. Early childhood education and care providers play a crucial role in supporting the child's language development. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [1,2]. The early language environment significantly influences the child's language development. Factors such as the quality of language input, the amount of language exposure, and the child's social interactions are key factors in language development [3,4]. Early childhood education and care providers play a crucial role in supporting the child's language development. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [5,6].

Faced by preschool DLLs

Preschool DLLs face unique challenges as they navigate language development. These challenges include code-switching (alternating between languages), language delay, and reduced vocabulary. Effective language support strategies are essential for these children. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [7,8].

Effective language support strategies

Early childhood education and care providers can play a crucial role in supporting the child's language development. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [9].

Promoting language rich environments: Creating a language-rich environment is essential for DLLs. This includes providing ample opportunities for language use, such as reading, singing, and playing with language-rich toys. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [10].

Responsive interactions: Engaging in responsive interactions with the child is crucial for language development. This involves acknowledging the child's language attempts and providing meaningful feedback. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [11].

Code-switching and code-mixing: Encouraging the natural use of code-switching and code-mixing in DLLs' speech. Educators can model and encourage the use of both languages in natural contexts. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [12].

Cultural integration: Integrating cultural elements into the language learning process. Celebrating cultural holidays, traditions, and customs can enhance the child's language learning experience. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [13].

Supportive peer interactions: Facilitating interactions between DLLs and monolingual peers. Peer interactions can provide natural language learning opportunities. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [14].

Family involvement: Collaborating with the family to support language development. Research indicates that early language development is critical for cognitive and academic success [15].

