



Module 1

Cultivating a Love of Literacy

&

Exploring Stages of Language Development

Early Literacy Matters

Presentation 2: Exploring Language Development for Children Birth to Age 5

- In this presentation, you will explore how language typically develops for children birth to age five. It's important to have a solid understanding of the developmental continuum to best support children's learning.
- As you work through this presentation, keep in mind that development occurs slightly different for each child.
- Knowing the stages of language development will help you create environments and experiences that provide opportunities for children to continually develop early language and literacy skills.

Language Development from Birth-5

Read through the resource below to gain more information on developmental milestones.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>

Language Development

- Looking back over the stages of language development, we really see the importance of speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities at each stage.
- To support children's language development, we need keep in mind the stages of language development and plan activities that provide children opportunities for speaking, listening, reading, and writing.
- Knowing that not all children in our classrooms are at the same stage of development, we need to plan for how we will support each child's development. You will have an opportunity to practice this in the next activity.

Practice Activity 2: Create a Child's Literacy Profile

For this practice activity, you will create a Child's Literacy Profile using the Planning Web Template provided in the Learning Guide.

This literacy profile will help you explore the language development of a child in your care.

Instructions for Practice Activity 2

1. Select a child in your care for this activity.
2. Use the Child's Literacy Profile Planning Web provided in the Learning Guide to briefly describe your selected child.
3. Begin by entering the age and gender of the child in the center of web.
4. In the other circles, write brief descriptions of the child's language, speaking, listening, print concepts, phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, and emergent writing skills. Refer back to *language development for children birth to five* slides for help.
5. This web will help you create a picture of the child's language development.

Reflection on Child's Literacy Profile

After completing the story web for the selected child, think about and respond to the following questions in the Learning Guide:

- How will this information influence the ways you interact with the child?
- How will this information help you plan appropriate learning activities for the child?
- What kinds of activities would help this child further language development?

End of Section 2

Congratulations, you just completed section 2 of Module 1.

- Check to be sure you completed section 2 activities in the Learning Guide.
- Continue to reflect on the stages of children's language development and the activities you can use to further their development.
- When ready, move on to section 3 learning materials.



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Excellence | Optimism | Judgment | Courage | Teamwork