

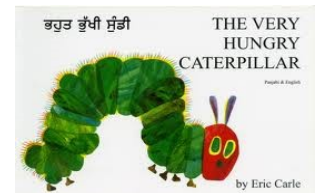


Dual Language Learners

Red flags in children's speech and language development can be especially hard to determine among children whose home language is not English.

When children hear a different language at home from childcare or school, speech delays in English may occur. If the child's speech and language milestones are being met in their home language, a referral for speech services in English is not needed.

- ✓ **Ask the child's parent to help** determine if their child is on track by using the age-appropriate [Speech and Language Checklist](#). When adding up the number of words a child knows, be sure to combine the words he or she knows from both languages.
- ✓ [Preschool speech and language pamphlets and information in 16 different languages](#) (*Ministry of Community and Social Services*)
- ✓ [First Words](#) website offers Ages and Stages, and Communication Milestones in a wide variety of languages. Click 'Select Language' at the top of your computer screen to choose from 90 translations.



Dual language books can support children's language learning at home and childcare.

Supporting Dual Language Learning in Early Learning Programs

Encourage parents to use their home language with their child. In doing so parents model strong communication skills, syntax and vocabulary.

- ✓ [Dual Language Learners in Early Care and Education Settings](#) (Practical Tips and Tools)
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