

DLL Teacher Training Modules

Description



DLL Module 1: Introductory Module

Description: This module provides an overview of the multiple pathways to bilingualism and stages of second language acquisition. This module reviews the role of the teacher in supporting Dual Language Learners and partnering with families. Participants will gain understanding behind the research and best practices to support differentiated pathways of language and literacy development for Dual Language Learners from Birth to Five.

Key Concepts:

- Benefits of bilingualism
- Relationship between language and culture
- First and second language development
- Assessment approaches
- Teaching strategies to support DLLs
- Partnering with families

Module 2: Understanding the Relationship of Language, Culture, Identity & Equity

Description: This module addresses how our young children reflect the ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity of our nation. Through understanding and respecting this critical relationship, we validate the diversity of DLLs in Early Childhood Education as assets and strengths for all children. Teachers will review the necessary skills, knowledge, dispositions and attitudes to effectively teach in multicultural and multilingual settings.

Key Concepts:

- Definition of culture
- Core beliefs, myths, and assumptions
- Culturally responsive practices

Module 3: Promoting Language and Learning for Dual Language Learners through Play

Description: This module examines how play is a vehicle for learning and supports the language development of Dual Language Learners. Participants will explore the strategic use of play as a learning strategy, where teachers make it safe for Dual Language Learners to take a risk, share stories, and collaborate with peers to develop vocabulary and literacy. It is a critical responsibility for teachers to plan for and create environments that are inclusive of diverse learners and diverse communities.

Key Concepts:

- Play-based learning
- Teacher dispositions to support play
- Strategies to support play

Module 4: Environments that Support DLLs

Description: This module presents a strength-based approach to establish learning environments that support for DLLs. Participants will review the elements of the environment that help children feel safe, accepted, understood, respected and challenged. Emotionally supportive environments allow young DLLs to try out a new language and to take risks. Participants will deepen their understanding of how teachers use culturally responsive classroom management practices that engage diverse learners and the teacher’s role in establishing a caring community. Participants will examine how the environment acts as a “third teacher” to create an affirming environment.

Key Concepts:

- Fostering a classroom of diverse learners
- Physical space and materials
- Routines
- Family connections

Module 5: Phonological Awareness to Support DLLs

Description: This module will provide an overview of the phonological awareness continuum. Participants will become aware of phonological awareness interactions and strategies to support Dual Language Learners in their home language, build awareness of English sounds that do not exist in the home language. Developmentally appropriate activities, such as singing, chanting, sound and wordplay will be highlighted.

Key Concepts:

- Phonological awareness development continuum
- Phonological awareness activities
- Family engagement in phonological awareness

Module 6: Family Literacy Practices

Description: This module will address the multiple ways in which families promote literacy. All families have funds of knowledge (family customs, skills, ideas, experiences) that contribute to their everyday practices and interactions. Families typically engage in practices that support language and literacy but do so in culturally specific ways. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the important role of family literacy practices in the home language that support conversations and enrich language and literacy development for young Dual Language Learners (ages birth to 5).

Key Concepts:

- Connecting with families
- Building blocks of language & literacy
- Family’s strengths
- Home-school connection

Module 7: Math Meaning Making and Problem-Solving Brief description:

Description: This module will focus on developmentally appropriate sorting and classifying and its connection to number sense and problem solving within the lens of supporting DLLs. Participants will become familiar with various strategies to engage DLLs (age birth to 5) in math. Math activities support DLL's concept development while at the same time promoting home and second language development. Math meaning making is enhanced by using appropriate materials, including items often found in children's homes.

Key Concepts:

- Children's intuitive mathematical knowledge
- Mathematical reasoning and problem solving strategies
- Language of mathematics
- Family math

Module 8: A World of Science: Promoting Scientific Inquiry

Description: This module will explore how the scientific inquiry process supports young Dual Language Learners language development and learning. The Scientific Inquiry process provides a hands-on context to explore and become familiar with the world around them. All children are natural scientists! They are curious explorers and love to discover and experiment. Participants will explore many strategies to support DLLs in the classroom as well as provide families with enrichment activities they can do at home.

Key Concepts:

- Scientific exploration
- Culture of inquiry
- Language development through science
- Developmentally appropriate science experiences

Module 9: Celebrating Culture and Diversity through the Visual and Performing Arts

Description: This module will inspire teachers to enthusiastically promote the Arts. The Visual and Performing Arts enshrine the ethnic, cultural, and linguistic diversity present in our world. Visual and performing arts provide a means for children to grow in understanding of themselves and the world around them. Participants will become familiar with Visual and Performing Arts components (visual art, music, drama, dance). Strategies will be shared to build children's language, cognition, and social development through the Arts.

Key Concepts:

- Multiple intelligences and the Arts
- Cultural competence is approached through the Arts
- Visual and Performing Arts strategies



Module 10: Engaging DLLs in Project Based Learning

Description: This module will review the importance of an integrated approach to learning and how teachers can utilize a project-based approach to draw on children’s strengths, interests, and background as they create engaging opportunities for learning. Project Based Learning incorporates multiple means of engagement, multiple means of representation, and multiple means of action and expression. Participants will explore how to utilize a project based approach to develop culturally relevant learning opportunities, using themes or topics as focal points.

Key Concepts:

- Overview of project-based learning
- Integrated nature of learning
- Powerful role of play