



P-3 DRDP (2025)

An Early Childhood Developmental Continuum



Preschool - Third Grade View

For Use with Preschool through Third Grade Children

The DRDP (2025) was developed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the California Department of Education (CDE), with assistance from:

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DRDP (2025)

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P-3 View

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Introduction to the DRDP (2025)

Welcome to the Desired Results Developmental Profile (2025) [DRDP (2025)]: An Early Childhood Developmental Continuum. The DRDP (2025) is a formative assessment developed by the California Department of Education and the California Department of Social Services for young children and their families. It is used to inform instruction and program development.

Structure

The DRDP (2025) includes trajectories of important areas of learning and development presented in three instrument views, for use in (1) infant-toddler group care settings (the IT View), (2) preschool, transitional kindergarten, or kindergarten classrooms (the PTK View), and (3) preschool through third grade (the P-3 View) settings that do not have policy or funding requirements to use the DRDP (2025) or the DRDP-School-Age.

Domain: Each domain represents an essential area of learning and development for young children and focuses on observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors in that area. The organization of the domains reflects how children’s broad areas of development become more differentiated over time. For instance, the Cognition (COG) domain within the IT View splits out into the Mathematics and Science domains in the PTK view. Each domain consists of a set of measures, the individual assessment items of the DRDP as defined below. The number of measures and domains varies across the three age-level views as follows: (1) the IT View includes 5 domains and 25 measures, including 4 conditional measures; (2) the PTK View includes 8 domains and 35 measures, including 6 conditional measures; and (3) the P-3 View includes 2 domains and 9 measures.

- **Approaches to Learning (ATL)**

The focus of the ATL domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for young children’s school readiness and success. The measures included in this domain are Engagement, Attention and Persistence, Curiosity, Interest and Initiative, Problem-Solving, and Planning.

- **Social and Emotional Development (SED)**

The focus of the SED domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential to young children’s ability to understand themselves and others and to form positive relationships. The measures included in this domain are

Self-Awareness, Social Awareness, Relationships and Reciprocal Interactions with Familiar Adults, Relationships and Interactions with Peers, and Emotional Knowledge and Regulation.

- **Foundational Language Development (FLD)**

The focus of the FLD domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for the progress of all children in developing foundational language and literacy skills. These skills can be demonstrated in any signed or spoken language and in any mode of communication, including augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), or any combination of the above. Multilingual learners, including dual language learners, may demonstrate knowledge and skills in their home languages, in English, or in multiple languages. The measures in this domain are Understanding Language, Using Language, Shared Communication and Conversation, Foundational Literacy Skills, Alphabetics and Print Knowledge, and Writing.

- **English Language Development (ELD)**

The focus of the ELD domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for the progress of children who are multilingual learners, including dual language learners, and who are learning spoken English as an additional language. The measures in this domain are Comprehension of English (Receptive English), Self-Expression in English (Expressive English), and Understanding and Responding to English Literacy Activities.

- The developmental progression described in the three ELD measures is related to the child’s experiences with English, not the child’s age. Keep in mind that children acquire English in different ways and at different rates. Factors that affect English development include the following:
 - Degree of exposure to English
 - Age of exposure to English
 - The structure of the child’s home language
- The ELD measures should be completed only for children who are in preschool, transitional kindergarten, or kindergarten and whose home language is a language other than spoken English.
- Note about ELD measures for Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) children: The ELD domain should only be used with children who are learning spoken English. For children learning spoken English and American Sign Language (ASL),

the Foundational Language Development (FLD) domain, in conjunction with the Language Milestones, should be used to document children's development of ASL, and the ELD measures can be used to document a child's progress in spoken English.

- **Cognition (COG) for IT***

The COG domain is used with infants and toddlers (IT). The focus of the COG domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for the development of foundational cognitive skills. The measures in the domain are Imitation, Spatial Thinking, Classification, Number and Counting, Cause and Effect, and Inquiry Through Observation and Investigation.

- **Math (MATH) for PTK***

The MATH domain is used with children who are in preschool (PS), transitional kindergarten (TK), or kindergarten (K). The focus of the MATH domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for children's development of early mathematical concepts. The measures in this domain are Spatial Thinking, Classification, Number and Counting, Number Operations, and Measurement.

- **Science (SCI) for PTK***

The SCI domain is used with children who are in PS, TK, or K. The focus of the SCI domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for young children's development of observation, exploration, and investigation of people, objects, and concepts. The measures in this domain are Cause and Effect, Inquiry Through Observation and Investigation, and Documentation and Communication of Inquiry.

- **Physical Development (PD)**

The focus of the PD domain is observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential for how children move and control their bodies and interact with objects, whether independently or with the use of adaptive equipment or other supports. The measures in this domain are Perceptual-Motor Skills and Movement Concepts, Gross Locomotor Movement Skills, Gross Motor Manipulative Skills, and Fine Motor Manipulative Skills.

* Math and Science domain measures for infants and toddlers are included in the COG for the IT domain in the IT view of the instrument.

- **Health (HLTH)**

The focus of the HLTH domain is on children's capacity to understand safety and overall health and wellness and engage in personal care routines. The measures in this domain are Safety (conditional measure for IT), Understanding of Health and Wellness**, Personal Care Routines: Hygiene, Personal Care Routines: Feeding, and Personal Care Routines: Self-Dressing (three conditional measures). Conditional measures are required for all children with an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) or IEP (Individualized Education Program) and may also be completed to document progress or to inform planning for children in general education settings.

DRDP (2015) History–Social Science and Visual and Performing Arts domains have not been revised and may still be used alongside the DRDP (2025) if a program chooses to do so.

Measure: A measure is an individual assessment item within each domain. Each measure represents a developmental continuum used to assess a child's observed knowledge, skills, and behaviors.

Definition: Each definition specifies aspects of development to be observed.

Descriptor: A descriptor defines observable knowledge, skills, and behaviors at that developmental level.

Developmental Level: Each developmental level specifies a point along the continuum that ranges from earlier to later levels of development. The developmental levels in the DRDP (2025) are the following:

- Responding (Earlier, Later)
Knowledge, skills, and behaviors that develop from basic responses (through using senses and through actions) to differentiated responses, including interacting with people and objects and discovering ways to move or use the parts of the body.
- Exploring (Earlier, Middle, Later)
Knowledge, skills, and behaviors that are demonstrated through expanded exploration, including movements, manipulation of objects, communication, and the beginnings of cooperation with adults and peers. Exploring levels

** The measure, Understanding of Health and Wellness, is included in the PTK View, not the IT View.

reflect research on the development of older infants and toddlers and are generally aligned to the Infant-Toddler Learning and Development Foundations (ITLDF). However, any child, regardless of age, may demonstrate knowledge, skills, and behaviors described in these levels.

• Building (Earlier, Middle, Later)

Knowledge, skills, and behaviors that demonstrate a growing understanding of self, relationships with others, and increasingly purposeful investigations related to different learning domains and the social environment. Building levels reflect research on the development of preschool/transitional kindergarten (TK)-age children and are generally aligned to the Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF). Children within a wider age range may demonstrate knowledge, skills, and behaviors described in the Building levels.

• Integrating (Earlier, Middle, Later)

Knowledge, skills, and behaviors that demonstrate the ability to connect and apply content within and across learning domains. Integrating levels reflect research on children’s development in the year before kindergarten and as they progress through kindergarten and into the beginning of first grade. Integrating levels generally align with the PTKLF and the California Content Standards for Kindergarten. Children within a wider age range may demonstrate knowledge, skills, and behaviors described in the Integrating levels.

• Extending (Earlier, Middle, Later)

Knowledge, skills, and behaviors that demonstrate the growing ability to incorporate new information while navigating a broad range of increasingly complex learning activities and social situations. Extending levels reflect research on children’s development in first through third grades. However, children in these grades may not yet demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and behaviors described at these levels.

Please note: Not every developmental level is included in every measure. Additionally, the developmental levels for the ELD domain differ from the above format. The levels represent the developmental progression for English acquisition by multilingual learners, including dual language learners.

Example: An example shows one of many possible ways a child might demonstrate the knowledge, skills, or behaviors of a descriptor for a given developmental level. Examples are not an exhaustive list.

Example of a Full Continuum Measure

Developmental Domain		Measure	Definition
ATL 3: Problem-Solving			Child develops the capacity to come up with, adjust, and reflect on strategies to solve everyday problems and problems related to learning or behavior.
Developmental Level		Descriptor	
Responding		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Exploring		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Building		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Integrating		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Extending		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
ATL 3: Problem-Solving		ATL 3: Problem-Solving	
Child is Emerging to the Next Developmental Level		Unable to Rate	
ATL 3: Problem-Solving		ATL 3: Problem-Solving	
Developmental Level		Descriptor	
Responding		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Exploring		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Building		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Integrating		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.
Extending		Earlier	• Shows interest in people, events, or objects. • Engages in play with things or people in a way that is related to what is happening.

Example of an Earlier Developmental Measure

Developmental Domain

Measure

Definition

No Later Levels

Developmental Level

Descriptor

Examples

COG 1: Imitation
Child repeats and practices the actions or words of others in increasingly complex ways.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building	
Earlier	Later	Earlier	Later	Earlier	Later
Repeats facial expressions, vocalizations, or words	Does so to certain single simple actions or words when interacting with others	Repeats others' familiar actions, gestures, or words when other people are	Repeats others' familiar actions, gestures, or words experienced at an earlier time	Repeats multiple clay actions, gestures, words, or phrases experienced at an earlier time	There are no later levels for this measure.
Possible Examples - When a person who is smiling or the child smiles in return. - Quacks at the sound of an adult's whistling. - Childs imitates an adult who is putting a sock on their foot.	- When a parent says "Mama" or "Dada" the child makes the "Mama" sound. - Touches the bottom of the child's head that is holding the bottle during feeding. - Childs when a child is sitting and playing.	- Repeats actions such as "Mama" or "Dada" when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada". - Repeats actions such as "Mama" or "Dada" when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada". - Repeats actions such as "Mama" or "Dada" when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada".	- Repeats a word or action, such as "Mama" or "Dada", when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada". - Repeats a word or action, such as "Mama" or "Dada", when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada". - Repeats a word or action, such as "Mama" or "Dada", when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada".	- Repeats to read a book, such as "Mama" or "Dada", when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada". - Repeats to read a book, such as "Mama" or "Dada", when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada". - Repeats to read a book, such as "Mama" or "Dada", when the parent says "Mama" or "Dada".	

☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

COG 1 **Imitation** **COG 1**

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Example of a Later Developmental Measure

Developmental Domain

Measure

Definition

Developmental Level

Examples

MATH 5: Measurement
Child shows increasing understanding of measurable properties such as size, length, weight, and capacity (volume), and how to quantify those properties.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring	
Earlier	Later	Earlier	Later
There are no earlier levels for this measure.	There are no later levels for this measure.	Explores measurable properties of objects (e.g., size, length, weight, capacity).	Demonstrates awareness of the distinction of size as relevant to completing a task.
Possible Examples		- Stacks blocks that are the same size together. - Put food in a cup of water and notices it will overflow. - Attempts to pour liquid from one container to another.	- Stacking cups in size order from smallest to largest. - Dispensing water into a cup when it begins to overflow, or when it is full. - Putting things in a cup to see if it will overflow.

☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
☐ Child is not yet at the earliest developmental level on this measure.
☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

MATH 5 **Measurement** **MATH 5**

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Child is Emerging to the Next Developmental Level

Not at the Earliest Developmental Level

Unable to Rate

MATH 3: Measurement
Child shows increasing understanding of measurable properties such as size, length, weight, and capacity (volume), and how to quantify those properties.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Building		Integrating	
Earlier	Later	Earlier	Later
Describes objects in terms of measurable properties.	Identifies differences in size, length, weight, or capacity between two objects, using comparative words (e.g., "bigger," "smaller").	Orders three or more objects according to measurable properties.	Measures properties using standardized or standard units through units may overlap or be used again.
Possible Examples	- Compares two objects and says, "This is bigger" or "This is smaller". - Compares two objects and says, "This is bigger" or "This is smaller". - Compares two objects and says, "This is bigger" or "This is smaller".	- Orders three or more objects according to measurable properties. - Orders three or more objects according to measurable properties. - Orders three or more objects according to measurable properties.	- Measures properties using standardized or standard units through units may overlap or be used again. - Measures properties using standardized or standard units through units may overlap or be used again. - Measures properties using standardized or standard units through units may overlap or be used again.

☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
☐ Child is not yet at the earliest developmental level on this measure.
☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

MATH 3: Measurement **Measurement** **MATH 3**

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Relationship of the DRDP (2025) to Learning Foundations and Standards

In California, the term “foundations” refers to goals for early learning, emphasizing that the learning and development that occur in the early years of life are foundational to children’s lifelong achievement, both in and out of school. The foundations describe research-based expectations for young children’s learning and development and are the central component of California’s early learning and development system. The state’s early learning foundations align to kindergarten standards; together, the foundations and standards provide goal-like statements about the learning and development that most children typically exhibit around specific age ranges (first 4 months, 4 to 11 months, 11 to 23 months, 23 to 36 months, 3 to 4.5 years, and 4 to 5.5 years), when given appropriate developmental and instructional support. Together, the measures within each domain of the DRDP (2025) cover the breadth and depth of content across California’s early learning goals, which are embodied in the state’s Infant-Toddler Learning and Development Foundations, Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations, and Kindergarten Content Standards, including the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards.

Learning Foundations and Standards

- **Infant-Toddler Learning and Development Foundations (ITLDF)** (<https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/publications/california-infant-toddler-learning-and-development-foundations>) – describe the competencies infants and toddlers typically attain in the first three years of life. For more information on specific developmental domains, consult the [ITLDF](#). The DRDP (2025) Responding Earlier through Building Earlier levels generally correspond to the ITLDF.
- **Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF)** (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/psfoundations.asp>) – describe the knowledge and skills that most children ages three to five and a half develop in high-quality early education programs. For more information on developing specific skills, refer to the [PTKLF](#). The DRDP (2025) Building Earlier through Integrating Later levels generally correspond to the PTKLF.

- **California Public School Content Standards (CPSCS)** (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/>) – define the essential skills and knowledge that all students should have at specific grade levels, from kindergarten through grade twelve, in California’s public schools.
They cover nine areas of learning. California has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts and Mathematics and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for Science. For more information on the specific skills and knowledge, refer to the **CA Content Standards** (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/>). The Integrating Earlier through Integrating Later levels of the DRDP generally correspond to the CCSS and NGSS for kindergarten and first grade. The Integrating Earlier through Extending Later levels of the DRDP generally correspond to the kindergarten through Grade three expectations for the CPSCS.

Other standards:

- **Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five (ELOF)** (<https://headstart.gov/school-readiness/article/head-start-early-learning-outcomes-framework>) – presents five broad areas of early learning, referred to as central domains. The framework is designed to show the continuum of learning for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. The DRDP (2025) Responding Earlier through Integrating Earlier levels generally correspond to the ELOF.

The Role of the Special Education Service Provider

The primary special education provider is responsible for submitting the DRDP. The special education provider should ensure that accommodations as outlined in the children’s IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) or IEP (Individualized Education Program) are in place, as well as work with the children’s other service providers and family to ensure observations are accurate and complete. The special education service provider should communicate with all the children’s educators, including the transitional kindergarten or kindergarten educators, to collaboratively complete the DRDP for children with IFSPs or IEPs. Please see the Appendix at the end of the instrument for more information.

Children Who Are Multilingual Learners, Including Dual Language Learners, and the DRDP (2025)

Multilingual learners are children learning two or more languages simultaneously, as well as those learning a second language while continuing to develop their home language. A child’s experience with one or more languages is an asset to build on in the early childhood setting. In addition, encouraging children’s home language development supports their positive cultural and linguistic identity development and strengthens ties with their families and communities. It is critical to consider the child’s communication across all the languages they are learning to have an accurate picture of the child’s knowledge and skills. Young children, including children with disabilities, can successfully learn two or more languages.

When assessing young multilingual learners, certain aspects of multilingual development should be considered. For example, a child may know certain words or concepts in one language and different ones in another language. The DRDP (2025) supports appropriate assessment of multilingual learners in two primary ways:

- 1. Educators and service providers observe and document children’s behavior in their home languages, English, or a combination to obtain a more accurate profile of their knowledge and skills across developmental domains.
- 2. The DRDP includes two language development domains to rate multilingual learners’ progress. The Foundational Language Development (FLD) domain assesses all children’s progress in developing foundational language and literacy skills, where ratings should be based on skills in all languages a child is learning. This domain is used with children of all ages. The English Language Development (ELD) domain focuses on observable knowledge, skills, and behavior essential for progress in English for children in preschool, transitional kindergarten or kindergarten who are multilingual learners, who are learning spoken English as an additional language, including Deaf/Hard of Hearing children (DHH) whose family has identified spoken English as a method or mode of communication for their child.

Universal Design for Learning

In assessment, Universal Design for Learning (UDL; CAST, 2024) is a framework that helps make assessments inclusive and flexible, so that every child can demonstrate what they know and can do. Assessments based on UDL include different ways for

children to engage, understand information, and express what they’ve learned. This approach allows each child to demonstrate their skills in the way that works best for them. Educators and service providers are encouraged to use what they know about each child to plan activities that are both accessible and meaningful.

Structured Prompts for Selected DRDP (2025) Measures

Structured prompts are optional activities aligned to two measures in the Math domain: Number Operations and Measurement. Educators and service providers may use structured prompts with children who understand spoken English and are approaching Building Middle. Structured prompt activities provide educators and service providers with one source of evidence of children’s mastery. Educators should use the results of the structured prompt along with other information gathered about the child’s knowledge and skills in Number Operations and Measurement to determine a rating.

Conditional Measures

Some measures in the DRDP (2025) are considered conditional and are assessed only when certain conditions are met. There are four conditional measures in the IT View and six conditional measures in the PTK View of the instrument.

View	ELD Measures	Conditions Under Which to Assess
PTK View	ELD 1: Comprehension of English (Receptive English) ELD 2: Self-Expression in English (Expressive English) ELD 3: Understanding and Responding to English Literacy Activities	The ELD measures should be completed only for preschool, TK, and kindergarten children • when a language other than English is spoken in the child’s home as indicated on the Information Page • who are learning spoken English as an additional language, including Deaf/Hard of Hearing children (DHH) • whose family has identified spoken English as a method or mode of communication for their child.

View	HLTH Measures	Conditions Under Which to Assess
Infant-Toddler View	HLTH 1: Safety HLTH 3: Personal Care Routines – Hygiene HLTH 4: Personal Care Routines – Feeding HLTH 5: Personal Care Routines – Self-Dressing	• These four IT View HLTH measures are required for all children with an IEP or IFSP. • May be completed to document progress or to inform planning for the child’s learning activities.
PTK View	HLTH 3: Personal Care Routines – Hygiene HLTH 4: Personal Care Routines – Feeding HLTH 5: Personal Care Routines – Self-Dressing	• These three PTK View HLTH measures are required for all children with an IEP or IFSP. • May be completed to document progress or to inform planning for the child’s learning activities.

Using Information from the DRDP (2025)

When used on an ongoing basis, the DRDP instrument will provide educators and service providers with information that benefits children, families, and early care and education settings and elementary school settings.

Information from the DRDP can be reviewed and analyzed at the individual child level. In addition, the DRDP results can be summarized to provide information for groups of children. Educators, special educators, and other providers should review, share, and analyze the DRDP assessment results for the individual children and can use the information for curriculum planning.

The DRDP helps educators and service providers observe and document children’s development systematically across multiple areas of learning (domains). They can use this information to identify domain-level strengths and where additional support is needed for a child or a group of children to provide integrated learning opportunities and to share individual assessment information with families. By reviewing a child’s ratings for individual DRDP measures, educators can highlight specific areas for growth, such as building persistence during challenging tasks or developing early number sense. When combined with other information about the child, DRDP results support planning a curriculum that responds to each child’s interests and developmental needs.

Communicating with Families about Children’s Progress

Programs must work in partnership with families to foster children’s learning and development. This requires ongoing and meaningful two-way communication. Family members should be involved in the DRDP assessment process from the beginning. Educators and service providers who observe and document the child’s behaviors and rate the DRDP measures are encouraged to seek input from families. Input from family members about the child’s knowledge, skills, or behaviors can enrich and complement evidence collected by the educators and other staff. Individual child results can be shared with family members during parent-educator conferences to foster meaningful dialogue and generate ideas for how both home and the care/school environments can work together to support the child’s development and growth.

Completing the DRDP

➡ Step 1: Observing and Collecting Documentation

The DRDP (2025) provides a developmental continuum for observing and documenting children’s knowledge, skills, and behavior across domains. Educators and service providers collect documentation of children’s knowledge, skills, and behaviors in their natural environments over time and document them using the DRDP measures.

While observing and collecting documentation, remember that words, phrases, and sentences can be communicated and understood in various ways, including spoken in the child’s home language, signed, and through other communication modes (e.g., via a communication device). Direct observation of a child made by educators and service providers is the primary source for ratings. To capture the child’s skills across settings and situations, use additional sources of evidence, including:

Observations should occur over time, in **natural environments**:

- In the child’s typical programs or settings, such as child care sites, classrooms, or home;
- As the child participates in familiar routines with people they know; and
- As the child participates in learning activities and routines.

- **Observations by others** – including educators, family members, caregivers, and other service providers or caregivers, obtained through interviews or conversations
- **Other documentation** – including samples of children’s work, photographs, and video or audio recordings of children’s communication and behavior; results of the structured prompt activities for Number Operations and Measurement serve as other documentation for children in preschool, transitional kindergarten, or kindergarten

The Important Role of Families in the Documentation Process

Family members have repeated opportunities to observe their child’s activities and interactions over time and in various situations. Their perspectives, along with those of educators and service providers, provide a more complete and reliable picture of a child’s typical behaviors. Inviting family members to share observations of their child’s development and behavior is a recommended practice for the DRDP (2025). Educators and service providers should go beyond routine conversations and share concrete examples such as photos, short videos, or progress notes. In this way, families can see examples of how they might contribute their own observations. Educators and service providers should invite families to share their own observations of the skills the child shows at home or in the community, especially those not often seen in the child’s program. In this way, documentation becomes a shared effort in which family input is valued alongside professional observation, creating a fuller and more reliable snapshot of the child’s development.

Observation and Documentation of Multilingual Learners

Young multilingual learners may demonstrate knowledge and skills in any of the languages they are developing, including their home languages, English, or a combination of both.

Multilingual learners often use different languages for different purposes, with different people, or in different settings. In addition, a child may shift between languages or combine elements of more than one language within a conversation. Allowing each child to demonstrate their skills using their own authentic

communication patterns is necessary for accurate assessment of their knowledge and skills. Documentation of a child’s language should be inclusive of their use of the home language(s), English, and a combination (e.g., a child may communicate, “I want leche” [“I want milk”] using English and their home language, Spanish).

To ensure accurate and equitable assessment, observations and documentation should be conducted by an adult who can communicate with the child in the child’s home language. When the educator or service provider is not fluent in the child’s home language, another adult who is fluent should support the observation process. This may include an assistant educator, special education service provider, educator of the Deaf or hard of hearing, program director, family member, or another trusted adult who knows the child well and can help interpret their behaviors and language use in context.

Families play a central role in equitable assessment for multilingual learners. They bring essential knowledge of the child’s language use, cultural background, routines, and strengths across settings. Educators and service providers should actively seek out and incorporate family observations to gain a more complete picture of the child’s development. This is especially important when the child uses languages that educators may not understand, or when the child is new to the program. Involving families affirms their role as partners in their children’s learning and strengthens responsive assessment practices.

Using Accommodations

- Accommodations allow children to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.
- Accommodations may have been developed and part of the IEP so that the assessment will more accurately measure a child’s abilities rather than the impact of a child’s disability.
- Accommodations for the child should be used during the normal course of the day and be in place during observations for the DRDP (2025) assessment.
- Everyone working with the child should be informed of any accommodations the child uses.
- New accommodations must not be introduced solely for the purpose of conducting the DRDP (2025) assessment.

➡ **Step 2: Rating the Measures**

Determining the Child’s Latest Level of Mastery

For each measure, mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered.

The Descriptors and Examples

Review the descriptors first and then review the examples to determine which developmental level best matches your observations and documentation of the child’s behavior. A child may demonstrate behaviors at more than one developmental level; select the child’s latest level of mastery.

What is Mastery?

A developmental level is mastered if the child demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and behaviors defined at that level:

- Consistently
- Over time
- In different situations or settings

Important notes about mastery:

- Children may demonstrate mastery of knowledge and skills through various communication modes, languages, and behaviors.
- Many behaviors consistent with the descriptor may not appear on the list of examples.

Descriptors

The descriptors define the knowledge, skills, or behaviors expected at each level of the measure’s developmental continuum (see Navigation Maps). Several examples of behaviors consistent with that developmental level illustrate each descriptor.

Most of the descriptors define discrete knowledge, skills, or behaviors. However, some descriptors include multiple behaviors or skills, which are numbered or separated by “and” or “or.”

If the descriptor includes two parts joined with “or”: The child only needs to demonstrate the behavior in one of the listed ways to demonstrate mastery for the developmental level. Either part of the descriptor may be observed to rate mastery at that level.

If the descriptor includes two parts joined by “and”: The child must demonstrate all the skills or behaviors listed to rate the level as mastered. They do not necessarily have to demonstrate all the skills or behaviors during the same observation within a DRDP rating period.

Please note: Key terms and phrases in the descriptors that may be new or have a specific meaning to the measures are defined in the Glossary at the end of the instrument.

Examples

Keep in mind these important points about examples:

- Each example shows one possible way a child might demonstrate the knowledge, skills, or behaviors in a descriptor for a given development level. Examples are not checklists, and a child does not need to demonstrate any specific example or all examples to rate the measure at that level.
- Mastery is based on what a child demonstrates consistently over time and in different situations and settings. A child may demonstrate mastery in ways not included in the examples but that still align with the intent of the descriptor.
- Educators and service providers are encouraged to observe children in a variety of everyday activities and routines to identify valid examples of mastery.

Additional Rating Options

Emerging to the Next Developmental Level

If the child has mastered one level and is beginning to show knowledge, skills, and behaviors from the next level but not yet consistently across time, situations, or settings, they are *emerging* to the next level. To indicate emerging, mark the developmental level the child has mastered. Then, mark “emerging” if the child also demonstrates behaviors described for the next developmental level.

Notes about Emerging:

- You may mark emerging when the continuum has a later developmental level that is not rateable based on the instrument view you are using.
- Do not mark emerging if the child has mastered the latest level on a measure and there are no later levels.
- Marking that the child is emerging to the next level does not affect the rating of mastery for the measure.

Child is Not Yet at the Earliest Developmental Level on a PTK Measure

If you determine that a child in PS, TK, or K is not yet demonstrating mastery of the earliest level of a later development measure, mark “Child is not yet at the earliest developmental level on this measure.” This rarely happens.

- Not having enough time or enough information for a child present for most of the day, four to six weeks before submitting DRDP data.
- The kind of disability a child has and how much it affects their learning or daily activities.

Unable to Rate Due to Extended Absence

- Use “Unable to Rate” only when the child has been absent for most or all of the four to six weeks before submitting DRDP data, and you could not gather enough information to rate the measures.
- The following are NOT valid reasons to indicate Unable to Rate:
 - Not having enough time or enough information
 - The nature of a child’s disability or the severity of a child’s disability

Rating Conditional Measures

Use the following guidance to mark conditional measures:

- ELD domain
 - The three conditional measures are required for children who are in PS, TK, or K, who are multilingual learners, including dual language learners, and who are learning spoken English as an additional language.
 - If these measures do not apply because English is the only language spoken in the home, mark “This measure is not rated. Spoken English is the only language used in this child’s home.”

- HLTH domain
 - The conditional measures in HLTH are required for all children who have an IFSP or IEP; these measures may also be completed for children in general education to document progress or to inform planning for the child’s learning activities in this domain.
 - If these measures do not apply to children without an IFSP or IEP, mark “I did not rate this measure because it is not used for documenting progress or planning this child’s learning activities and supports.”

➡ Step 3: Finalizing the Assessment

Before submitting, review the rating record or online documentation to confirm that the information is accurate and that the child’s information page is complete and current. Please note the following:

- For CDSS Child Care and Development Division (CCDD) programs, enter your ratings into DRDP Online.
- For California State Preschool Programs (CSPPs), enter your ratings into DRDP Online.
- For CDE Special Education Division (SED) programs, enter your ratings into the reporting sites for SED programs (e.g., SEIS, SIRAS, DR Access Reports) as determined by your district.

Measures at a Glance—DRDP (2025) Infant-Toddler (IT) View

Domain Name: Approaches to Learning (ATL)
ATL 1: Engagement, Attention, and Persistence
ATL 2: Curiosity, Interest, and Initiative
ATL 3: Problem-Solving

Domain Name: Social and Emotional Development (SED)
SED 1: Self-Awareness
SED 2: Social Awareness
SED 3: Relationships and Reciprocal Interactions with Familiar Adults
SED 4: Relationships and Interactions with Peers
SED 5: Emotional Knowledge and Regulation

Domain Name: Foundational Language Development (FLD)
FLD 1: Understanding Language (Receptive)
FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)
FLD 3: Shared Communication and Conversation

Domain Name: Cognition (COG)
COG 1: Imitation
MATH 1: Spatial Thinking
MATH 2: Classification
MATH 3: Number and Counting
SCI 1: Cause and Effect
SCI 2: Inquiry Through Observation and Investigation

Domain Name: Physical Development (PD)
PD 1: Perceptual-Motor Skills and Movement Concepts
PD 2: Gross Locomotor Movement Skills
PD 3: Gross Motor Manipulative Skills
PD 4: Fine Motor Manipulative Skills

Domain Name: Health (HLTH)
HLTH 1: Safety*
HLTH 3: Personal Care Routines: Hygiene*
HLTH 4: Personal Care Routines: Feeding*
HLTH 5: Personal Care Routines: Self-Dressing*

* Health measures 1 and 3-5 must be completed for children with an IEP (Individualized Education Program) or an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan). Based on observations, complete Health measures 1 and 3-5 to document progress or plan this child’s learning activities and supports.

Measures at a Glance—DRDP (2025) Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten (PTK) View

Domain Name: Approaches to Learning (ATL)

ATL 1: Engagement, Attention, and Persistence
ATL 2: Curiosity, Interest, and Initiative
ATL 3: Problem-Solving
ATL 4: Planning

Domain Name: Social and Emotional Development (SED)

SED 1: Self-Awareness
SED 2: Social Awareness
SED 3: Relationships and Reciprocal Interactions with Familiar Adults
SED 4: Relationships and Interactions with Peers
SED 5: Emotional Knowledge and Regulation

Domain Name: Foundational Language Development (FLD)

FLD 1: Understanding Language (Receptive)
FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)
FLD 3: Shared Communication and Conversation
FLD 4: Foundational Literacy Skills
FLD 5: Alphabetics and Print Knowledge
FLD 6: Writing

Domain Name: English Language Development (ELD)

ELD 1: Comprehension of English (Receptive English)*
ELD 2: Self-Expression in English (Expressive English)*
ELD 3: Understanding and Responding to English Literacy Activities*

Domain Name: Math (MATH)

MATH 1: Spatial Thinking
MATH 2: Classification
MATH 3: Number and Counting
MATH 4: Number Operations
MATH 5: Measurement

Domain Name: Science (SCI)

SCI 1: Cause and Effect
SCI 2: Inquiry Through Observation and Investigation
SCI 3: Documentation and Communication of Inquiry

Domain Name: Physical Development (PD)

PD 1: Perceptual-Motor Skills and Movement Concepts
PD 2: Gross Locomotor Movement Skills
PD 3: Gross Motor Manipulative Skills
PD 4: Fine Motor Manipulative Skills

Domain Name: Health (HLTH)

HLTH 1: Safety
HLTH 2: Understanding of Health and Wellness
HLTH 3: Personal Care Routines: Hygiene**
HLTH 4: Personal Care Routines: Feeding**
HLTH 5: Personal Care Routines: Self-Dressing**

* ELD measures are completed only for preschool-age children whose home language is other than English and whose family has identified spoken English as a method or mode of communication for their child.

** Health measures 3-5 must be completed for children with an IEP (Individualized Education Program) or an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan). Based on observations, Health measures 3-5 may be completed, if determined, to document progress or plan this child’s learning activities and supports.

Measures at a Glance— DRDP (2025) Preschool – Grade 3 (P-3) View

Domain Name: Approaches to Learning (ATL)
ATL 1: Engagement, Attention, and Persistence
ATL 2: Curiosity, Interest, and Initiative
ATL 3: Problem-Solving
ATL 4: Planning

Domain Name: Social and Emotional Development (SED)
SED 1: Self-Awareness
SED 2: Social Awareness
SED 3: Relationships and Reciprocal Interactions with Familiar Adults
SED 4: Relationships and Interactions with Peers
SED 5: Emotional Knowledge and Regulation

Child's Information

1. Child's first name (Legal): _____
2. Child's last name (Legal): _____
3. Date DRDP (2025) was completed (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ / _____ / _____
4. Assessment period (e.g., Fall 2026) _____
5. Statewide Student Identifier (10-digit SSID): _____
6. Agency Identifier: _____
(Agency Identifier and SSID can be the same.)
7. Child's classroom or setting: _____
8. Child's county of residence: _____
9. Birth date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ / _____ / _____
10. Gender ☐ Boy ☐ Girl ☐ Choose not to answer
11. Initial date of enrollment in early childhood program (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ / _____ / _____
12. Date child was withdrawn from the program (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ / _____ / _____
13. Is the child Hispanic or Latino?
☐ Yes ☐ No
14. What is this child's race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what this child considers himself/herself to be.)
- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native | ☐ Chinese | ☐ Korean | ☐ Tahitian |
| ☐ Asian Indian | ☐ Filipino | ☐ Laotian | ☐ Vietnamese |
| ☐ Black or African-American | ☐ Guamanian | ☐ Other Asian | ☐ White |
| ☐ Cambodian | ☐ Hawaiian | ☐ Other Pacific Islander | |
| | ☐ Hmong | ☐ Samoan | |
| | ☐ Japanese | | |

Child's Language Information

15. Child's spoken/signed home language(s): _____
16. Is a language other than English spoken in the child's home? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, the ELD measures must be completed for a preschool-age child.)
17. What language(s) do you speak with this child? _____
18. Did someone who understands and uses the child's home language assist you with completing the observation?
☐ Yes, role/relation: _____
☐ No ☐ Not applicable (I understand and use the child's home language.)

Assessor Information

19. Agency: _____ 20. Site: _____
21. Your name: _____ 22. Role: _____
23. Are you the primary teacher or service provider working with this child?
☐ Yes ☐ No (Specify your relationship to the child.): _____
24. Did you collaborate with a special education service provider (s) or another adult?
☐ Yes (role/relation): _____ ☐ No ☐ Not applicable

Program Information and Setting

25. Child is enrolled in: Check all that apply.
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ☐ Child Care Center | ☐ Migrant | ☐ State Infant/Toddler |
| ☐ District Preschool | ☐ Part C Early Intervention | ☐ State Preschool |
| ☐ Early Head Start | ☐ Private Preschool | ☐ Third Grade |
| ☐ Family Child Care | ☐ Second Grade | ☐ Title 1 |
| ☐ Family Home of Child | ☐ Separate Class/Special Day Class | ☐ Transitional Kindergarten |
| ☐ First 5 Funded | ☐ Separate School for Children with Disabilities | ☐ Tribal Head Start |
| ☐ First Grade | ☐ Service Provider Location (e.g., clinic or office) | ☐ Other: _____ |
| ☐ Head Start | | |
| ☐ Kindergarten | | |

Special Education Information

26. Special education enrollment. Check one.
☐ Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) ☐ Individualized Education Program (IEP)
27. SELPA: _____
28. District of accountability: _____
29. DR Access Reports email: _____
30. Special education eligibility. Check one.
- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Autism | ☐ Hard of Hearing | ☐ Specific Learning Disability |
| ☐ Deaf-Blindness | ☐ Intellectual Disability | ☐ Speech or Language Impairment |
| ☐ Deafness | ☐ Multiple Disability | ☐ Traumatic Brain Injury |
| ☐ Emotional Disturbance | ☐ Orthopedic Impairment | ☐ Visual Impairment |
| ☐ Established Medical Disability | ☐ Other Health Impairment | |

The Rating Record is to be used with the DRDP (2025) Instrument to keep track of each child's developmental levels as you complete the assessment. Mark the developmental level the child has mastered for every measure.

Measure	Measure Name	Responding Earlier	Responding Later	Exploring Earlier	Exploring Middle	Exploring Later	Building Earlier	Building Middle	Building Later	Integrating Earlier	Integrating Middle	Integrating Later	Extending Earlier	Extending Middle	Extending Later	Not yet	EM	UR
ATL 1	Engagement, Attention, and Persistence	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
ATL 2	Curiosity, Interest, and Initiative	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
ATL 3	Problem-Solving	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
ATL 4	Planning					☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
SED 1	Self-Awareness	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
SED 2	Social Awareness	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
SED 3	Relationships and Reciprocal Interactions with Familiar Adults	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
SED 4	Relationships and Interactions with Peers	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐
SED 5	Emotional Knowledge and Regulation	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	☐

ATL 1: Engagement, Attention, and Persistence

Child develops increasing ability to engage by sustaining attention, contributing, and persisting, when appropriate, related to learning activities

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Orients to people, objects, or changes in the environment	Engages in explorations of people or objects for brief periods	Engages in simple self-initiated activities, sometimes with adult support	Engages in and returns to self-initiated activities after a brief interruption	Engages in self-initiated activities for extended periods of time	Engages in group learning activities with adult guidance	Manages distractions or challenges with adult support during group learning activities
Possible Examples • Turns head toward a person who comes into view or begins talking. • Attends to an adult’s face when being held. • Turns head toward the bottle when it is brought near.	• Looks attentively as an adult shows them a board book, turns, and reaches for a toy. Then turns back to the board book and pats the pages. • Smiles when an adult begins singing a song. Turns toward a peer who is laughing at the song and then turns back to the adult. • Holds an object, mouths and looks at it, then looks over at the door when it opens, and returns to looking at and mouthing the object.	• Flips through a board book, then reaches for another book. Hands the book to the adult when the adult asks, “Should we read this together?” • Picks up an object, holds it out to the adult, and when the adult takes it, hands the adult another object. • Tries to turn a wheel toy upright a few times. Then succeeds and makes it roll.	• Pretends to read a book to a doll. Looks up when a peer shows them what they are cooking in the play kitchen. Then returns to playing with the doll for a few more minutes. • Plays with trains. Looks up when a peer gets picked up by a family member. Then returns to playing with trains. • Pauses playing at the sand table, looks up, and points when an airplane flies overhead. Then goes back to playing with the sand.	• Pretends to read a book to a doll as part of a bedtime routine, then tucks the doll into bed. • Builds a toy train track involving a long loop of track, adds several train cars, and drives the train along the track while making train noises. • Spends time at the painting easel, involving dipping different paint brushes in different cups of paint and covering most of the paper with paint.	• Listens from a few feet away as an adult reads a story to a group of children. • Participates in a group sing-along led by the adult by signing the lyrics to a familiar song. • Takes part in a small group counting activity, with adult encouragement.	• Pauses to look at what other children are drawing while working on a picture from their favorite story. Then returns to their own drawing when the adult asks about their picture. • Struggles with getting popsicle sticks to glue together while building a miniature fence as their part of a group project. Tries a new way of applying the glue when suggested by an adult. • Strings beads according to a pattern while at a table with other children. Shows the adult they are missing a brown bead, and the adult helps them find the bead under the table.



- ☐
 Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐
 Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Manages distractions or challenges on own during group learning activities	Engages in complex adult-selected group learning activities with multiple components	Engages in, with adult support, structured learning and returns to complex adult-selected activities that span several time periods (e.g., morning to afternoon or one day to the next)	Engages in, on own, structured learning and returns to complex adult-selected activities that span several time periods	Engages in, with adult support, complex, structured learning activities while incorporating new information or adjusting approaches	Engages in, usually on own, complex, structured learning activities while incorporating new information or adjusting approaches, spanning several time periods
Possible Examples - Draws their favorite character from the read-aloud as part of a small-group activity, pauses when a peer comments on their picture, then continues to draw. - Arranges numbers in order during a math activity. Notices that they mixed up a few numbers and persists in fixing them. - Stops cutting out shapes and moves to another table when a peer distracts them.	- Follows along in the book while a peer reads aloud as part of a small-group activity where each child reads a page. - Works with peers on a neighborhood map activity that includes drawing roads and adding trees and buildings. - Folds paper to make a book in a book-making activity, dictates a story to the adult who writes the words on the pages, then draws pictures to go along with their story.	- Returns the next day to continue reading their book about beavers, after an adult asks, "What were you working on yesterday?" - Returns to finishing their journal entry that they were doing before lunch, after an adult reminds them to keep working on it. - Continues building an interconnecting block bridge for an engineering project that was started the day before, after an adult shows them the next steps.	- Returns the next day to continue their book report on beavers, without a reminder from an adult. - Continues reading, after lunch, the same book they were reading before recess. - Continues working on their diorama of the Egyptian pyramids that they were working on yesterday.	- Realizes while writing a story about a family of beavers that they do not know about where beavers live, after a reminder from the teacher that they can use books to support their story, finds a book about beaver lodges, and then returns to their writing. - Rebuilds a vehicle they built for a STEM project to make it roll more smoothly after an adult suggests watching a short video about building robotic vehicles. - Puts on their noise-canceling headphones and returns to their reading after an adult points out that the headphones could help with the noise in the classroom.	- Realizes while writing a story about a family of beavers that they do not know about where beavers live, so finds a book about beaver lodges and then returns to their writing. - Gets their sensory timer to help them relax and stay on task until the next transition after noticing they are having trouble focusing. - Communicates that they will keep working on a complex puzzle each day until they can solve it.



ATL 2: Curiosity, Interest, and Initiative

Child develops increasing capacity to explore objects, activities, or ideas and takes initiative to seek information and understanding

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Orients toward movement or changes in people, objects, or sounds	Shows interest in new or unexpected characteristics or actions of people or objects	Explores objects and notices and responds to interactions with people	Explores new ways to use familiar objects outside of their intended use	Explores self-selected ideas, objects, or events by manipulating, or asking simple “what” or “where” questions	Explores self-selected ideas, objects, or events by examining, manipulating, or asking detailed “why” or “how” questions, often with adult prompting	Explores self-selected ideas, objects, or events in greater depth, over repeated occasions, sometimes with adult support
Possible Examples - Turns head toward the source of the noise. - Turns head toward a person who comes into view or begins talking. - Gazes toward a nearby window where there is movement of shadow or light.	- Coos when a familiar adult begins to sing a song. - Vocalizes or gazes at a familiar adult who makes an animated facial expression. - Widens eyes when a toy makes a noise.	- Moves toward a familiar adult who is playing a small drum and touches the drum. - Pats, pulls on, or turns the pages of a board book back and forth. - Touches buttons and tries to look under an adult’s wristwatch when it lights up.	- Turns a toy bucket upside down and bangs on it like a drum. - Paints on paper and on arm when given a paintbrush and paint. - Pours water out of a cup at a water table, then turns to the sand box and uses the cup to scoop up sand.	- Shows excitement when they make sounds on a small drum they chose from a shelf. - Drops a marble in a maze and follows its path as it rolls to the bottom, then does it again, but blocks the path with their hand a few times. - Asks, “What’s that doing?” when seeing or hearing a bulldozer across the street while on a neighborhood walk.	- Pats a drum and then a block when an adult asks, “Is one louder than the other?” Responds, “The drum is louder. Why is it louder?” - Begins to drop different objects in the water table and watches them, after an adult prompts, “I wonder which objects will float and which ones will sink?” - Compares leaves by examining their different textures and gestures for more leaves to touch, after an adult asks, “What do these leaves feel like?”	- Returns to play with the same drums several times, trying different sounds. - Observes a caterpillar closely and begins drawing its pattern of colors and number of legs. Continues working on it the following day. - Visits the dramatic play area over several days to act out being a firefighter.



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Tries out and builds on new ideas or approaches introduced by adults to extend explorations	Tests how things or materials react under different conditions by modifying actions or approaches	Seeks purposefully to understand new information by making connections to information they know well	Explores new topics or ideas by making comparisons between different approaches or conditions	Explores new topics or ideas by identifying multiple alternative outcomes or reasons, sometimes testing them out	Communicates about abstract ideas or asks open-ended questions without clear answers
Possible Examples - Plays on a drum and tries to copy a new rhythm demonstrated by an adult. - Examines images from informational books or a computer to learn about the habitats of different animals. - Records how much water was added to each plant following an adult's suggestion to try adding different amounts of water to the potted plants on the windowsill.	- Experiments with drumming on different things like tables and floors. Notices how the sound changes and tries different ways to drum to see how it sounds. - Continues making a ramp steeper and steeper and running different toy cars down it each time to find out what happens. - Kicks a ball into a soccer goal repeatedly, placing the ball farther away and at different angles before each kick.	- Chooses a book about different kinds of percussion instruments and figures out which ones they have seen before and which ones they haven't seen yet. - Asks whether sea turtles breathe underwater with gills like fish or if they hold their breath like whales, during a read-aloud book about sea creatures. - Gathers information from books and the internet to create an environment for the classroom butterflies.	- Listens to various percussion rhythms from around the world and identifies what makes some rhythms similar and others unique. - Communicates that it is cloudy and rainy today, but it was cloudy and not rainy yesterday, then asks why some clouds bring rain and some do not. - Folds paper airplanes in two different designs and then flies both planes to test how different designs affect the speed.	- Learns about how sound travels in waves in a science lesson by playing a drum in different areas and explores how percussion acoustics change in different situations. - Compares the available building tools to the common structures of different ancient civilizations and brainstorms how alternative tools may have led to different structures. - Builds ramps of varying heights and lengths, then tests ideas about how fast and how long objects will roll on the different ramps.	- Asks, "What would it be like if you could see sound waves?" - Draws a diagram on their tablet to suggest some ideas for how climate change may affect how plants will grow in the future. - Asks what the world would be like if certain historical events had not occurred (e.g., the Revolutionary War), and then brainstorms some possible outcomes.



ATL 3: Problem-Solving

Child develops increasing ability to come up with, adjust, and reflect on strategies to solve everyday problems and problems related to learning activities

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Orients toward people, sounds, or objects	Explores doing things with people or objects and attends to what happens	Tries different ways to do things using people or objects when encountering problems	Uses effective strategies, suggested by others or observed, to solve problems	Comes up with strategies to solve everyday problems, with adult support	Identifies different aspects of everyday problems and comes up with strategies to try to solve them	Pauses and examines everyday problems before trying out one or more targeted strategies to solve them
Possible Examples • Responds with more alertness (e.g., widens eyes) as an adult moves a toy car in the air in front of them. • Turns toward an adult who is speaking. • Responds to a touch on the hand or cheek by becoming still or by moving.	• Waves a toy car back and forth in the air, then brings it to their mouth. • Pushes items off a tray or slides them back and forth during mealtime. • Laughs as a familiar adult plays peekaboo using a blanket and reaches for the blanket.	• Holds a toy car upside down and tries to push it back and forth on a flat surface, then turns it over and tries pushing it back and forth again. • Tries to open a box, then hands it to a nearby adult, who then opens the box and hands it back. • Tries to grasp an object in a small container and then shakes the container.	• Watches an adult pull a toy car back to make it go forward, then tries to pull the car back on their own. • Tries to put their right shoe on their right foot when it was not fitting on their left foot after an adult suggests, “What about the other foot?” • Tries to fit different shapes into specific holes, observes another child do it, then tries to do it the same way and fits most of the shapes in the same shaped holes.	• Places a toy car on the car ramp at an angle such that it does not roll down. Then, when an adult wonders if the wheels are touching the track, rotates the car straight so that it rolls down the ramp. • Moves toward the napkin holder after they spill some water at mealtime and an adult asks, “Uh-oh, how should we clean this up?” • Goes to get the watering can when they notice the plants are dry and an adult asks, “How can we help this plant?”	• Places on a car ramp a toy car that is too large and, when the car does not roll down the ramp, checks that the car is lined up straight on the ramp. Returns to the toy box for a smaller car to try instead. • Looks carefully at the jacket, after having difficulty putting their arm through the sleeve. Then pulls out the jacket sleeve so it is no longer inside out. • Explains to a peer that there are not enough baskets for everyone playing “shopping trip” so they will use a small plastic crate as a basket.	• Notices a toy car stuck part-way down the car ramp, looks at the stuck car from each side of the ramp, then pushes another toy car down the ramp to dislodge it. • Studies the box of crayons and tries using different colored crayons together to create the color purple, because the purple crayon is missing. • Notices a bump in the circle time rug and pauses and looks at the edges of the rug. Then asks an adult to move the chair on the corner of the rug so they can pull the rug to make it smooth.



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Examines novel or complex problems and seeks help to come up with strategies to solve them	Uses strategies to solve the first part of novel or complex problems, then examines the next part of problems, and shifts strategy to solve them, sometimes with adult support	Uses a variety of strategies to solve novel or complex problems on own	Identifies some potential novel or complex problems and takes steps to proactively solve them	Describes or demonstrates strategies that might be used to solve novel or complex problems, sometimes with adult support	Identifies and uses strategies to solve novel or complex problems on own, examines the result, and then pivots to another strategy as needed
Possible Examples - Places multiple pieces of a new car track set on a flat surface and, when the pieces do not fit together, asks a peer if they know how to put together the track. - Tries to make a pattern with different colored animals (cat, dog, bear), then communicates to an adult that they can't make the ABC pattern with only two colors. The adult asks, "Is there another way to organize them besides by color?" so they try patterning by animal type. - Tries to rebuild a large block structure that keeps falling down, studies the block pieces for a while, then gestures for a larger piece to use at the base.	- Lines up pieces of car track carefully and fits them together on the table, tries to extend the track over the edge of the table and, after an adult asks if the track needs more support, uses blocks to prop up the additional pieces of track. - Uses the strategy of decoding each sound and communicates "cack-y" when trying to read the word "cake" for the first time. Realizes "cack-y" is not a word, tries the "long a" sound instead, and reads "cake." - Notifies all the chairs at the table are taken and brings a chair over from another table. Realizes there isn't room at the table for another chair and finds a seat at a different table.	- Uses their fingers to figure out how many pieces of track they need to build their car ramp, then lines up the pieces of track and counts them. - Looks for another glue stick when they run out of glue. Finds there aren't any more glue sticks left and uses a combination of tape and string secure the pieces of the art project together. - Tries to sound out an unfamiliar word and checks the "word wall" for it before asking a familiar adult for help.	- Notifies that one of the wheels fits too loosely on the toy car they are building and tries a wheel with a smaller hole so that it fits more snugly on the axle. - Switches from a problem on the math worksheet that they do not know how to solve to a more familiar problem, completes that one, and then returns to work on the original problem. - Begins reading a book and notices it is too hard for them so goes to an adult to help them find a better book.	- Communicates how they could tape pieces of track together to make the car ramp wider after an adult asks if there is enough room for two cars. - Explains how they figured out the meaning of a new word using context cues. - Shows an adult some different ways they could figure out a new math problem.	- Builds their own car ramp by taping together pieces of cardboard, runs a toy car down it, then adds sides to the ramp when the car falls off the edge before reaching the bottom of the ramp. - Uses a t-chart to compare and contrast two books, then switches to using a Venn diagram when they realize they also want to show similarities between the two books. - Solves the multiplication problems six times three and seven times three from memory, notices they got the same answer for both, and tries a different strategy of solving six and seven times two first and then adding six and seven.



ATL 4: Planning

Child develops increasing ability to set and carry out goals and plans related to learning activities

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier N/A	Later N/A	Earlier N/A	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Possible Examples		There are no earlier levels for this measure.	Participates in familiar routines and activities	Carries out the next two steps of familiar learning activities	Carries out the next one or two steps of new learning activities	Makes and carries out a one- or two-step plan for familiar learning activities, using adult-prompted strategies (e.g., checklist, visual reminder)
			• Takes a walk outside with a familiar adult. • Goes to the sink to wash their hands before snack time. • Moves to sit next to an adult when invited to read a story.	• Gets their jacket and hat from their cubby in preparation for a walk outside. • Gathers toy food items and plates for a pretend meal with an adult. • Tries to make a sandcastle with an adult by filling a bucket with wet sand and then turning it over.	• Asks an adult for a bag to collect leaves on a walk outside as part of a new activity on seasons and fall colors. • Takes a peer’s hand and walks with them on a field trip to the library. • Watches as an adult models the steps for a new movement song and tries to follow along.	• Uses picture cards provided by an adult to illustrate gathering paper and glue for a collage using leaves. • Works on a puzzle by spreading out the pieces and looking at the picture on the box as a visual reminder, when suggested by an adult. • Uses a checklist provided by an adult to make sure they have the materials they need for a math game they are starting.



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Child is not yet at the earliest developmental level on this measure.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Makes and carries out a one- or two-step plan using familiar strategies for new learning activities, sometimes with adult support	Makes and carries out a multi-step plan for new learning activities on own or with peers	Extends a multi-step plan beyond the initial goal on own or with peers	Sets a short-term goal (i.e., within one to two days) and makes and carries out a multi-step plan on own or with peers to achieve it	Sets a longer-term goal (i.e., within a week) and makes and carries out a multi-step plan on own or with peers to achieve it, with adult support	Reviews and reflects on the success of plans to achieve goals
Possible Examples • Uses picture cards of flowers to create categories of flower shapes they just learned about, and then organizes their collection of flowers into the categories. • Gathers scissors and construction paper from where they are stored and puts them on the table before starting the new art project. • Reviews and then points to two items on a communication board to show an adult what they will need to start the new building project.	• Gets paper and crayons, organizes the flowers by the number of petals on each, draws a picture of each flower, and writes the number of petals underneath as part of a new unit on nature. • Works on a project with a peer to set up a new series of tests to move a block across a table using materials that can push and others that can pull the block. • Decides to play a board game with a peer during free time, chooses a game they haven't played before, sets up the game pieces, asks an adult to help them learn how to play, and starts the game.	• Adds to their project about the number of petals on different flowers by working with a peer to learn about how flowers are pollinated. • Uses differently shaped tiles to represent the outline of a boat provided by an adult, then uses more tiles to make fish underneath the boat. • Finishes writing "Feliz cumpleaños, abuelo" ["Happy birthday, Grandpa" in Spanish] in a card as part of a card-making activity. Then draws a picture of themselves with their abuelo on the front of the card.	• Decides to make a booklet about the leaves and flowers of several plants by folding and stapling pieces of paper together to form the booklet, gathering fallen leaves and flowers, and tracing or drawing them on individual pages of the booklet. Returns to work on the booklet the next day with colored pencils, writes the name of the plant on each page, and colors in the drawings of the leaves and flowers. • Invites peers to play a new math game and explains to them the object of the game, the rules, how to get started, and how to finish the game. • Makes a friendship bracelet for a peer by choosing colors of thread, getting a clipboard to hold the thread, cutting the thread, and braiding the thread.	• Decides to see whether flowers are changed by the color of the water they are in by placing white flowers in different vases, mixing red and blue food coloring into different containers of water with help from an adult, watering the flowers each day for three days, and then returning on the fourth day to draw colored pictures of the flowers. • Works toward their goal of completing their weekly reading assignment by making a plan to read a chapter today, a chapter tomorrow, and then completing their summary log the next day, after being reminded by a familiar adult when the summary log is due. • Works toward their goal of completing a project on birds by making a plan to do research on their bird tomorrow, write up the report the next day, and draw the illustrations the following day.	• Looks over their report on how flowers are changed by the color of the water they are in and communicates to an adult that they wish they had tried yellow food coloring as well. • Compares how many chapters they have read of their book to their plan for reading two chapters a day to see if they are on track to finish their reading assignment on time. • Crosses items off their task list as they check to see whether they have completed each step of their plan to create a short storybook.



SED 1: Self-Awareness

Child shows increasing awareness of own identity and preferences as distinct from and in relation to others

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Responds to others	Uses senses and movement to explore self and others	Responds to their own name or nickname	Communicates own needs and wants	Expresses simple ideas about self and connection to others	Describes self, based on aspects of their physical appearance related to specific identities (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, height, clothing)	Describes several of own preferences
Possible Examples						
- Attends to a familiar adult during feeding. - Grasps an adult’s finger when the adult touches the palm of their hand. - Quiets when hearing a familiar adult speak softly to them.	- Explores by grasping their own hair or someone else’s hair when it is within reach. - Examines their own hand or foot by looking at it or mouthing it. - Plays with sound by repeating coos and squeals.	- Orients toward a familiar adult when their own name is spoken. - Watches closely when a familiar adult signs their name. - Widens eyes when an adult communicates their nickname.	- Communicates to a familiar adult that they want to be held. - Communicates, “Mas leche” [“More milk,” in Spanish] to a familiar adult. - Leads an adult by the hand to a toy they want but cannot reach.	- Gestures to an image in a storybook of a person who appears to have braids, indicating that the character in the storybook has a hairstyle like theirs. - Communicates, “I have a baby sister!” and points to the family tree pictures on the classroom wall. - Shows favorite train toy to an adult and smiles when the adult responds, “Oh, you love trains.”	- Communicates that their hair and eyes are brown. - Communicates, “Soy Mexicano” [“I’m Mexican,” in Spanish]. - Looks at a picture of a boy and a picture of a girl, then chooses the picture that matches their own gender and points to themselves.	- Communicates that they like their hair in Afro puffs, but they don’t like it when people touch their hair. - Gestures to the box of trains and the shelf with blocks when asked, “What are your favorite things to play with?” - Communicates, “Ayokong hawakan ang susô. Na tatakot ako” [“I don’t want to touch the snail. It scares me,” in Tagalog].



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Compares own preferences, feelings, or cultural practices to those of others	Describes self, based on perceived personal qualities related to specific situations or contexts (e.g., "I'm shy at school")	Identifies strengths and weaknesses by comparing self with others	Demonstrates one of the following: (1) Identifies what they know and don't know and seeks help when needed (2) Describes self, based on subtle or abstract (i.e., not superficial) characteristics that are consistent across various situations or contexts (3) Describes, with detail, different ways their identities connect	Demonstrates two of the following: (1) Identifies what they know and don't know and seeks help when needed (2) Describes self, based on subtle or abstract (i.e., not superficial) characteristics that are consistent across various situations or contexts (3) Describes, with detail, different ways their identities connect	Demonstrates all three of the following: (1) Identifies what they know and don't know and seeks help when needed (2) Describes self, based on subtle or abstract (i.e., not superficial) characteristics that are consistent across various situations or contexts (3) Describes, with detail, different ways their identities connect
Possible Examples - Communicates that some boys don't like having long hair, but they do. - Communicates, "我喜歡游泳, 但是我姐姐不喜歡," ["I love to swim, but my sister doesn't," in Chinese]. - Responds to seeing a peer playing with a toy train by selecting the "train" icon on their AAC device, smiling, and sitting nearby with their own toy train.	- Communicates that they are good at being patient when their dad fixes their hair in the morning. - Uses a communication board to communicate, "friend" and gestures to themselves, after hugging a peer who is sad. - Communicates, "I am really good at playing video games at home."	- Communicates that they are good at being patient while their hair is braided, but their sister isn't because she moves a lot. - Shakes head "no" and points to a peer when an adult asks, "Do you know how to use this tool?" - Communicates, "I speak Spanish well, but Lee is still learning," and gestures to a peer.	(1) Communicates that they already know how to do braids, but they may need help tying the ends. (2) Draws a picture detailing how they are responsible, and includes in the picture them cleaning their room, helping their mom, and packing their homework in their backpack. (3) Communicates, "My skin is the same color as my dad's, I have freckles like my mom, and I play the piano like my uncle."	(1) Communicates that they can speak Cantonese but sometimes need help writing the characters. (2) Communicates that they are creative with how they wear their hair, sometimes in braids, sometimes curly, sometimes in ponytails, but always creative! (3) Draws a picture of their different identities in overlapping circles, gesturing to one part of the picture with a Vietnamese flag and another with an American flag to indicate their cultural background, and some of their likes from each culture, with a drawing of a pizza and a drawing of Phở.	(1) Requests more information about trains so they can add details to the story they are writing. (2) Communicates that they get uncomfortable around new people. (3) Communicates that their hair is dark and very straight, just like their mom's, which is part of their Asian heritage, and they like to wear colorful ribbons in their hair because it reminds them of their grandma, with whom they like to do art projects.



SED 2: Social Awareness

Child shows a developing awareness and acceptance of others’ thoughts, perspectives, and individual characteristics

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Responds to faces, voices, or actions of other people	Anticipates what familiar people will do in repeated experiences such as care routines	Shares a common focus with another person	Acts in response to what they think another person wants	Communicates about others' feelings, behaviors, or preferences	Communicates that others' behaviors are related to their thoughts or feelings	Communicates that others' behaviors are related to their consistent preferences or past experiences
Possible Examples • Orients toward the voice of a familiar adult. • Moves their arms around when they see a familiar adult approaching. • Starts to cry when hearing another child crying.	• Opens their mouth and kicks their legs when a familiar adult sings or signs a special song they always sing before feeding the child a bottle. • Kicks legs in excitement or reaches out when a familiar adult leans forward to pick the child up. • Looks toward the location of where an adult’s face will reappear during a game of peekaboo.	• Turns attention away from their toy and toward music that has started to play and smiles when the familiar adult says, “Do you like this song?” • Pays attention to a familiar adult’s behavior when an unfamiliar adult enters the room. • Reaches for the ball on the floor when an adult communicates, “Do you want the ball?”	• Points to the headphones on the shelf when a peer who usually wears them arrives. • Brings a toy to a child who looks upset. • Watches an adult finish eating their last apple slice and offers an adult an apple slice from their plate.	• Notices another child wearing headphones and asks the teacher, “Is Nbengha OK?” The teacher responds by communicating, “Yes, Nbengha needs some quiet time while others are playing.” • Communicates, “También me gusta pintar, me hace feliz, [“I like to paint, too, it makes me happy,” in Spanish] after noticing a child at an easel. • Points to “laughing” picture on an emotion chart while looking at a peer who is giggling, after an adult asks, “How do you think your friend is feeling?”	• Communicates that loud noises make a peer uncomfortable, so they are wearing headphones. • Communicates, “Cô bé nhớ mẹ của mình” [“She misses her mommy,” in Vietnamese] when another child begins to cry. • Points to a “scared face” on an emotion chart to communicate that the turtle was scared when an adult asks why the turtle pulled its head back into its shell.	• Communicates that a peer brings their headphones from home because they like them better than the ones at school. • Selects toy strawberries from a bowl of toy food and offers them to a peer. Smiles when the peer says, “My favorite!” • Communicates that a peer with a motor impairment uses their stander to paint at the easel every day.



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Acknowledges that the thoughts or feelings of others can be different from child's own	Demonstrates understanding that others' nonverbal cues (e.g., body language, tone of voice) communicate how they feel	Celebrates others' success and offers peers solutions to problems, sometimes with adult encouragement	Demonstrates one of the following: (1) Anticipates others' wants or needs based on their individual characteristics, consistent preferences, or past experiences (2) Encourages and helps others, without prompting (3) Identifies instances of injustice or unfairness in their social environments or in how people treat one another	Demonstrates two of the following: (1) Anticipates others' wants or needs based on their individual characteristics, preferences, or experiences (2) Encourages and helps others, without prompting (3) Identifies instances of injustice or unfairness in their social environments or in how people treat one another	Demonstrates all three of the following: (1) Anticipates others' wants or needs based on their individual characteristics, preferences, or experiences (2) Encourages and helps others, without prompting (3) Identifies instances of injustice or unfairness in their social environments or in how people treat one another
Possible Examples					
- Communicates, "Loud noises don't bother me, but my friend wears headphones because they like it quiet." - Communicates, "I'm not scared when I go to the barbershop, but Miles was nervous because it was his first time." - Sits near a quiet peer in the reading corner to read their favorite train book, when the adult suggests they read together, and notices the peer is looking at a book about ships.	- Communicates that it seems like there is too much noise for a peer when they notice the peer holding their hands over their ears. - Notices a peer put their head down on the table, and uses their communication board to ask, "Friend tired?" - Notices a peer watching them play a game and communicates, "Creo que quiere jugar con nosotros" ["I think he wants to play with us," in Spanish]."	- Offers to bring a peer their headphones when they notice the peer with their hands over their ears and looking upset. - Cheers for a peer who makes it across the monkey bars, after an adult mentions that the peer has been working hard on doing that. - Pauses their drawing to help a peer find a specific color crayon they were looking for after an adult said to the peer, "Maybe one of our peers can help you."	(1) Brings a peer their headphones before they play outside, where it may be loud. (2) Communicates, "You can do it!" when a peer is working to climb to the top of the climbing structure. (3) Points out that a few peers always get to the swings first during recess and that other kids don't get a chance to use them.	(1) Communicates to a new peer in class, "You can sit next to me at lunch." (2) Brings two small pillows to a peer who has noise sensitivity and forgot to bring their headphones, so the peer can cover their ears when they need to. (3) Communicates, "It is not right to judge someone by the color of their skin. Everyone should be treated equally," after a read-aloud book about Rosa Parks.	(1) Offers that a peer go first in the game because they were looking sad. (2) Helps a peer spell a word after they notice their peer struggling. (3) Notices all the games outside are loud and asks the teacher if they can set up some quieter games, so a peer with noise sensitivity can feel included in outside games too.



SED 3: Relationships and Reciprocal Interactions with Familiar Adults

Child develops close relationships with one or more familiar adults (including family members) and interacts in an increasingly competent and cooperative manner with familiar adults

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Responds to faces, voices, or actions of people nearby	Shows interest in familiar adults	Shows a preference for interacting with familiar adults over unfamiliar adults	Participates in familiar routines and activities with familiar adults	Interacts for extended periods with familiar adults in a variety of situations	Engages with familiar adults in ways that indicate an emerging understanding of the adult’s feelings or preferences	Engages in back-and-forth interactions with a familiar adult to agree on activities they may want to do together in the short term
Possible Examples						
• Widens eyes or brightens at the face of their grandfather. • Quiets when picked up by an adult. • Rests head on familiar adult’s chest when being held.	• Smiles and vocalizes when they hear their grandfather enter the room. • Reaches their hands toward a familiar adult when the adult leans toward them. • Kicks legs when a familiar adult is approaching.	• Reaches toward their grandfather when an unfamiliar adult enters the room. • Places toy on a familiar adult’s lap, goes to get another toy, and then places that toy on the adult’s lap. • Crawls toward their parent rather than toward an unfamiliar adult.	• Brings a book to their grandfather and then asks him to read it to them at pickup time. • Holds arms out one at a time to assist a familiar adult who is putting a jacket on them. • Claps and sways when a familiar adult sings their favorite song.	• Shows a drawing to their grandfather at the end of the day and communicates with him about the drawing. • Communicates to a familiar adult, “Quieres té?” [“Do you want tea?” in Spanish] during a pretend tea party. • Works on a simple puzzle with a familiar adult, taking turns to fit the pieces.	• Gives their grandfather a flower they picked from the school’s pick-your-own garden, and the grandfather responds, “Oh, you remembered my favorite!” • Speaks Mandarin to their grandfather and English to their grandmother, because their grandfather prefers Mandarin, and their grandmother prefers English. • Gives a familiar adult a drawing and communicates that they used the adult’s favorite colors.	• Communicates they would like to draw a picture of fishing with their “lolo” [“grandfather,” in Tagalog] when an adult explains they have to wait together for “lolo” to arrive and gestures for them to sit at a table together. • Shares with an adult that, “我最鍾意撚滑梯, 但是佢太熱啦” [“The slide is my favorite, but it gets too hot,” in Cantonese] and continues, “What do you want to play?” The adult suggests the swings, and they go together. • Asks to play a texture guessing game with a familiar adult. Picks one of the boxes the adult offers and says, “You can pick next.”



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Works cooperatively with familiar adults, over sustained periods, to plan and carry out mutually enjoyable activities	Acknowledges or accepts the communicated interests, preferences, or goals of familiar adults even when different from own	Initiates cooperative interactions that follow the intentions or goals of familiar adults even when in conflict with own	Demonstrates one of the following: (1) Communicates to familiar adults what they want or need in ways that reflect an understanding of the adult’s expectations or perspectives (2) Extends communications with familiar adults to find alternative solutions when the first solution is not accepted (3) Makes use of support from familiar adults when needed, while managing challenges increasingly on own	Demonstrates two of the following: (1) Communicates to familiar adults what they want or need in ways that reflect an understanding of the adult’s expectations or perspectives (2) Extends communications with familiar adults to find alternative solutions when the first solution is not accepted (3) Makes use of support from familiar adults when needed, while managing challenges increasingly on own	Demonstrates all three of the following: (1) Communicates to familiar adults what they want or need in ways that reflect an understanding of the adult’s expectations or perspectives (2) Extends communications with familiar adults to find alternative solutions when the first solution is not accepted (3) Makes use of support from familiar adults when needed, while managing challenges increasingly on own
Possible Examples					
- Communicates with a familiar adult about the drawing supplies they will need to draw a picture of their “lolo” fishing, then brings the supplies outside to the table where they will draw together. - Agrees to a familiar adult’s suggestion that they add some trees to the side of the tower they are building together. Then suggests, “Pon los bloques azules enfrente de la torre. ¡Así hacemos el río!” [“Put the blue blocks in front of the tower. They can be the river!” in Spanish]. They continue to build a tower together. - Decides with a familiar adult to make an audio story about animals. Says, “You be the lion, and I’ll do the monkey,” then records themselves making each sound.	- Communicates that they just need to finish the last part of their drawing of their “lolo” and then will clean up, after a familiar adult communicates that in about five minutes they will need to put away the drawing materials and set up snack on the table. - Offers that a familiar adult be the wolf when they express interest, even though they wanted to be the wolf when acting out The Three Little Pigs. - Notifies, while working on a special project, that the adult has placed their name on the helper chart. Hesitates a moment before completing the helper task, then returns quickly to their special project.	- Communicates that they will help put away their drawing of their “lolo” and the supplies when they notice the adult getting ready to fix a snack. - Volunteers to take the attendance to the front office after the teacher communicates, “I don’t want to disrupt our free choice time, but our attendance helper is out sick today and I need someone else to help.” - Says, “Let’s play music loud!” while exploring instruments. When adult responds, “Ooh, loud music is fun! What does it sound like when it’s really soft?” giggles and says, “Let’s try soft first!” then gently taps the drum with their fingers.	(1) Communicates to a familiar adult that they know it’s time to clean up for snack, but they are not done working on the drawing of their “lolo,” and they need more time. (2) Communicates to a familiar adult, “Can I keep it in my backpack instead?” when the adult explains they cannot bring a special object into the classroom as requested. (3) Starts a new math activity on their own, then gestures for a familiar adult to come over and help, and then finishes the activity on their own.	(1) Gestures for the adult who is about to remind them to focus on reading, to hand them their fidget toy, which usually helps them focus. (2) Communicates to a familiar adult that they know it’s time to clean up, but they are not done yet and need more time. Then communicates they would like to save their drawing of their “lolo” and finish it tomorrow, when the adult communicates that there is no more time to work on it today. (3) Communicates to a familiar adult, “We talked and talked about it, but we still can’t agree. “Puedes ayudarnos a decidir?” [“Can you help us decide?” in Spanish] when in conflict with peers about the topic for a group activity.	(1) Communicates to an adult that they know they need to present their project in front of the class, but they are nervous and do not want to go first. (2) Gestures to indicate they want to read in the cozy corner, when an adult confirms they have to finish their reading activity today. (3) Communicates to a familiar adult that they will put away the supplies they were using, but they need help finding somewhere safe to put their drawing of their “lolo” so they can finish it tomorrow.



SED 4: Relationships and Interactions with Peers

Child develops and maintains close relationships with one or more peers and becomes increasingly competent and cooperative in peer interactions

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Shows awareness of other people, including children	Shows interest in nearby children	Indicates interest in being near peers and orients own activity to a peer's activity	Engages with peers in brief back-and-forth of objects, actions, or words	Plays together with various peers for brief amounts of time, when initiated or supported by an adult	Initiates or joins cooperative play with peers or preferred peers	Maintains cooperative play with peers or preferred peers for extended amounts of time
Possible Examples • Begins to cry when another child cries nearby. • Gazes at another child nearby. • Turns toward the sound of another child laughing.	• Smiles at another child. • Moves excitedly when another child comes near. • Reaches toward a nearby child who is holding a toy.	• Explores a toy alongside another child who is exploring a similar toy. • Selects a truck when other children nearby are playing with trucks. • Watches children playing at the water table, then joins them at the table by reaching for a toy.	• Scoops sand into a bucket with a peer, continuing back and forth a few times. • Splashes excitedly with a peer at the water table, continuing back and forth briefly. • Responds to a peer's communication of "Go, go!" by communicating "Go, go!" in return as they each roll toy cars across the floor.	• Digs in sand with one peer, then scoops sand into a toy truck with another peer when an adult points out what the peer is doing. • Takes a few turns trying on aprons with a peer in the dramatic play area, with encouragement from an adult. • Plays chase briefly outside with two peers, after an adult starts the game.	• Invites peers to play with dump trucks in the sandbox with them. • Offers to a peer a piece of the train track they are building, and the two take turns connecting the track pieces. • Accepts a peer's hand when offered and dances in a circle to the music.	• Laughs with a peer while they pass each other buckets filled with sand to build a sandcastle. They build together for the full outdoor time. • Adds toy animals to a pretend barn they have been building with a peer and, at clean-up time, asks to save it so they can play with it tomorrow. • Returns to the art table the next day with the same peer to finish decorating their class banner with paint, glitter, and glued-on shapes.



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Co-creates games or tasks with peers that involve clear, simple rules (e.g., turn-taking) and roles	Chooses preferred peers or peers to play or work with and compromises with them to achieve goals	Works with preferred peers or peers to achieve shared goals, including using concepts of fairness or justice to resolve conflict with them	Demonstrates one of the following: (1) Cultivates a close relationship with at least one peer (2) Initiates entry into a variety of social situations with peers successfully (3) Works to correct unfairness and repair ruptures in social situations with peers	Demonstrates two of the following: (1) Cultivates a close relationship with at least one peer (2) Initiates entry into a variety of social situations with peers successfully (3) Works to correct unfairness and repair ruptures in social situations with peers	Demonstrates all of the following: (1) Cultivates a close relationship with at least one peer (2) Initiates entry into a variety of social situations with peers successfully (3) Works to correct unfairness and repair ruptures in social situations with peers
Possible Examples - Plans with several peers how to move sand in the sandbox, switching off who will be “shovelers” to put sand in the trucks and who will be “drivers” to move the sand-filled trucks. - Discusses with peers where the base will be and who will be “it” first in a game of tag. - Joins peers in planning and gathering materials needed for a nature walk, such as nets, baskets, and bags.	- Invites a peer to build a sandcastle with them and suggests the peer choose the shovel they want first. - Communicates to a preferred peer, “What should we play today, blocks or puppets?” and plays the activity the peer chooses. - Gestures to use a timer to take turns playing on the swings with a preferred peer.	- Reminds a peer while getting blocks out to build together that the peer got to choose what to build last time, so this time they get to choose. - Reminds a peer that they got to be the leader last time, and taking turns being the leader is fair. - Offers to read the book together when a peer wants to read the same book at the same time.	(1) Partners with a preferred peer on a long-term project, creating a neighborhood map. Works closely together over several weeks, negotiating the placement of buildings and parks. (2) Gestures that they would like to join a kickball game that peers are playing and take turns kicking with the other players. (3) Communicates, “That’s not true! Leave them alone,” to peers who are teasing another child.	(1) Communicates to a preferred peer, “We always play soccer together, right? You can kick first, and I’ll be the goalie, then we can switch.” (2) Joins a small group of peers who are working on a project building a “techno city” using electronics parts and asks how they can help. (3) Gestures for a peer to join their team after that peer was excluded from the game.	(1) Shares with a preferred peer what they will wear to a costume party and communicates, “You’re the only one I’m telling because I want it to be a surprise.” (2) Communicates to a group of peers that they would like to join their after-school nature club and offers to share their magnifying glass. (3) Suggests to a peer who is indicating to everyone where things go in the group building project that it will be more fun if everybody gets to make some choices.



SED 5: Emotional Knowledge and Regulation

Child develops an increasing ability to identify and process emotions

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Responding		Exploring		Building		
Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Later ○	Earlier ○	Middle ○	Later ○
Calms in response to care from a familiar adult	Orients to a familiar adult when distressed and responds when comforted by them	Shows preference for certain familiar adults for comfort and care	Comforts self or seeks comfort from familiar adults	Seeks out familiar adults for support when experiencing an emotion	Recognizes basic emotions (e.g., happy, mad) in self	Makes connections for reasons behind basic emotions, sometimes with adult support
Possible Examples - Stops crying when picked up by a familiar adult. - Relaxes in a familiar adult's arms when being held. - Quiets to the voice of a familiar adult.	- Cries and turns toward a familiar adult when startled by a sudden loud sound, then stops crying when the adult murmurs and pats them gently. - Nuzzles face into a familiar adult's shoulder after crying during a diaper change. - Looks toward a familiar adult when startled and relaxes when picked up.	- Moves toward a preferred familiar adult, not an unfamiliar adult, when startled by a sudden loud sound. - Moves toward a preferred familiar caregiver when another adult enters the room. - Calms when a familiar adult moves to sit closer on the floor.	- Puts hands over ears when startled by a sudden loud sound, then communicates, "Hold me," to a familiar adult. - Climbs into a familiar adult's lap and communicates, "Mine, mine." - Rocks back and forth and hums to self after dropping a basket of toys.	- Goes to a familiar adult and communicates, "What was that?" when startled by a sudden loud sound. - Communicates, "Tôi muốn ngồi ở đây" ["I want to sit here," in Vietnamese] to a familiar adult when upset that there are no empty chairs near a peer. - Hugs a familiar adult with relief after the adult helps them find their misplaced doll.	- Identifies which faces are happy, sad, or scared when looking at a picture book about emotions with a familiar adult. - Points to the "sad" face on a communication board, then gestures to a broken toy. - Jumps up and communicates, "Estoy muy feliz!" ["I'm so happy," in Spanish], after adult communicates it's time to go outside.	- Communicates that they felt scared because they did not know where it came from, when an adult notices them looking around after a sudden loud sound. - Responds "yes" using a communication board when an adult asks, "Are you sad because you wanted to play?" after responding "no" to other reasons the adult offered. - Communicates, "بیل و بده به من" ["Give me the shovel," in Farsi]. "I'm frustrated when you don't share."



- ☐ Child is emerging to the next developmental level.
- ☐ Unable to rate this measure due to extended absence.

Mark the latest developmental level the child has mastered:

Integrating			Extending		
Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐	Earlier ☐	Middle ☐	Later ☐
Uses a few strategies to process their emotions, sometimes with adult support	Makes connections between some of their emotional experiences and sensory experiences	Uses numerous or varied strategies to process their emotions in different situations	Demonstrates one of the following: (1) Uses words, pictures, or objects to communicate about their varied emotional experiences in different situations (2) Describes anticipated emotional responses to upcoming situations (3) Uses different strategies, tailored to different situations, to process their emotions	Demonstrates two of the following: (1) Uses words, pictures, or objects to communicate about their varied emotional experiences in different situations (2) Describes anticipated emotional responses to upcoming situations (3) Uses different strategies, tailored to different situations, to process their emotions	Demonstrates all three of the following: (1) Uses words, pictures, or objects to communicate about their varied emotional experiences in different situations (2) Describes anticipated emotional responses to upcoming situations (3) Uses different strategies, tailored to different situations, to process their emotions
Possible Examples					
• Takes a few deep breaths and hugs a familiar adult after being startled by a sudden loud sound. • Chooses “hug a favorite toy” from the “Calm Down” poster that the adult points to, then goes to the cozy corner and hugs a soft toy to calm down. • Goes to the carpet and jumps up and down after an adult prompts, “What is something you could do when you are so excited it is hard to sit at the table?”	• Communicates to a familiar adult that their tummy hurts when they feel scared. • Communicates, “I’m jumping up and down because I’m so excited.” • Draws a picture of themselves on stage to accompany a writing prompt about a time they were nervous.	• Whispers “it’s ok” to themselves, then asks a peer what happened after being startled by a sudden loud sound. • Becomes upset when the book they wanted to read is not available, then takes a few deep breaths to compose themselves and asks if they can read it next. • Goes to their cubby to take out a picture of their abuela, who just left after visiting for a week.	• (1) Explains that the sudden loud sound only scared them a little, but their peer’s Halloween costume scared them a lot. • (2) Draws a picture detailing how they will feel happy on the last day of school and also sad to say goodbye to their teachers. • (3) Requests permission to go to the cozy corner alone to calm down after having a disagreement with a peer.	• (1) Communicates that they were disappointed that their team lost, and they also felt proud for trying their best. • (2) Communicates to a peer that they will be more excited and less scared, when they present their project to the class. • (3) Communicates how they like to find room to dance and act silly to get their nervous energy out.	• (1) Demonstrates how their excitement “grows” as it gets closer to winter break by selecting gradually bigger smiley faces on their tablet. • (2) Communicates how they will feel relieved once their tooth falls out. • (3) Takes deep breaths when they feel scared while alone, talks about what happened when they feel scared while interacting with peers, and asks for a hug when they feel scared while interacting with a familiar adult.



Glossary of Terms Used in the DRDP (2025)

Alphabetic language: A language that has a letter or combinations of letters and marks to represent each speech sound in the language.
From **Cambridge Dictionary** (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/alphabetic>) Appears in FLD 5: Alphabets and Print Knowledge

Attribute: A property or characteristic of an object or a person. Attributes such as size, color, and shape would be used by children in grouping and sorting.
From **PTKLF Mathematics Domain Glossary**, p. 65 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfmathdomain.pdf#page=66>)
Appears in:
FLD 1: Understanding Language (Receptive)
MATH 2: Classification

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC): A tool used by individuals with impairments in speech-language production and/or comprehension to improve functional daily living. AAC uses a variety of techniques and tools, including, but not limited to, picture communication boards and speech-generating devices.
From **PTKLF Language and Literacy Domain Glossary**, p. 135 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklflanguageliteracydev.pdf#page=136>)
Appears in:
ELD 1: Comprehension of English (Receptive English)
ELD 2: Self-Expression in English (Expressive English)
ELD 3: Understanding and Responding to English Literacy Activities
FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)

Braille: The universally accepted system of writing used by people who are blind or have low vision, consisting of a code of 63 characters. Each character represents a letter, combination of letters, common word, or grammar sign, read by touching them lightly.
From **Britannica** (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Braille-writing-system>)
Appears in:
FLD 4: Foundational Literacy Skills
FLD 5: Alphabets and Print Knowledge
FLD 6: Writing

Cardinality: The concept that the number name applied to the last object counted represents the total number of objects in the group (the quantity of objects counted).
From **PTKLF Mathematics Domain Glossary**, p. 65 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfmathdomain.pdf#page=66>)
Appears in: MATH 3: Number and Counting

Clause: A group of words that contains a subject and a verb within a sentence.
Appears in:
FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)
ELD 2: Self-Expression in English (Expressive English)
ELD 3: Understanding and Responding to English Literacy Activities

Communicates: The variety of ways a child demonstrates knowledge and skills, including speaking in English or the child’s home language, signing, using a communication device, drawing or modeling with different materials, and expressing through movement, actions, or role-play.
Appears in multiple measures across domains

Conventional gestures: Commonly understood gestures such as pointing, waving goodbye, or nodding, etc.
Appears in FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)

Cooperative play: Children play together toward a shared goal. They make plans, take turns, or work as a team, such as building a city out of blocks, pretending to run a store, or putting on a play.
Appears in SED 4: Relationships and Interactions with Peers

Decode/decoding: The process of using one’s knowledge of letter-sound correspondence (or syllable-sound in Spanish) to sound out words.
From: **National Center for Improving Literacy** (n.d.) (<https://www.improvingliteracy.org/literacy-glossary>)
Appears in FLD 5: Alphabets and Print Knowledge

Decompose: In Math, it means to take apart numbers or shapes into smaller parts (e.g., 7 can be broken down into 3 and 4, 5 and 2; squares can be 2 triangles, etc.)
From **CDE Mathematics Frameworks** (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ma/cf/>)
Appears in MATH 4: Number Operations

Everyday problems: Common challenges that children encounter during daily routines and activities, such as fitting a foot into a shoe or opening a tight jar lid.
Appears in ATL 3: Problem-Solving

Manipulative skills: Also known as object-control skills, in which the arms, hands, legs, and feet are used to give force to an object (for example, throwing a ball) or to receive and absorb the force from an object (for example, catching a ball).
From **PTKLF Physical Development Domain Glossary**, p. 32 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfphysicaldevelop.pdf#page=33>)
Appears in PD 3: Gross Motor Manipulative Skills
Appears in PD 4: Fine Motor Manipulative Skills

Handshapes: The specific configuration of the hand and fingers when forming a sign in sign language. Handshapes, together with location and movement, comprise signs in sign language.

From: Jackson et al. (2024) (https://pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/2024_PERSP-24-00042)

Appears in FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)

Hygiene: The practice of maintaining health and preventing disease through cleanliness.

From PTKLF Health Domain Glossary, p.31 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfhealthdomain.pdf#page=32>)

Appears in HLTH 3: Personal Care Routines: Hygiene

Investigates/Investigation: In the process of scientific inquiry, asking a question and conducting systematic observations or simple experiments to find an answer.

From PTKLF Science Domain Glossary, p. 83 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfsciencedomain.pdf#page=84>)

Appears in:

SCI 2: Inquiry Through Observation and Investigation

SCI 3: Documentation and Communication of Inquiry

Locomotor skills: The ability to move the body into or through space.

From PTKLF Physical Development Domain Glossary, p. 32 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfphysicaldevelop.pdf#page=33>)

Appears in PD 2: Gross Locomotor Movement Skills

Multilingual learner: A child who is learning two or more languages at the same time, or a child who is learning English while continuing to develop their home language.

From PTKLF Language and Literacy Development Domain Glossary, p.136

Appears in DRDP Instrument Front Matter

Nonstandard and standard units: Nonstandard units of measurement are units of measurement that are based on personal choice, such as a pencil, a hand, a toothpick, or a block. Standard units are common units of measurement, such as inches, ounces, meters, or liters.

Appears in Math 5: Measurement

Novel or complex problems: Challenges or situations that a child is encountering for the first time, or that have different parts to solve.

Appears in ATL 3: Problem-Solving

Observes/Observation: Ways that young children gather information about objects and events by using the senses of sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste, and noticing specific details and phenomena that ordinarily might be overlooked.

From PTKLF Science Domain Glossary, p. 84 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfsciencedomain.pdf#page=84>)

Appears in:

COG: SCI 2: Inquiry Through Observation and Investigation

COG: SCI 3: Documentation and Communication of Inquiry

One-to-one correspondence: One and only one number word is used for each object in the array of objects being counted.

From PTKLF Mathematics Domain Glossary, p. 65 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklfmathdomain.pdf#page=66>)

Appears in MATH 3: Number and Counting

Onset: The first consonant or consonant cluster in a syllable (e.g., the /h/ in the one-syllable word hat; the /m/ and /k/ in the two syllables of the word *monkey*).

From PLF Language and Literacy Domain Glossary, p. 89

Appears in FLD 4: Foundational Literacy Skills

Phonological awareness: Sensitivity to the sound structure of spoken language.

From PTKLF Language and Literacy Development Domain Glossary, p. 137 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklflanguageliteracydev.pdf#page=150>)

Appears in FLD 4: Foundational Literacy Skills

Rime: A linguistic term that refers to the portion of a syllable that starts with a vowel.

In the word big, the rime unit is /ig/. In the word bring, the rime unit is /ing/.

From PLF Language and Literacy Domain Glossary, p. 89

Appears in FLD 4: Foundational Literacy Skills

Self-initiated activities: Play or tasks that infants, toddlers, and young children choose based on their curiosity, interest, abilities, and opportunities. Children determine the timing, pace, intensity, and duration of these activities.

Appears in:

ATL 1: Engagement, Attention, and Persistence

ATL 2: Curiosity, Interest, and Initiative

Word approximations: A part of a word, a sound substitution, a simplified version of a sign or AAC symbol, to communicate a specific word.

Appears in FLD 2: Using Language (Expressive)

Appendices

The following resources provide additional information for the use of the DRDP (2025)

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Appendix A: Requirements of the DRDP (2025) Assessment

The DRDP (2025) is available for child care and development programs funded by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the California Department of Education (CDE). This table provides information about which children are assessed, and when, how, and where to submit the results of the DRDP (2025).

	CDSS Child Care and Development Division (CCDD)	CDE Early Education Division (EED) Programs	CDE Special Education Division (SED) Programs
DRDP (2025) Views	• The DRDP (2025) has the following views: – IT (Infant-Toddler) and PTK (Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten) – Before and after-school programs will continue to use the DRDP (2010) School-Age instrument. • Programs should use the same instrument for at least one school year to measure progress.	• The DRDP (2025) has the following views: – IT (Infant-Toddler), PTK (Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten), and P-3 (Preschool – Grade 3) • Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may choose to use the PTK or P-3 view.	• The DRDP (2025) IT (Infant-Toddler) view is used for children with Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs). • The DRDP (2025) PTK (Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten) is required for children with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).
Which children are assessed	• All infants, toddlers, preschool-age, and school-age children, when required by contract to have the DRDP assessment administered, are assessed, in addition to other programs that choose to use a developmental assessment. • If a child has exceptional needs, the developmental profile shall be completed with any necessary accommodations and adaptations, and is required even if the child is enrolled for less than 10 hours per week.	• All California State Preschool Program (CSPP) children enrolled in the program for at least 10 hours are assessed. • Every child with an IFSP or an IEP enrolled in CSPP is assessed, regardless of the hours per week they are certified for. • If a child receives services for less than ten hours per week, a DRDP assessment is recommended but not required.	• Infants and toddlers with IFSPs who are reported to the California Department of Education are assessed. • Any child who is 3, 4, or 5 years old and has an IEP is assessed. • To be included in the fall assessment, children must begin special education services before November 1. • To be included in the spring assessment, children must begin special education services before April 1. • If the child turns 6 at any point during the school year (July 1 through June 30), the DRDP is not required in either the fall or spring assessment periods.
When children are assessed	Child assessments are completed within the first 60 days of their enrollment and then at six-month intervals thereafter. Programs wishing to assess more frequently may do so.	In CSPPs, child assessments are completed within the first 60 to 90 days of attendance (https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/desiredresults.asp), then at 6-month intervals thereafter. Programs wishing to assess more frequently may do so.	• Children are assessed twice a year, in the fall and spring. • The assessment should be initiated within the first 60 calendar days of services. • Check with local administrators to determine how, when, and where to submit your DRDP rating records.

	CDSS Child Care and Development Division (CCDD)	CDE Early Education Division (EED) Programs	CDE Special Education Division (SED) Programs
Which instrument view is used	Children are assessed with the DRDP (2025) with necessary accommodations, even if a child has exceptional needs and is enrolled for less than 10 hours per week: • Children from birth to three years of age are assessed with the IT View. • Children three to five years of age are assessed with the PTK View. • Children aged two years and nine months and older may use the PTK view if enrolled in a preschool classroom.	All CSPP children enrolled in the program for at least 10 hours are assessed with the DRDP (2025): • Children from birth to two years eight months are assessed with the IT View. • Children two years nine months to five years of age are assessed with the PTK View.	All children with IFSPs and IEPs are assessed with the DRDP (2025). • Children with an IFSP are assessed with the IT View. • Children with an IEP are assessed with the PTK View.
Where to submit DRDP data	Assessment data are uploaded to DRDP Online for secure data storage and to obtain psychometrically valid reports.	Assessment data are uploaded to DRDP Online for secure data storage and to obtain psychometrically valid reports.	Submit assessment data in one of two ways: • Into the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)'s IEP data collection system (such as Special Education Information System (SEIS) or Siras Systems) or • Into the DR Access Reports (https://draccessreports.org/) secure data system
How to obtain reports of results	Psychometrically valid reports are available in DRDP Online. Coordination with local Management Information Systems is available. Visit drdponline.org for more information. Contact DRDP Online customer service (help@DRDPOnline.org) for assistance.	Psychometrically valid reports are available in DRDP Online. Coordination with local Management Information Systems is available. Visit drdponline.org for more information. Contact DRDP Online customer service (help@DRDPOnline.org) for assistance.	• Psychometrically valid reports are available upon entry of assessment data from DR Access Reports. • Coordination with local Management Information Systems is available. Contact reports@draccess.org for assistance.

For More Information:

Desired Results Training and Technical Assistance Project
Email: desiredresults@wested.org
Website: www.desiredresults.us
Phone: (800) 770-6339

Appendix B: Resources for Assessing Children who are Multilingual Learners, Including Dual Language Learners, with the DRDP (2025)

The DRDP (2025) takes into account the cultural and linguistic characteristics of California’s diverse population of young children, with particular attention to young multilingual learners. The introduction in the DRDP (2025) assessment provides information on completing the assessment for young children who are multilingual learners. Keep in mind that young multilingual learners may demonstrate knowledge and skills in their home language, in English, or both languages. The child’s communication, in whatever language, should be considered when collecting documentation and completing the measures in all domains of the DRDP (2025).

The following resources will enhance your knowledge and help you when completing the DRDP (2025) more effectively for young children who are multilingual learners.

Resource	Funding Organization	Description
California’s Best Practices for Young Dual Language Learners: Research Overview Papers (https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/dllresearchpapers.pdf)	California Department of Education for the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care	This series of papers includes research on the development of dual language learners. For example, “Assessment of Young Dual Language Learners in Preschool” focuses on the need for accurate and valid assessment of young dual language learners. It includes a decision tree for practitioners to determine which language to use when assessing young DLLs, a language and literacy assessment matrix for preschool-age children, and a sample family interview protocol to learn about families’ language practices. “Early Intervention and Young Dual Language Learners with Special Needs” addresses the language development of young dual language learners with disabilities or delays and key considerations for selecting the language for intervention.
California Infant-Toddler Learning and Development Foundations (https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/publications/california-infant-toddler-learning-and-development-foundations)	California Department of Social Services	The California Infant–Toddler Learning and Development Foundations, Second Edition , describes infants’ and toddlers’ learning and development from birth to 3 across five domains that contribute to their overall school readiness. The language development chapter covers the following three strands: Attending and Understanding, Communicating, and Early Literacy.
California Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF): Language and Literacy Development (https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ptklflanguageliteracydev.pdf)	California Department of Education	The California Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF) (https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/psfoundations.asp) describe knowledge and skills that most children age three to five and a half typically develop in high-quality, equitable, and responsive early education programs.
Code Switching: Why It Matters and How to Respond: A Workbook for Early Head Start/ Head Start Programs (https://headstart.gov/culture-language/article/code-switching-why-it-matters-how-respond)	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, by the National Center on Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness	This easy-to-use workbook defines and describes code switching. It identifies which children code-switch and explains why code-switching matters. It also includes numerous examples of how adults can provide strong language models for children when they code-switch.

Resource	Funding Organization	Description
California Early Childhood Online (CECO) (https://www.caeearlychildhoodonline.org/en_modulecatalog.aspx)	California Department of Social Services	CECO offers synchronous modules in English, Spanish, and Chinese that explore strategies and best practices for nurturing language development in children learning more than one language. Participants gain insights into creating inclusive environments and fostering bilingualism and cultural identity in early childhood settings. Modules include topics such as dual language learners, supporting young multilingual learners, and the California Preschool Transitional/Kindergarten Learning Foundations.
Child Care and Development Dual Language Learners Unit Webpage (https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/dual-language-learners)	California Department of Social Services	The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Dual Language Learners Unit webpage provides comprehensive support for DLL children. It offers resources for early childhood educators to create inclusive and culturally responsive environments that nurture both English and home language development. The site emphasizes equitable access to quality early learning, promotes family engagement, and shares research-based practices, training materials, and policy updates. Its goal is to ensure that dual language learners thrive linguistically, cognitively, and socially in their formative years.
Dual Language Learners with Disabilities or Suspected Delays (https://headstart.gov/publication/dual-language-learners-disabilities-or-suspected-delays)	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start	This brief focuses on the importance of dual-language learning for children with disabilities or suspected delays. It also covers practices that support their learning and full and effective participation in learning experiences.
Enhancing Young Hispanic Dual Language Learners' Achievement: Exploring Strategies and Addressing Challenges (https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/ets2.12045)	Educational Testing Service (ETS) Research Report Series	This education policy report explores strategies to improve instruction in programs serving preschool-aged children, with a focus on young Hispanic dual-language learners. Assessment is addressed in the section titled "Improving Teachers' Practice through the Assessment of Young Dual Language Learners."
Gathering and Using Language: Information that Families Share (https://headstart.gov/publication/gathering-using-language-information-families-share)	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start	This research offers valuable insights into dual language development and provides key strategies for supporting children's progress.
Information and Resources to Support Dual Language Learners List (https://cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCDD/LII/DLL Information and Resources for Dual Language Learners.pdf?ver=2024-06-04-113000-340)	California Department of Social Services	This list of resources supports the implementation of Assembly Bill 393 (2023), Welfare and Institutions Code 10209.6, which mandates CDSS to develop procedures for contractors to identify and report data on dual language learners and their families. The list primarily focuses on providing a variety of articles, information, tools, and other resources to support dual language learners in child care and early education settings and their families.

Resource	Funding Organization	Description
Multilingual Learner Toolkit (https://www.multilinguallearningtoolkit.org/)	New Venture Fund	The toolkit is an online hub for research-based key principles, instructional strategies, and associated free, practical, and easy-to-use resources geared toward educators who teach preK-3rd-grade multilingual learners.
Personalized Oral Language(s) Learning (POLL) (https://www.pollstrategies.org/strategies-index/)	California Department of Social Services	This set of strategies is designed to meet the needs of young dual language learners. It is based on research that emphasizes the importance of strong home language skills, the advantages of early bilingualism, and the promising practices that all early child care providers, including family, friend, or neighbor (FFN), can implement to promote the growth and development of dual and multilingual learners.
Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language, Literacy, and Learning; A Resource Guide, Second Edition (http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/psenglearnersed2.pdf)	California Department of Education	This document, often referred to as the PEL Guide, provides research related to multilingual learning and practices that support children's learning and development. It is available in Spanish and English, and also has an accompanying DVD titled "A World Full of Language."
Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF): Language and Literacy Development – English Language Development Webinar (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FatvA0xwIFk)	California Department of Education	This is a recorded webinar for the Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF) Foundations: Language and Literacy Development - English Language Development by the California Department of Education and WestEd on August 15, 2024.
Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF): Language and Literacy Development – Foundational Language Development Webinar (https://youtu.be/IDAFXpNjojo?si=EKj_wKXZ7LYDtojB)	California Department of Education	This is a recorded webinar for the Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF) Foundations: Language and Literacy Development - Foundational Language Development by the California Department of Education and WestEd on May 3, 2024.
Screening Dual Language Learners in Early Head Start and Head Start Programs: A Guide for Program Leaders (https://headstart.gov/child-screening-assessment/article/screening-dual-language-learners-head-start-programs-guide-program-leaders)	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start	This document provides Early Head Start/Head Start (EHS/HS) program leaders with tools to plan, implement, and evaluate their screening processes for children who are dual-language learners (DLLs) from birth to age 5. It focuses on ways leaders can make informed, intentional decisions about selecting screening instruments for children who are DLLs and implementing high-quality developmental screening practices for these children.
Working Paper #2: Development of Infants and Toddlers Who Are Dual Language Learners (https://fpg.unc.edu/sites/fpg.unc.edu/files/resources/reports-and-policy-briefs/FPG_CECER-DLL_WorkingPaper2.pdf)	Center for Early Care and Education Research – Dual Language Learners (CECER-DLL)	This paper reviews empirical research about the development of infants and toddlers who are dual language learners (DLLs), looking at the formation of attachment relationships; the development of motor skills; the foundation for executive functioning skills to regulate behaviors; huge advances in detection, comprehension, and production of language; and many more developmental accomplishments.

Appendix C: Strategies for Observation and Documentation

The DRDP (2025) is administered through observation in natural settings by educators, including teachers, special education professionals, family child care providers, and other service providers in classroom, center, and home-based environments, as well as by family members in home and community settings. Observations are embedded into typical, ongoing routines and activities throughout the day. The process of observation requires advanced planning on the part of educators and service providers. As you review the measures of the DRDP (2025), consider specific routines or activities during the day where you would be able to observe more than one measure or more than one child.

Strategies for Effective Observation

Observation should be ongoing throughout the year. The assessment windows for the DRDP (2025) provide a period of time to ensure that educators and service providers have sufficient documentation for each measure in time to submit DRDP data. Observing children’s behaviors in naturalistic or authentic environments will provide the information needed to rate the DRDP. Many observation and documentation job aids, including resources to support naturalistic, authentic assessment, can be found at **Desired Results for Children and Families** (<https://www.desiredresults.us/desired-results-system>) and **DR Access** (<https://draccess.org/learn>). The Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center developed a helpful **Authentic Child Assessment Practice Guide** (<https://ectacenter.org/decrp/type-pgpractitioner.asp>) linked to the Division for Early Childhood Recommended Practices (DEC) to support authentic child assessment.

Strategies for Effective Documentation

A variety of methods are available for recording information gathered through naturalistic observations, including:

- **Anecdotal Records** – An anecdotal record is a written note documenting a child’s behavior or comments during a typical or routine activity. Anecdotal records provide brief descriptions of observed behavior.
- **Event recording (tallies)** – In event recording, the observer records each instance of the behavior being observed so that an indication of frequency is obtained. Usually, this is done with tally marks, but it may also be recorded using a code such as “+” for correct and “-” for incorrect.

- **Checklists** – Checklists are lists of specific skills or behaviors that can be used during observation to check off the behaviors observed in a group of children. Some of the measures lend themselves to using a checklist to supplement other observation techniques.
- **Learning Walls or Panels** – Learning walls are displays of photos, quotes, and children’s work in the learning environment. These make learning visible and foster dialogue among children and educators.
- **Digital Documentation Platforms** – These digital tools are an electronic way to store, share, and organize documentation. These platforms can streamline communication with families and service providers.
- **Work Samples** – Documentation can also include the collection of 2 or 3-dimensional products that children have produced, such as drawings, writings, or 3-dimensional constructions the child has made, such as playdough, clay, or other materials.
- **Videos or photographs** – Use cameras to capture movement, engagement, interactions, and language of children. When necessary, enhance the photo or video with a caption of what happened before or after the event.

Ten Strategies for Naturalistic Observation

1. **Know the instrument** – Be familiar with the instrument, including the domains and measures being observed.
2. **Observe naturally** – Observe the child in the context of typical routines and activities, interacting with familiar people, in familiar places, and with familiar materials.
3. **Observe objectively** – Focus on what the child does. Be as objective and detailed as possible. Avoid using labels, qualitative descriptors, or stereotypic expectations that may bias your observations.
4. **Observe strategically** – Observe for skills that correspond to the DRDP measures and record your observations. You may be able to gather information on multiple measures during a single observation.
5. **Observe daily or routinely** – When observations are part of the daily routines, children become accustomed to being observed and seeing notes being recorded.
6. **Observe variety and consistency** – Be aware of a child’s overall performance, even when focusing on a single aspect of behavior. Observe the child over time and during different routines and activities.

7. **Be specific and complete** – Intentionally and purposefully record the specific details of what you observe as soon as possible. Details are important and can easily be forgotten.
8. **Plan ahead** – Include observations as part of your weekly lesson planning. Plan to observe during activities that do not require your full assistance, or plan for someone else to observe and document.
9. **Allow time** – Allow adequate time for the child to complete any task they are engaged in, even if it requires more time than one might expect.
10. **Use appropriate adaptations** – Ensure that appropriate adaptations, as determined by the IFSP or IEP team, are in place when observing the child.

Consider the following for planning and collecting documentation:

- Choose methods of documentation that can be embedded into a program's environment, structure, and routines.
- Plan ahead for materials needed for documentation, such as electronic devices, sticky notes, or pre-printed labels with children's names for anecdotal records, or clipboards with checklists. Materials should be strategically located throughout the classroom.
- Observe children's behaviors throughout the day and record documentation while observing.
- Date each piece of evidence for future reference.
- Collect documentation over time. Documentation over time strengthens the validity of ratings.
- Organize the collected documentation immediately after gathering it.
- Keep assessment information confidential. Store the DRDP materials, including notes, in a secure location to ensure confidentiality for each child.

Organizing Documentation

A portfolio of evidence is a useful way to organize formative assessment and show each child's learning and progress over time. It can be kept in either paper or electronic format, depending on what works best for the educator and the setting. The portfolio includes samples of the child's work, photos, observations, and reflections that show their growth and achievements. By reviewing this evidence, educators and families can see what the child has learned and plan the next steps in their learning journey.

Portfolios: Portfolios are a helpful way to organize information. Portfolios may contain anecdotal notes, children's work samples, photos of children's activities, audio or video recordings, and transcripts of the child's language. The portfolio methods selected should work well for the program.

Electronic Portfolios: If notes are entered into a computer, an electronic portfolio can be produced to summarize the evidence. Please check with a local administrator for procedures regarding consent for photography and video.

Collaboration to Support Effective Documentation

A central goal for educators and service providers who use the DRDP (2025) is to obtain measures of the child's developmental progress based on typical day-to-day behaviors. It is challenging to imagine one individual having access to all the various learning opportunities that a child encounters throughout each day. Therefore, it is very helpful to seek input from individuals who have ongoing contact with and know the child well to obtain the most complete and accurate picture of the child's skills and abilities. It is important to consider how and when collaborating with others will support and inform the accurate rating of measures for the DRDP (2025).

Although direct observation of a child is the primary method for informing ratings, other sources of evidence should be used to supplement observations. Gathering information from others who know the child well, such as family members, caregivers, or other service providers, often provides a wealth of additional information about a child's skills, knowledge, and behaviors. This also provides the additional benefit of observations across different settings. There are numerous ways others can collaborate to share information, such as written observations, conversations focused on a child's development, or viewing short videos or recordings that illustrate a child's behavior in typical routines and activities.

Planning ahead can make the collaboration process more effective. Identify early on in your relationship with the child's family who else might provide helpful information to assist in documenting their child's development. Ensure that the family is well-informed about the purpose of the DRDP (2025) and the critical role they can play in sharing their observations about their child. With the family's permission, communicate with other individuals who know the child and strategize with them on how they might be able to share information with you.

Communication is key to successful collaboration. For a more detailed look at collaboration and the assessment process, please refer to Appendix F.

For More Information

- Information on strategies for observing and documenting observations can be found on the **HeadStart website** (<https://headstart.gov/search/eclkc?q=observation+strategies>).
- Observation resources are available on the **Desired Results for Children and Families website** (<https://www.desiredresults.us/resources/observation-resources/drdp-observation-resources>).

Appendix D: Accommodations or Adaptations for Children with Disabilities

For children with disabilities, accommodations or adaptations reduce barriers and support equitable access to everyday learning and participation. Through the appropriate use of accommodations and adaptations, children can demonstrate what they know and can do as they engage in familiar routines, activities, and interactions.

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), children must receive the accommodations they need to participate meaningfully in instruction and assessment. Within a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework, educators extend these accommodations by designing environments that provide multiple means of engagement, representation, and expression. Accommodations and adaptations are individualized within the UDL framework so that each child can participate authentically in observation-based assessments, such as the DRDP (2025).

Accommodations or adaptations that are in place for the child during the normal course of the day should also be in place during observations for the DRDP (2025).

Accommodations and adaptations vary for each child and may include:

- Information or material presentation to child (oral, tactile, print),
- Mode a child can respond (speaking, signing, gesturing, device),
- Environment (lighting and noise),
- Information observed at different times of the day
- Adaptive equipment (walker, functional seating, slant board, pencil grips, AAC device)

Related to Children using AAC

Some children with significant communication needs may require augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) to communicate.

Related to Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Children with autism often show distinct patterns of growth that reflect differences in sensory processing, social information processing, and communication preferences. From early infancy, these differences may influence how children with autism perceive and interact with others. For example, while a child without a disability might demonstrate perspective-taking through verbal acknowledgment of others’ identities, a child with autism might show awareness through careful observation, parallel play, or non-verbal recognition. What may appear to be a “lack of awareness” may instead reflect a different processing time. Children with autism may be highly aware of others, but they may express that awareness in various ways.

Related to Understanding Echolalia as Communication

Echolalia, the repetition of phrases and words, may serve multiple developmental purposes. The purposes would be determined individually for each child and addressed individually through the child’s IFSP or IEP. Some children with autism learn language in multi-word phrases rather than single words, using echolalia to practice and generalize these phrases. Echolalia may also support self-regulation and help manage emotions and transitions. Some children with autism may use echolalia as a way to remain engaged when coming up with original responses feels overwhelming. Sometimes, when echoed phrases are slightly different, it may also reflect active meaning-making.

Appendix E: Resources for Working in Partnership with Families

A central goal of the DRDP is to identify a child’s developmental progress based on typical, day-to-day behaviors. It is advisable to seek input from individuals who have ongoing contact with the child and are familiar with them. Family members’ descriptions of their child’s behavior in the home or community settings will help educators and service providers know more about the child’s behaviors across settings, particularly for those skills the child may not routinely demonstrate in the educational

setting, and help educators and service providers obtain more comprehensive information to make accurate ratings for the **Family members may participate in the DRDP assessment in several ways:**

- Inform the child's educators and service providers of the child's history for a more complete picture of the child.
- Share the skills they see their child using in typical activities, and might share these skills via stories, photos, drawings, observations, and/or video clips.
- Share the child's strengths, areas they wish to focus on, and areas of growth they observe.
- Become informed about the next steps in their child's development.
- Help determine which adaptations will help their child participate in everyday activities (for children with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP)) and share with the team the adaptations the child uses at home, at school, and in other settings.

Below are resources to help families learn more about the DRDP (2025) and the skills it assesses, as well as resources to support educators and service providers in collaborating with families during the assessment process.

Resources for Families

All About Young Children (<https://allaboutyoungchildren.org/english/18-months-to-36-months/>)

A website for families describing skills that help children learn, including how they learn language, how they learn about feelings and relationships, how they learn about numbers, and how they become skillful at moving their bodies. (Available in eight different languages.)

California MAP to Inclusion and Belonging (<https://cainclusion.org/camap/family-engagement/>)

The MAP Project website supports the inclusion of children with disabilities and delays ages birth to 21 in child care, after-school, and community settings. It includes links to resources on families and children with IFSPs and IEPs. The website contains a statewide interactive directory by county of Family Resource Centers (FRCs), Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA), Regional Centers, Head Start, and more for families of children with IFSPs and IEPs.

Resources for Educators and Service Providers

Family Engagement and Ongoing Child Assessment (<https://headstart.gov/publication/family-engagement-ongoing-child-assessment>)

This document addresses the perspectives of parents and program staff on sharing child assessment information through partnerships and suggests strategies to bring those perspectives together.

Engaging Families as Assessment Partners (https://ectacenter.org/~pdfs/decrp/PG_Asm_EngagingFamiliesasAssessmentPartners_prac_print_2017.pdf)

This document is linked to the DEC Recommended Practices, which include methods and strategies for gathering information from families and promoting their participation during assessment.

Child Care and Development Quality Initiatives (<https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/quality-improvement-initiatives>)

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)-funded quality initiatives serve as a webpage that provides learning and care resources for the early learning and care workforce and community. CDSS administers CCDF to support quality initiatives through infrastructure, professional development, advocacy, and statewide administration.

Supporting Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness

CDE Homeless Education (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/>)

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homelessness as a lack of a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This definition also includes individuals who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; who may be living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, shelters, public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.

Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to access the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschools, as provided to other children. The website above addresses these rights and provides educational information and resources for families and educators. It also provides guidance from the California Department of Education on supporting children and families

experiencing homelessness, ensuring their full participation in early learning and assessment. It is included to help DRDP (2025) users understand their responsibilities for identifying and engaging families whose living situations may affect assessment participation.

California Early Childhood Online (CECO): Responsive Early Education for Young Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness (https://www.caearlychildhoodonline.org/en_home.aspx)

To support early childhood educators, CECO offers modules based on information and best practices, all in a centralized location, meeting the ever-changing needs of the early childhood field. This module series, available in English and Spanish, consists of three modules: Module 1: Overview of Homelessness, Module 2: The Diversity of Families Experiencing Homelessness, and Module 3: Supporting Classroom Practices for Children Experiencing Homelessness. Early childhood educators may earn three professional development (PD) hours for completing these modules on the **CECO learning portal** (https://www.caearlychildhoodonline.org/en_home.aspx).

Supporting Children in Foster Care

CDSS Emergency Child Care Bridge for Children in Foster Care Program (Bridge Program) (<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/calworks-child-care/ecc-bridge-program>)

The Bridge Program aims to increase the number of children in foster care successfully placed in child care settings, increase the capacity of child care programs to meet the needs of children in foster care and children who have experienced trauma, and maximize funding to support the child care needs of eligible families.

The Bridge Program consists of three parts:

- Emergency child care voucher: Eligible families receive a time-limited child care voucher or payment to help pay child care costs for children in foster care.
- Child Care Navigator: The local resource and referral (R&Rs) agency provides a child care navigator to assist with finding a child care provider, securing a subsidized child care placement, completing child care program applications, and developing a long-term child care plan.
- Trauma-Informed Care Training and Coaching: Child care providers participating in the Bridge Program receive access to trauma-informed care training and coaching from their local resource and referral agency.

- The **Bridge Program website** (<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/calworks-child-care/ecc-bridge-program>) provides information about childcare services for foster children.

CDE Foster Youth Services (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/>)

The CDE administers the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Programs (FYSCPs) through county offices of education (COEs) to provide support services to foster children who experience the traumatic effects of displacement from their families and schools, as well as multiple placements in foster care. These FYSCPs have the ability and authority to ensure that health and school records are obtained to establish appropriate placements and coordinate instruction, counseling, tutoring, mentoring, vocational training, emancipation services, training for independent living, and other related services. The FYSCPs increase the stability of placements for foster children and youth. These services are designed to improve children's educational performance and personal achievement, directly benefiting them while also providing long-range cost savings to the state. The **CDE Foster Youth Services website** (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/>) addresses the rights of foster children, providing educational information and resources.

California Early Childhood Online (CECO): Culturally Responsive Trauma-Informed Practices (https://www.caearlychildhoodonline.org/en_home.aspx)

This CECO series, available in English, Spanish, and Chinese, consists of five modules on trauma-informed practices that support wellness. Modules include: 1) Trauma-Informed Practice, 2) The Prevalence of Trauma and the Traumatic Impact of Racism, 3) Promoting Resilience and Healing, 4) Responsive Practices, and 5) Sustainable Wellness Practices. Early childhood educators may earn ten PD hours for completing these modules on the **CECO learning portal** (https://www.caearlychildhoodonline.org/en_home.aspx).

For More Information

- For **CDSS-funded Early Education programs** (<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development>)
- For **CDE-funded Early Education programs** (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/>)
- For **CDE-funded Special Education programs** (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/>)
- For **Desired Results Training and Technical Assistance Project** (<https://www.desiredresults.us/>)
- For **SED Training and Technical Assistance: Desired Results Access Project** (<https://www.draccess.org/>)

Appendix F: Collaboration to Complete the DRDP (2025)

Collaborating with Others Who Know the Child Well

Our understanding of young children is strengthened when we commit to partnerships with individuals, including family members, who know the child well and in different settings. Collaboration in gathering and sharing information is important because it affords us windows into a child's life and offers perspectives that enhance our understanding of a child's skills and behaviors. Identifying and communicating with the individuals who can collaborate on rating the measures of the DRDP (2025) is an essential step in this process.

Through collaboration, educators and special education service providers each bring their skills and perspectives. Early educators contribute by providing a picture of the child in a classroom setting. Special education providers contribute by identifying perspectives on a child's unique learning needs and a specific understanding of the child's disability, including materials that should be made available and adaptations that should be implemented. This lays the foundation for educators and service providers to complement one another's work in assessing a child's skills and development. Shared information can build relationships that lead to joint decision-making not only about the assessment process but also about curriculum, instruction, supports, and services that educators, providers, and families make for individual children and groups of children.

Collaboration to share assessment observations and evidence for completing the DRDP (2025) is built on relationships and a commitment to ongoing communication. It is developed over time with an understanding of each person's role. Aim for multiple, informal strategies that can be used on a daily basis. Identifying mutual interests in supporting the child is important. Some questions that address joint interests include:

- What are the goals for the child?
- What specialized equipment or adaptations are used?
- How will the goals be infused into the child's day and into learning activities?
- How will we know our strategies are working?

Collaborating with others in the assessment process is especially important when multiple providers are involved in a child's care. For example, a child may attend an early education program and also receive special education services, such as speech-

language therapy, occupational therapy, and/or physical therapy. Educators and special education providers can work hand in hand to complete observations and DRDP (2025) ratings for children who are dually enrolled in both programs. How this collaboration will take place – who will be involved and what roles each individual will play – will vary depending on the situation. Educators and service providers have reported the following helpful strategies:

- Sharing information, including observations, adaptations, curriculum, and program goals, and IFSP outcomes or IEP goals
- Providing anecdotal notes
- Sharing work samples and portfolios
- Reviewing reports of DRDP (2025) results together

With DRDP Online, educators and service providers can use features such as a shared portfolio with rating recommendations and collaborate to complete the DRDP. The ability to share a child's record with the provider helps educators collaborate, along with using technology such as email, phone conferences, and free web conferencing platforms. Within DRDP Online, once ratings are completed and locked, reports can be shared with both the educator and the provider. Local policies on device use should be followed, and child information should not be sent via email.

The educator and special education service provider responsible for completing the DRDP (2025) should each take the lead in partnering with others who work with the child. The general educator is responsible for entering DRDP data into DRDP Online. The special educator is responsible for reporting and entering assessment data for children with IEPs or IFSPs to the SELPA. However, except for data reporting, both educators can complete the assessment together, and each of them holds a copy of the Rating Record for their respective reporting. Suggestions to help get started working together include:

- Make an initial plan detailing areas to be observed directly and those areas in which others may have a more thorough knowledge of the child. The general education educator can provide information on all domains. A speech-language therapist might inform measures in the Foundational Language Development domain. Families and special education providers, including physical and occupational therapists, are good sources of information on measures in the Physical Development and Health domains.

- Contact the individuals who will collaborate to discuss the mutual goal of completing the assessment and to develop a plan for working together.
- Develop a timeline that is acceptable to all partners, including identifying deadlines and strategies to meet timelines.
- Collect any signature requirements for sharing child information from the family.
- Gather multiple perspectives and consider input from family and others who know the child during assessment.
- Determine when and how communicating about updates and results will occur.

Collaborating with Families

Families are essential partners in understanding a child's development and learning. Research suggests that family observations are reliable and valid and should be considered an essential component of a comprehensive assessment process. Inviting parents and other family members to share observations of their child's development and behavior is required for CCDD and EED programs. It is good practice in all early childhood settings and programs. CCDD and EED programs work in partnership with families to learn about each child's development and behavior across home and program settings. Listening to and using family observations is a core part of equitable, high-quality assessment in every early childhood program.

When families collaborate with educators and service providers to share their observations of their child's behaviors in the home or community settings, it provides a richer, broader view of the child. When families and educators, or service providers, work together to share observations about a child's development and behavior across home, community, and program settings, they gain a more complete and authentic understanding of the child. Information from families helps identify skills and behaviors that the child may not routinely demonstrate in the educational setting. For example, an educator or therapist may not regularly observe a child's dressing or other self-help skills. However, families have repeated opportunities to observe their child's self-help skills both over time and in different settings. Family observations support more accurate reporting about a child's skills. Families contribute essential insights about how their child uses skills and behaviors in everyday routines and relationships. Their observations reflect the child's competencies across familiar settings, such as home and community, and complement what educators and service providers

observe in educational environments. When families and professionals share what they each observe, they build a more accurate and complete picture of the child's development.

Strategies for partnering with families in the assessment process include:

- Make sure that families understand the skills and behaviors described in the DRDP (2025) measures. Educators and service providers understand expected sequences of child development and are trained about how items on the DRDP (2025) reflect these sequences. It may be useful to provide families with examples of the kinds of behaviors to look for, as well as the routines and activities that might provide a context for these behaviors. For example, rather than ask a family member to describe a child's grasping pattern, inquire about how a child picks up small pieces of cereal during mealtime.
- **Build shared understanding of the DRDP (2025).** Engage families in conversations about how the measures reflect children's everyday learning and development. Emphasize that both family and educator observations contribute to the same picture of the child's growth.
 - **Use examples that connect to each family's daily routines and culture.** Work together to identify moments—such as mealtime, play, or community activities—where a child naturally demonstrates knowledge and skills. This allows both educators and families to recognize competencies in meaningful, familiar contexts.
 - **Exchange observations as part of an ongoing dialogue.** Rather than collecting one-time reports, create multiple opportunities for families to share what they see and to reflect together on what those behaviors mean for the child's learning and support. Make this a part of your routine with families, not just a one-time interview.
- It is reasonable for the observations of families and practitioners to differ across the range of behaviors being rated. A child's behavior during activities and routines that occur in the classroom setting may differ from the same child's behavior in activities and routines in home or community settings. Family observations provide a different perspective that should be considered when assessing the child's developmental level.

Ongoing conversations with families during everyday interactions are essential opportunities to build shared understanding about a child's learning and development. These exchanges help both families and educators notice how the child uses skills across different settings and routines. When educators and families take time to reflect together on everyday activities, they can connect what each has observed and develop a fuller picture of the child's competencies. The ongoing conversations we have with family members during our typical interactions with them are rich opportunities to learn about their child. Leading a focused conversation with a family is particularly important for obtaining information on measures you have not had the opportunity to observe. During these conversations, *focusing on routines and activities* provides a very useful context for asking a family about their child's everyday learning opportunities and skills. The four steps in the resource listed below will guide you in planning and leading focused conversations with families to help complete the DRDP (2025). If this is the first DRDP (2025) assessment that you will be completing with a particular child, be sure that you have spent enough time getting to know the child by observing the child's skills during typical routines/activities and by having conversations with the family.

For More Information

DEC Recommended Practices in Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education 2014 (https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u1/pdf/DEC_RPs_%204-12-14R.pdf)

Developed to guide practitioners and families about the most effective ways to improve the learning outcomes and promote the development of young children, birth through age 5, who have or are at-risk for developmental delays or disabilities. The purpose is to help bridge the gap between research and practice by highlighting those practices that have been shown to result in better outcomes for you.

Practice Improvement Tools: Practice Guides for Practitioners (<https://ectacenter.org/decrp/type-pgpractitioner.asp>)

A comprehensive set of practitioner tools to support the DEC Recommended Practices is available on the **Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center website** (<https://ectacenter.org/decrp/type-pgpractitioner.asp>). Resources related to collaborating with families include:

- **Engaging Families as Assessment Partners** English (https://ectacenter.org/~pdfs/decrp/PGP_ASM2_engagingfamilies_2018.pdf) | **Engaging Families as Assessment Partners** Spanish (https://ectacenter.org/~pdfs/decrp/PGP_ASM2_engagingfamilies_2018_es.pdf)
- **Authentic Child Assessment** English (https://ectacenter.org/%7Epdfs/decrp/PGP_ASM3_authentic_2018.pdf) | **Authentic Child Assessment** Spanish (https://ectacenter.org/%7Epdfs/decrp/PGP_ASM3_authentic_2018_es.pdf)

Data Dialogue: Tips for Educators on Sharing Student Data with Families (<https://www.gse.harvard.edu/ideas/usable-knowledge/15/11/data-dialogue>)

Find tips on how teachers and schools can safely and productively discuss children's data with their families, written by Leah Shafer from the Harvard Graduate School of Education for the Usable Knowledge series.

Talking With Families (<https://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/talking.asp>)

This resource provides practices for talking with families about the outcomes measurement process, encouraging and utilizing family input in gathering information about the child and family, and sharing results with families.

Desired Results Training and Technical Assistance Project

Website: www.desiredresults.us

Email: desiredresults@wested.org

Phone: (800) 770-6339

Desired Results Access Project

Website: <http://www.draccess.org>

Email: info@draccess.org

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