



Building Skills in Two Languages

Learning Activity

Meanings of Words

Objective

To identify useful vocabulary words and practice creating meaningful definitions for children learning more than one language

Instructions

1. Choose a photo (below). These photos are representative of the kinds of activities you might do to teach concepts and follow children's interests.
2. Brainstorm at least three possible words you could teach related to the activities in the photos. Consider what new words would be useful and meaningful for children who are dual language learners to know.
3. Develop child-friendly definitions to share with children learning more than one language. Children's dictionaries can be useful resources for creating developmentally appropriate definitions. Have participants create definitions in English. If participants are working in a classroom with children learning two languages and there is time, they could research the words in a home language.
4. Add any specific strategies from the module (i.e., gestures or pictures) that would help children learning a second language to understand each word. Also think about these questions: How can you use these words in a relevant context for dual language learners? When can you repeat them so that children will hear them again?

New word #1:

Definition:

Strategies:

New word #2:

Definition:

Strategies:

New word #3:

Definition:

Strategies:



