



THE NATIONAL CENTER ON
Quality Teaching
and Learning



THE NATIONAL CENTER ON
Cultural and Linguistic
Responsiveness

TIPS FOR TEACHERS DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS

ENGAGING INTERACTIONS



- Build on children's prior experiences and background knowledge (including knowledge of the home languages).
- Talk with families about their children's experiences, interests, and cultural practices.
- Share ideas and materials that relate to the concepts you are teaching with families. This can strengthen the connection between classroom experiences and home experiences.

Encourage the children to use multiple modes of expression for their ideas and thinking processes:

- Support the children in using pictures and drawings to share their observations and ideas.

Provide additional support:

- Adjust your language to match the child's language cues.
- Use gestures and props to support the children in understanding lessons.
- Preview book readings and other classroom activities, with language and picture support.
- Include additional resources relevant to the children's cultures and languages.
- Learn key words in the children's home languages to encourage their efforts.
- Include tasks and problem solving activities where the children can use actions and images to brainstorm ideas and solutions.

For more information, contact us at: NCQTL@UW.EDU or 877-731-0764.

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