

# Step 4 Essential Trainings

*Dual Language Learners*



## Checklist of Practice

Always	Sometimes	Not Yet	Caregiver Strategies: What they look like in practice
			1. Child Care Program has a language policy for supporting children and their families who speak a language other than English.
			2. Staff know and implement the program language policy.
			3. Staff are aware of each child’s home language and country of origin and use that knowledge to make the classroom ready for each child.
			4. Shelves and toy containers are labeled with pictures and written languages of children in each classroom, each language consistently color coded (red: English; blue: Spanish; green: Bosnian).
			5. Individualize experiences, activities, interactions, and instructions to meet the needs of each child.
			6. Play music from each child's home culture and in the home language, as well as English.
			7. Learn tone, key words, and common gestures of each child's home language.
			8. Sing songs and rhymes in each child’s language(s).
			9. Learn about children’s everyday experiences at home and in their community.
			10. Encourage dual language learners to use words in both languages.
			11. In a group, expose all children to dual language use and learning.
			12. Provide repetition when introducing new concepts.
			13. Guide spoken language patterns by example, but do not correct the child. (Ex. Child: “Her going home.” Provider: “Yes, she is going home now.”)
			14. Routines for eating, sleeping, diapering, and other regular activities take into account family’s care practices and child’s schedule.
			15. Routines include saying “hello” and “goodbye” in each child’s home language.
			16. Each child’s name is pronounced correctly, in consult with the family.