

POLL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORTS

VOCABULARY IMPRINTING



Vocabulary predicts development and learning in all domains of children’s growth and development. A very effective strategy in working with children, especially dual language learners, is for providers to model new words and introduce concepts then reinforce these vocabulary words in various contexts during group and play times.

POLL STRATEGY:

Vocabulary Imprinting promotes dual language learners’ oral language abilities and conceptual knowledge by reinforcing word meanings through oral, visual, and physical cues.

When used repetitively and throughout the day, reinforcing vocabulary with the use of visual cues and gestures and movements, gives children opportunities to make meaning and connections and to practice their home language and English.

Visual Cues such as photographs, pictures, props, and cognate charts support the introduction of new concepts and vocabulary and deepen comprehension.

Examples:

- Photographs with labeling
- Vocabulary walls with pictures
- Cognate charts with pictures
- Recipe posters with pictures and words
- Handwashing routine posters with pictures and words
- Pictures and words from magazines, child-drawn, family albums

Gestures and Movements reinforce word meanings by attaching a physical cue to key vocabulary. When children use a specific physical cue, it will activate memory and help the child recall vocabulary.

- Choose movements/gestures for a few key words and repeatedly use these throughout the day and week so that children begin to connect them with words and practice their new vocabulary.
 - » For example, if the key word is “explore”, hold a flat, extended hand up to your eyebrows. Move your head back and forth as if you are looking out. Repeat the word “explore” as you move.
- Integrate Vocabulary Imprinting with visual cues, gestures, and movements throughout the day. Remember that using vocabulary gestures and movements during transition times and daily routines will offer opportunities for children to begin using these words in their daily conversations.

RESOURCES:

To learn more about Vocabulary Imprinting, see the Vocabulary Imprinting section at <https://www.pollstrategies.org>