

Behavior Guidance for Dual Language Learners



Talk with the children's families to better understand their children's behaviors.

- Learn more about the specific cultural values of the families in your early learning program—for example, their expectations for children's behaviors, or the level of independence they encourage.
- Consider the cultural differences between the family's rules and expectations at home and those in the early learning program.

Support children in learning rules and expectations.

- Have consistent schedules and routines, so children know what to expect.
- Provide clear expectations for children's behavior during activities.
- Use gestures, pictures, or graphics to remind children of rules and expectations.
- Repeat expectations and rules often.

Be aware of the role that language barriers can play when you are trying to understand the causes of challenging behavior.

- Children may not be able to communicate their feelings and needs.
- Children may not fully understand what is said to them.