

Eastford Readiness Council

Language Acquisition Philosophy

The Eastford Readiness Program's philosophy for the acquisition of language for English speaking students as well as EL (English Learners) students focuses on immersion in language. Young children develop language competence through exposure.

Teachers focus on activities that support language development such as:

- An organized classroom environment with clear established routines that promote a feeling of belonging and comfort.
- Picture supports that reinforce vocabulary development.
- A variety of toys that develop competency in skills other than language and are not communicatively demanding.
- Language techniques include:
 - Nonverbal communication.
 - Simple language (short direct phrases).
 - Emphasis on important words.
 - Combining gestures and words.
 - Repeating key words.
 - Repetition of songs that include gestures and movement.
 - The use of picture books with predictable stories.

Language acquisition will take into consideration families in the program as well as the community in which we live. Vocabulary development will focus on words that children will see and use in their daily lives.

For families whose language is other than English, accommodations will be made in all communications including a translator upon request.