Communication & Language Development

The VLS Core Content was designed to align across tracks which means a significant portion of each track's content is relevant for all direct care staff. This document identifies unique age-specific content, activities, and resources by lesson and can be used as a guide for review material if a staff member moves to care for a new age-group. For example, direct care staff who move from an infant and toddler to a preschool classroom should consult the Preschool track to be aware of age-specific material that resides in that track. Use this document as a guide and remember to work with your trainer to help identify content areas in the VLS where you may need extra review and support to be knowledgeable about best practices for all children in your care.

LESSON 1

Infants & Toddlers	Preschool	School Age
Communication: An Introduction	Communication: An Introduction	Communication: An Introduction

Infants & Toddlers

KNOW

1. **Section:** *What Does Communication Look like in Infants and Toddlers*
2. **Section:** *Relationships: How it All Happens*

DO

3. **Section:** *Strategies to help support communication*

APPLY

4. **Attachment:** *Cues Communicate*
5. **Attachment:** *Cues Communicate: Sample for Tyler (age 10 months)*

Preschool

KNOW

1. **Section:** *What Does Communication Look like in Preschoolers*

SEE

2. **Video:** *Communication: An Introduction*
3. **Video:** *Communication and Young Children*

DO

4. **Section:** *Strategies to help support communication*

School Age

KNOW

1. **Section:** *What is Communication?*
2. **Section:** *Effective Communication*
3. **Section:** *Communication and School-Age Child Development*

SEE

4. **Video:** *Modeling Positive Communication Skills*

DO

5. **Section:** *Strategies to help support communication by reflecting on your own communication skills*

LESSON 2

Infants & Toddlers	Preschool	School Age
Communication: Infants & Toddlers	Communication: Preschool Children	Communication: School Age

KNOW

Infants & Toddlers

1. **Chart:** Language and Communication Development Milestones (in Infants and Toddlers)
2. **Chart:** Possible Warning Signs of Language & Communication Delays in Infants & Toddlers
3. **Section:** *How Infants and Toddlers Communicate*

DO

4. **Video:** *Supporting Communication and Language*

EXPLORE

5. **Attachment:** *Thinking about Communication*

APPLY

6. **Attachment:** *Caregivers Communicating with Infants and Toddlers*

KNOW

Preschool

1. **Chart:** Language and Communication Development Milestones in Preschool
2. **Chart:** Possible Warning Signs of Language & Communication Delays in Preschoolers
3. **Section:** *How Preschoolers Communicate*

SEE

4. **Video:** *Communication in Preschool*

EXPLORE

5. **Attachment:** *Observing Communication*
6. **Attachment:** *Responsive Teacher Checklist: Promoting Communication Skills*
7. **Attachment:** *Observing Communication: SAMPLE*

APPLY

8. **Attachment:** *Phonological Awareness Activities*
9. **Attachment:** *Phonologically Rich Classroom Checklist*

KNOW

School Age

1. **Section:** *Components of Communication*
2. **Section:** *Communicating with School-Age Children*
3. **Section:** *Supporting Communication for All Children*

SEE

4. **Video:** *Components of Communication*

DO

5. **Bulleted List:** *Interacting with School-Age Children*
6. **Attachment:** *Communication: K-5th Grade*
7. **Attachment:** *Safe Social Networking: Resource List*

EXPLORE

8. **Attachment:** *Thinking about Communication*

APPLY

9. **Attachment:** *Communication Components: Observation Activity*

LESSON 3

Infants & Toddlers	Preschool	School Age
Communication: Families	Communication: Families	Communication: Families and Other Partnerships

Infants & Toddlers

KNOW

1. **Section:** *Involving Families in Young Children's Communication and Language Development*

SEE

2. **Video:** *Communicating with Families*

EXPLORE

3. **Attachment:** *Role of the Family*

APPLY

4. **Attachment:** *Create a Welcome Book for Families*

Preschool

KNOW

1. **Section:** *Family-Teacher Conferences*
2. **Section:** *Involving Families in Young Children's Communication and Language Development*

SEE

3. **Video:** *Go-home Communication Journals*
4. **Video:** *Communication Do's and Don'ts*

DO

5. **Attachment:** *Before the Conference*

EXPLORE

6. **Video:** *Promoting Language and Communication at Home*
7. **Attachment:** *Knowing and Involving Families*

APPLY

8. **Attachment:** See the following from the "especially for parents of preschoolers" CELL series documents: *Wacky Word Games, Let's Read Together, Write Right, Adventure in a Box, Examples of Home Literacy Materials*

School Age

KNOW

1. **Section:** *Listening and Responding with Purpose*
2. **Section:** *Communicating with Families: Creating Partnerships*

SEE

3. **Video:** *Connecting with Families*

EXPLORE

4. **Attachment:** *Thinking about Communication*

APPLY

5. **Attachment:** *Family Communication Sheet*

LESSON 4

Infants & Toddlers	Preschool	School Age
Supporting the Communication of Infants & Toddlers: Environments and Experiences	Supporting the Communication of Children in Preschool: Language & Literacy Experiences	Supporting the Communication of Children in School-Age Programs: The Environment and Experiences

Infants & Toddlers

KNOW

1. **Section:** *Supporting Communication for Infants and Toddlers*
2. **Tabbed Menu:** What I know about their development

SEE

3. **Video:** *Experiencing Communication: Book Reading*

DO

4. **Attachment:** *More Than Baby Talk*

EXPLORE

5. **Attachment:** *Communication Scenario: Unique Ways of Communicating*

APPLY

6. **Attachment:** *Supporting Infant Toddler Communication Development*

Preschool

***Consult Entire Lesson:**
If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant, unique content specific to preschool children.

School Age

KNOW

1. **Section:** *Creating a Language-Rich Environment*
2. **Section:** *Supporting Communication Development*
3. **Section:** *Encouraging a Love for Language*

SEE

4. **Video:** *Environments and Experiences*

DO

5. **Bulleted List:** Tips to encourage communication and language development
6. **Attachment(s):** *Building the School-Age Library*

EXPLORE

7. **Attachment:** *Communication Components: Observation Activity*
8. **Attachment:** *Communication Components: Observation Activity Sample*