

Language Assessments

for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Infants and Toddlers

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Note: When assessing language skills, it is important that each language be evaluated separately using tools designed for that specific language, ensuring that scores accurately reflect the child's abilities in that language rather than a combination of both.

For Infants and Older

Assessments of American Sign Language (ASL)

Assessment Name	Acronym	Age Range	Domain(s) Assessed	Publisher(s)
American Sign Language Communicative Development Inventory	ASL-CDI 2.0	8 months to 60 months	Receptive and expressive vocabulary, phrase comprehension, communicative gestures	Available online at no cost
Visual Communication and Sign Language Checklist	VCSL	1 month to 60 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language	Visual Language and Visual Learning (at Gallaudet University)

Assessments that examine both spoken English and American Sign Language

Assessment Name	Acronym	Age Range	Domain(s) Assessed	Publisher(s)
Desired Results Developmental Profile: Infant/Toddler View	DRDP	1 month to 36 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Approaches to Learning, Health)	Available online at no cost
SKI-HI Language Development Scale	SKI-HI LDS	1 month to 60 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language	Hope

Assessments of Spoken English

Note: Some assessments below are appropriate for children using spoken language alongside an English-based sign system such as SEE or CASE, but are not designed to assess ASL. Assessors should identify which specific language or system is being evaluated prior to administration, as mixing modalities can skew scores and produce inaccurate results.

Assessment Name	Acronym	Age Range	Domain(s) Assessed	Publisher(s)
Ages and Stages Questionnaires	ASQ-3	1 month to 66 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Motor, Problem Solving, Personal-Social)	Brookes
Battelle Developmental Inventory	BDI-3	1 month to 95 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Adaptive Behavior)	Riverside Insights
Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development	Bayley-4	2 weeks to 42 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Adaptive Behavior)	Pearson
Communication Matrix	The Matrix	For non-verbal and low-verbal children of any age	Beginning stages of communication; most appropriate for children who are non-verbal or who demonstrate very limited verbal skills	Communication Matrix website
Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language and Speech	CASLLS	1 month to 96 months	General language with the majority of the items focused on morpho-syntax	Sunshine Cottage
Developmental Assessment of Young Children	DAYC-2	1 month to 71 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Adaptive Behavior)	Pro-Ed, Pearson, WPS, and several others
Developmental Profile	DP-4	1 month to adults	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Adaptive Behavior)	WPS, PAR, and several others
Early Learning Accomplishment Profile	E-LAP	1 month to 36 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Self Help)	Kaplan Co
Hawaii Early Learning Profile	HELP	1 month to 36 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Cognition, Social-Emotional, Motor, Self Help)	Shine Early Learning
Infant-Toddler Development Assessment	IDA-2	1 month to 36 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Relationship to Inanimate Objects, Social-Emotional, Motor, Self Help)	Pro-Ed, WPS, Riverside Insights, and several others
Language Environment Analysis	LENA	2 months to 48 months	Quantity of child vocalizations/words and child-adult conversational turns; also, a variety of parent and environmental noise measures (relies on an audio recording so measures spoken language only)	LENA

Assessments of Spoken English, continued

Assessment Name	Acronym	Age Range	Domain(s) Assessed	Publisher(s)
MacArthur-Bates Communicative Development Inventories	MB-CDI	8 months to 37 months	All 3 levels measure expressive vocabulary. Depending on the level, additional domains assessed include: Receptive vocabulary, communicative gestures, early grammar, sentence length and complexity, and cognitive-linguistic aspects of language	Brookes
Mullen Scales of Early Learning	MSEL	1 month to 68 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Motor and Visual Reception)	Pearson, WPS
Preschool Language Scale	PLS-5	1 month to 95 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language	Pearson
Receptive-Expressive Emergent Language Scale	REEL-4	1 month to 36 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language	Pro-Ed, Pearson, WPS
Rossetti Infant-Toddler Language Scale	Rossetti	1 month to 36 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language (additional developmental domains assessed: Interaction-Attachment, Pragmatics, Gesture, and Play)	PRO-ED, WPS, and several others
Spoken Language Checklist	SLC	1 month to 60 months	General/omnibus receptive and expressive language	Available at no charge from the authors

For Toddlers and Older

Assessments of Spoken English

Note: Some assessments below are appropriate for children using spoken language alongside an English-based sign system such as SEE or CASE, but are not designed to assess ASL. Assessors should identify which specific language or system is being evaluated prior to administration, as mixing modalities can skew scores and produce inaccurate results.

Assessment Name	Acronym	Age Range	Domain(s) Assessed	Publisher(s)
Expressive One-Word Picture Vocabulary Test	EOWPVT-4	24 months to adults	Expressive vocabulary	Pro-Ed, Pearson, WPS, and several others
Expressive Vocabulary Test	EVT-3	30 months to adults	Expressive vocabulary	Pearson
Language Use Inventory	LUI	18 months to 47 months	Pragmatics	Language Use Inventory (see website)
Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test	PPVT-5	30 months to adults	Receptive vocabulary	Pearson
Receptive One-Word Picture Vocabulary Test	ROWPVT	24 months to adults	Receptive vocabulary	Pro-Ed, Pearson, WPS, and several others