

preLAS ONLINE: A Research-Based Assessment Tool for Dual Language Learners in Early Childhood Programs

"Becoming bilingual has long-term cognitive, academic, social, cultural, and economic benefits—it is an asset."

Linda M. Espinosa, Ph.D. (2013)¹

Early childhood programs serve many dual language learners, who are children learning English and an additional language. *preLAS* Online provides data that can be used to design and implement effective programs for dual language learners.

preLAS Online builds on the strong design of preLAS, and includes a testing app that automatically tabulates scores and provides enhanced student reports. preLAS Online enables educators to capture and hold the attention of young children with playful activities and colorful materials that help assess language proficiency.

- Consists of an oral language component and a pre-literacy component
- May be used to assess students ages 3 to 6
- Provides assessments in English and Spanish
- Produces assessment results that may be used to:
 - o Identify incoming students as dual language learners
 - o Plan instruction and activities to support dual language learners
 - o Monitor student progress along the stages of language acquisition
- Reports language acquisition/skills in early childhood dual-language programs in order to:
 - Support collaboration across teams of educators and service providers
 - o Share and set goals with families
 - o Support transition to kindergarten

<u>Click here</u> to see a sample student report.



preLAS ONLINE IS THE ASSESSMENT TOOL OF CHOICE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS:

- preLAS Online is research based and has been implemented in many early childhood settings
- preLAS Online is age and developmentally appropriate
- preLAS Online is culturally and linguistically appropriate for dual language learners
- preLAS Online is administered 1:1 and guides young learners through a series of engaging interactions and activities
- preLAS Online is available in English and Spanish, allowing educators to have a much deeper understanding of each young learner



Check out the NEW preLAS Online video

The video illustrates how preLAS Online can be used to identify and monitor the progress of Pre-Kindergarten English and Spanish language learners. Click <u>Here</u> to watch it.

¹Espinosa, L. M. (2013). PreK-3rd: Challenging common myths about dual language learners—An update to the seminal 2008 report. New York, NY: Foundation for Child Development.





For more information about *pre*LAS Online, visit <u>www.LASLinks.com/preLAS-Online</u>