

Louisiana Believes

LEAD K Task Force
November 2018



Update from National LEAD K Conference



Discussion of Louisiana Language Milestones

Task Force Objective

Per Act 455 (2018) the task force is charged identifying milestones for children who are deaf or hard of hearing by consulting with professionals trained in the language development and education of such children. The milestones shall be all of the following:

- a.) a resource for use by parents and educators to monitor and track such children's expressive and receptive language acquisition
- b.) able to be used to ensure that such children meet developmental milestones towards English literacy.
- c.) Evaluated by the use of existing formalized, evidence-based assessment.

Milestones for Consideration

During the September 2018 meeting the LEAD K task force discussed using the California Language Milestones as a framework for the Louisiana Language Milestones. Members were asked to use the month of October to review the California document and provide specific feedback on how the California Milestones could inform the development of the Louisiana Milestones in advance of the November 2018 meeting. Key considerations included:

- The importance of explaining that the milestones are not meant to replace formal assessment of a child's development of language and literacy and may produce different results than the formal assessment conducted as part of the IEP or IFSP process.
- Highlighting that the observations of progress towards milestones are important and should be considered in the IEP or IFSP planning process.
- Using the following age groupings for milestones: 0-3 months, 4-6 months, 7-12 months, one-two years, two- three years, three-four years, and four-five years.
- Providing comprehensive milestones prior to age one and milestones for expressive and receptive language beginning at age one

Milestones for Consideration

Key Decision 1: The California document explains that the milestones are not meant to replace formal assessment of a child's development of language and literacy and may produce different results than the formal assessment conducted as part of the IEP or IFSP process. It further notes that the observations of progress towards milestones are important and should be considered in the IEP or IFSP planning process. Do you believe this perspective should be included in the Louisiana milestones document?

Milestones for Consideration

Key Decision 2: The California milestones use the following age groupings for milestones: 0-3 months, 4-6 months, 7-12 months, one-two years, two- three years, three-four years, and four-five years. Do you think Louisiana should use the same age groupings for assessing language milestones?

Milestones for Consideration

Key Decision 3: California provides milestones for expressive and receptive language beginning at age one. Should the Louisiana Milestones follow the same structure?



Discussion of the Task Force Report Template

Key Decisions

The LEAD K task force is required to submit a report to the Louisiana Legislature by February 1, 2019 with specific recommendations outlined in Act 455 (2018)

- Does the report accurately capture the decisions and recommendations previously made by the task force?
- Three required sections of the report still need discussion and recommendations. What is the best structure for accomplishing this?

LEAD K Task Force Schedule and Accommodations

LEAD K Task Force meetings will take place on the Louisiana School for the Deaf Campus from 9:30-12:30 on the dates listed below. Four sign language interpreters will be present at all meetings. Any additional accommodations needed by task force members must be submitted at least two weeks prior to each meeting.

Date
August 27, 2018
September 17, 2018
November 5, 2018
December 3, 2018
January 17, 2019