



Social Communication Development in Infants and Toddlers (SC•DIT)

Learner Objectives

After completing this course participants will be able to:

Domain 1: Language

- Name gestures children develop before words and as they are learning to talk
- Explain how gestures support the development of word meanings and launch language learning
- Describe strategies that caregivers can use in everyday activities to support gestures and language development at home and in early learning care and community settings
- Describe the early sounds, proto-words, and words infants and toddlers use
- Explain How the development of spoken language progresses from babbling to words and eventually to phrases
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support sounds, words, and language development

Domain 2: Play

- Explain what actions children use when they explore objects
- Describe how these actions develop from simple exploration to pretend play and imagination
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support the development of play with objects
- Describe how children use objects in play during everyday activities to attract attention and for social sharing
- Explain how sharing these actions with objects continues to support the development of pretend play and imagination
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support development of social sharing and play

Domain 3: Social Interaction

- Describe the many ways children learn to connect and share attention with others during social interaction
- Explain how social attention plays a critical role in the development of social interaction and launches social connectedness
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support the development of social attention and interaction

- Describe the different reasons and ways that children share their intentions with others
- Explain how becoming intentional in their communication with others also helps children become connected with them
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support the development of intentional communication and social interaction

Domain 4: Emotional Regulation

- Describe the ways that children share and manage their emotions
- Explain how the development of sharing and managing emotions helps children learn cooperation
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support the development of sharing and managing emotions
- Describe ways children can learn to regulate their emotions in challenging moments
- Explain how the development of emotional regulation during challenging moments helps children learn the important skill of cooperation
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to work through challenging moments and support emotional regulation

Domain 5: Self-Directed Learning

- Describe the messages that infants and toddlers understand
- Explain how the development of understanding messages leads to an increase in problem solving and critical thinking skills
- List strategies that parents can use in everyday activities to support the development of understanding messages and self-directed learning
- Describe how children learn to create new ideas
- Explain how the development of creating new ideas leads to problem solving skills and critical thinking skills
- List strategies parents can use in everyday activities to support the development of creating new ideas and self-directed learning