

Language Assessments: Unpacking the Tools

Launching LEAD-K Michigan

Michigan Department of Education Resource for Deaf/Hard of Hearing



The LEAD-K MI Legislation on Assessments

The department shall adopt existing tools or assessments to be used by local school districts, intermediate school districts, public school academies, and the Michigan School for the Deaf **to assess the language and literacy development of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing and is age 5 or younger.**

Legislation, cont.

The tools or assessments must

- Show stages of language development
- Track development of expressive and receptive language acquisition and developmental stages toward English literacy
- Already exist as instruments or assessments for DHH children

Legislation, cont.

- Be appropriate in content and administration for DHH children ages 5 and younger
- Track progress and inform establishing or modifying an individualized family service plan or individualized education program
- Be reflective of the recommendations of the advisory committee

Your Role and Responsibilities

By September 1, 2025

- Implement the assessments to **track development**
- Administer the assessments or any other assessments used to **assess development** of children with disabilities as required by federal law

Responsibilities, cont.

Based on assessment results, **if the child does not meet developmental milestones or demonstrate progress needed to meet milestones**, the IFSP or IEP team shall provide to each service plan team member and the parent:

- A written statement explaining in detail why the child is not meeting developmental milestones or progressing toward them
- A written recommendation including specific strategies, services, and programs that must be provided to the child to assist toward becoming linguistically prepared for kindergarten and English literacy

Recommended Assessments

- American Sign Language Expressive Skills Test (ASL-EST)
- American Sign Language Receptive Skills Test (ASL-RST)
- Arizona Articulation and Phonology Scale
- Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals - Preschool (CELF-P3)
- Communication Matrix
- Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language & Speech (CASLLS)

Recommended Assessments

- Developmental Assessment of Young Children (DAYC-2)
- MacArthur Bates Communicative Developmental Inventories (MB-CDI & ASL-CDI)
- Receptive-Expressive Emergent Language Test (REEL-4)
- Rosetti Infant-Toddler Language Scale
- Visual Communication and Sign Language Checklist (VCSL)

American Sign Language Expressive Skills Test

American Sign Language Expressive Skills Test (ASL-EST)

Ages: 4 - 13 years

Training requirements: Fluent in ASL & training certificate required

Norm-referenced measure

American Sign Language:
Expressive Skills Test

Test Manual

Charlotte Enns, Kyra Zimmer,
Cheryle Broszeit & Sarah Rabu



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American Sign Language Expressive Skills Test

Focus of assessment:

- Expressive language
- Narration skills

**American Sign Language:
Expressive Skills Test**

Test Manual

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Cheryle Broszeit & Sarah Rabu**



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American Sign Language Receptive Skills Test

American Sign Language Receptive Skills Test (ASL-RST)

Ages: 3 - 13 years

Training requirements: N/A

Norm-referenced measure



American Sign Language Receptive Skills Test

Focus of assessment:

- Receptive language



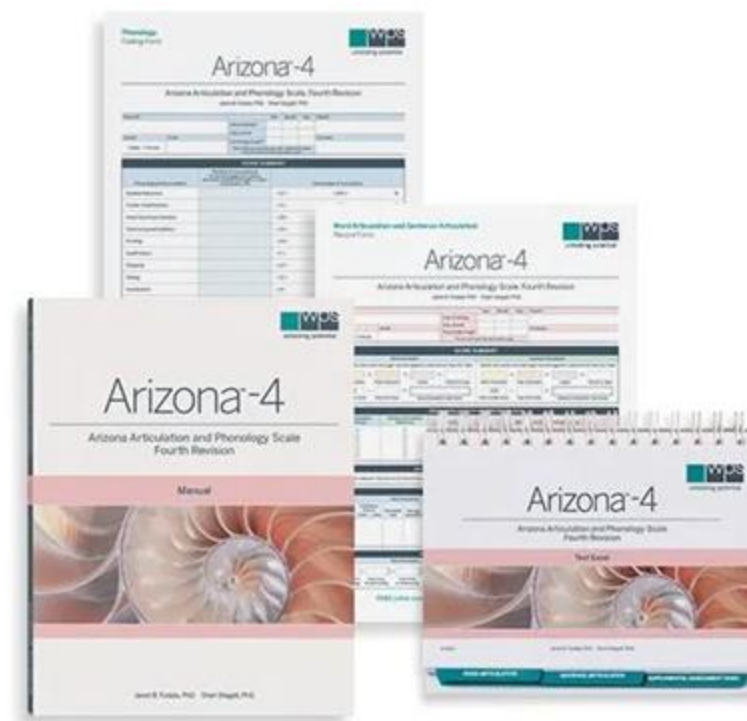
Arizona Articulation and Phonology Scale

Arizona Articulation and Phonology Scale - 4th Ed.

Ages: 1 year, 6 months - 21 years

Training requirements: Certified speech-language pathologist, other qualified personnel

Norm-referenced measure



Arizona Articulation and Phonology Scale

Focus of assessment:

- Word articulation
- Sentence articulation
- Phonology
- Overall speech intelligibility

Single word and connected speech



Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals, Preschool - 3rd Ed.

Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals, Preschool - 3rd Ed. (CELF-P3)

Ages: 3 - 6 years, 11 months

Training requirements: Certified speech-language pathologist, other qualified personnel

Norm-referenced measure



Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals, Preschool - 3rd Ed.

Focus of assessment:

- Receptive language
- Expressive language
- Language content
- Language structure
- Academic language readiness
- Emerging literacy



Communication Matrix

Communication Matrix

Ages: Children at the earliest stages of communication

Training requirements: N/A

Criterion-referenced measure



Arizona Articulation and Phonology Scale

Focus of assessment:

- Document, understand, and support communication development



Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language & Speech

Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language & Speech (CASLLS)

Ages: Birth - 8 years

Training requirements: Two webinars are recommended

Criterion-referenced measure



Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language & Speech

Focus of assessment:

- Sounds and speech
- Pre-verbal
- Pre-sentence
- Simple sentences
- Complex sentence



Developmental Assessment of Young Children - 2nd Ed.

Developmental Assessment of Young Children - 2nd Ed. (DAYC-2)

Ages: Birth - 5 years

Training requirements: Early childhood educators, special education teachers, speech-language pathologists, and physical & occupational therapists

Norm-referenced measure



Developmental Assessment of Young Children - 2nd Ed.

Focus of assessment:

- Cognitive
- **Communication**
 - **Receptive**
 - **Expressive**
- Social-emotional
- Physical development
- Adaptive behavior



Receptive Expressive Emergent Language Test - 4th Ed.

Receptive Expressive Emergent Language Test - 4th Ed. (REEL-4)

Ages: Birth - 3 years

Training requirements: Certified speech-language pathologist, other qualified personnel

Norm-referenced measure



Receptive Expressive Emergent Language Test - 4th Ed.

Focus of assessment:

- Receptive language
- Expressive language

A vocabulary inventory is also included as a supplement.



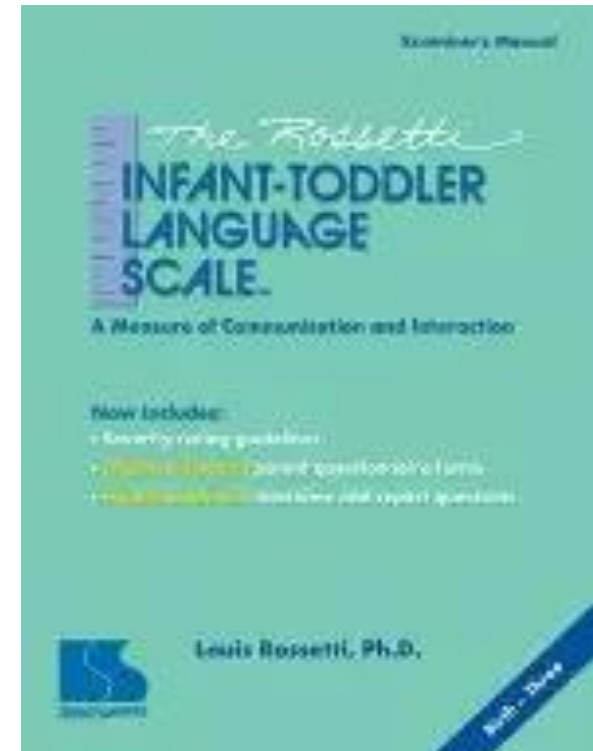
Rossetti Infant Toddler Language Scale

Rossetti Infant Toddler Language Scale

Ages: Birth - 3 years

Training requirements: Qualified personnel

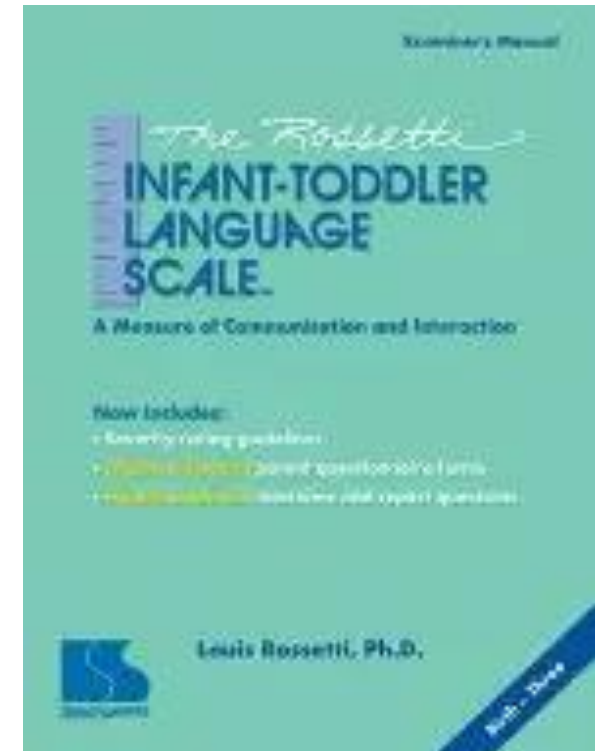
Criterion-referenced measure



Rossetti Infant Toddler Language Scale

Focus of assessment:

- Interaction-Attachment
- Pragmatics
- Gesture
- Play
- Language Comprehension
- Language Expression



Visual Communication and Sign Language Checklist

Visual Communication and Sign Language Checklist (VCSL)

Ages: Birth - 5 years

Training requirements: ASLPI score of 4 or above, actively working with 0-5 DHH children, M.A. in education or related field

Criterion-referenced measure



Visual Communication and Sign Language Checklist

Focus of assessment:

- Receptive language
- Expressive language



Collecting Language Outcomes Data

Partnership with University of Colorado-Boulder

- Collect, track, and analyze data
- Produce child-level report
- Provide state-level report

Data collection every 6 months is the gold standard.

Explore the Tools

Come get familiar with the assessments.

Questions?



Thank You for Joining Us!

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