

## Terms and Definitions

**Circulating** Provider walks among the children during free choice activities and talks with them about what they are doing.

**Culturally responsive activities** are events conducted in a way that relates to the ideas, customs, and social behavior of different societies.

**Culturally responsive caregiving** working for the optimal development and learning of all children. Individuals who work with children must respect, value, and support the culture, values, beliefs, and languages of each home and promote the meaningful, relevant, and active participation of all families.

**Curriculum philosophy** is a written statement of principles developed by an early learning professional to form the basis of the learning program of activities, including age appropriate developmental learning objectives for children.

**Dual language learner** refers to children who are learning two or more languages at the same time. This term includes children who learn two or more languages from birth, and children who are still mastering their home language when they are introduced to and start learning a second language.<sup>1</sup>

**Early learning professionals** are all early learning providers, child care licensing staff, and other professionals in the early learning field.

**Funds of knowledge** are the essential cultural practices and bodies of knowledge and information that households use to survive, to get ahead, or to thrive.

**Language expansion** When the provider adds detail or new words to build on ideas that children are expressing.

**Parallel-talk** is when a provider talks about what the child is doing, seeing, eating, or touching as the child is engaging in those activities.

**RCW** means Revised Code of Washington.

**Scaffolding** occurs when the provider uses a variety of techniques to create a stronger understanding and a greater independence of the learning process for the child.

**Self-talk** occurs when a provider talks about what he or she is doing, seeing, eating, touching, or thinking as he or she is involved in an activity.

**WAC** means Washington Administrative Code.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://del.wa.gov/sites/default/files/imported/publications/development/docs/guidelines.pdf>