## Behavior Guidance for Dual Language Learners

### TIPS FOR EDUCATORS

#### BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

| **Talk with the children’s families to better understand their children’s behaviors.** | • Learn more about the specific cultural values of the families in your early learning program—for example, their expectations for children’s behaviors, or the level of independence they encourage.  
• Consider the cultural differences between the family’s rules and expectations at home and those in the early learning program. |
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| **Support children in learning rules and expectations.** | • Have consistent schedules and routines, so children know what to expect.  
• Provide clear expectations for children’s behavior during activities.  
• Use gestures, pictures, or graphics to remind children of rules and expectations.  
• Repeat expectations and rules often. |
| **Be aware of the role that language barriers can play when you are trying to understand the causes of challenging behavior.** | • Children may not be able to communicate their feelings and needs.  
• Children may not fully understand what is said to them. |