**Oral Language Development**



**Oral Lang Module, Activity 1**



**Directions:** Please view the short video entitled, “*What is the difference between social language and academic language acquisition?* When complete, answer the following questions and discuss with a colleague.

1. In the video, the speaker uses the term BICS or Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills.

She also refers to this as “playground language.” Describe this type of communication skill.

2. How long does it typically take a student to learn BICS?

3. The speaker then refers to a more formal type of language called “CALP” which stands for Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency or Academic Language. How is this type of language different from social language?

4. How long can it take English Learners to learn academic language?

5. Does a teacher have to wait until the child is proficient in social language before teaching academic language? When should academic language instruction begin?

6. Whose responsibility is it to teach academic language?