Guide to Selecting Appropriate Laureate Software

How to Use the Checklist

Begin by answering the questions on the Language Stage Checklist. A “Yes” answer means that a student has moved into the next stage. A “No” answer means you should consider software at that Language Functioning Stage. Even if the characteristics described in the stage do not seem to match your student’s competencies, that stage is appropriate if your student exhibits all the characteristics in the previous stage.

Once you’ve determined a student’s Language Functioning Stage, you can select individual programs from the Recommended Software list.

### Stage 1: Interpreted Communication
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (0 to +/-4 months)
- No intention to communicate
- Cries, coos, and expressions are interpreted by caregiver
- Begins to focus on caregiver’s speech

### Training Goals
- Improve visual and auditory attention
- Develop communicative turn-taking
- Establish intentional communication and cause & effect
- Provide linguistic stimulation

### Recommended Programs
- First Words
- First Verbs
- QuestionQuest: Level 3
- Pronoun Perspective

### Stage 2: Intentional Communication
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (4 to +/-9 months)
- Expresses intent primarily through eye gaze
- Comprehension of words as abstract concepts is emerging
- Alternating gaze between an object and a caregiver is developing

### Training Goals
- Improve ability to signal intentionally
- Increase attention to words
- Develop symbolic comprehension

### Recommended Programs
- First Words
- First Verbs
- Exploring Nouns & Exploring Verbs
- The Talking Series
- Simple Sentence Structure

### Stage 3: Single Words
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (9 to +/-18 months)
- Comprehends object names as symbols of basic categories
- Understands verbs
- Uses single words in combination with gestures and the environment to communicate

### Training Goals
- Increase symbolic comprehension
- Develop core vocabulary
- Introduce word combinations

### Recommended Programs
- First Words
- First Verbs
- LanguageLinks: Levels 2-4
- Simple Sentence Structure
- LanguageLinks: Level 1

### Stage 4: Word Combinations
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (18 to +/-24 months)
- Comprehends a core vocabulary
- Uses two-word combinations
- Word combinations describe here-and-now environmental events

### Training Goals
- Develop simple sentence structures
- Foster language exploration and growth
- Continue vocabulary and category development

### Recommended Programs
- The Talking Series
- First Categories
- Simple Sentence Structure
- LanguageLinks: Levels 1-2

### Stage 5: Early Syntax
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (24 to +/-36 months)
- Uses short, simple sentences
- Utterances lack grammatical refinement and complexity
- Comprehension goes beyond the here-and-now

### Training Goals
- Improve knowledge of grammar
- Expand sentence structures
- Enhance and expand vocabulary concepts

### Recommended Programs
- Simple Sentence Structure
- LanguageLinks: Levels 3 & 6
- Prepositions!

### Stage 6: Syntax Mastery
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (3 to +/-6 years)
- Uses simple and complex sentences
- Masters most grammatical forms
- Limited comprehension of abstract relationships among words

### Training Goals
- Increase knowledge and use of advanced syntactic structures
- Increase semantic knowledge
- Improve auditory processing
- Foster critical thinking

### Recommended Programs
- LanguageLinks: Levels 3 & 6
- Prepositions!
- Pronoun Perspective
- QuestionQuest: Levels 1-2

### Stage 7: Complete Generative Grammar
- Typically Developing Language Acquisition Age (6 years and up)
- Shows complete mastery of all grammatical forms
- Establishes ability to analyze and talk about language
- Develops reading/writing skills

### Training Goals
- Develop secondary language skills of reading & writing
- Provide advanced semantic training
- Enhance abstract concepts

### Recommended Programs
- QuestionQuest: Level 3

Please contact your Pearson salesperson for product suggestions.