



# Academic Achievement of Dual Language Learners: Associations between Play and Executive Functioning Skills (A Study Proposal)

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## Introduction

## Methods

## Analysis

### Study Rationale

- ❖ Play has been shown to aid growth in cognition, language, social-emotional, and academic skills for children who are dual language learners (DLL) and non-dual language learners (NDLL).
- ❖ As the population of DLL children increases in the U.S., educators of multilingual classrooms need to provide effective learning tools that support socio-cognitive development of DLL's.

### Research Questions

**Q1:** Does more frequent socialization during play with NDLL peers aid growth in the DLL's executive functioning skills and language development?

**Q2:** Does reciprocating engagement of the NDLL increase the DLL's practicing of English?

We hypothesize that more frequent and effective social interactions between DLL and NDLL during free play will be associated with growth in executive functioning skills and language development.

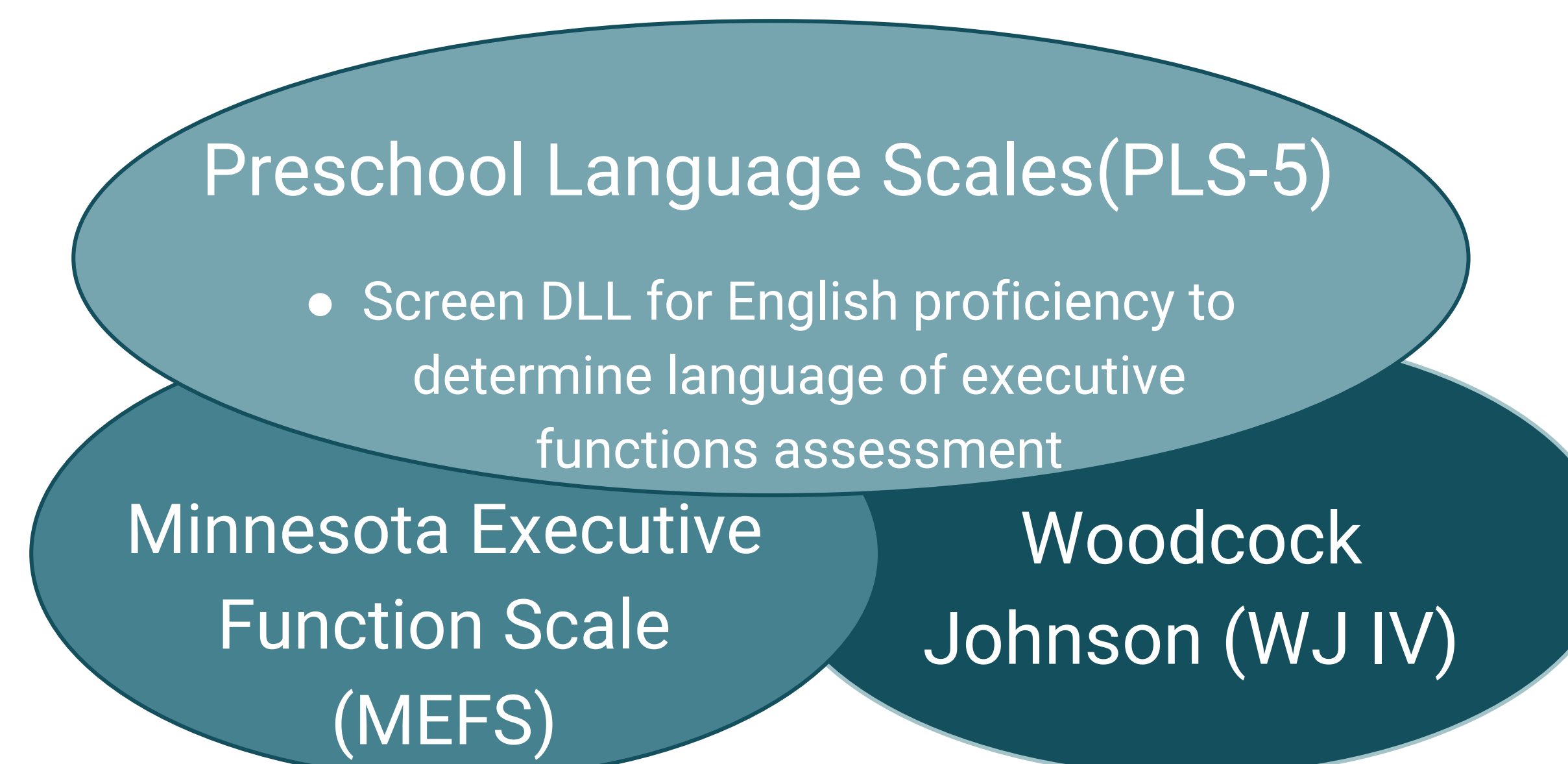
### Observations

Play observations will be recorded daily by the classroom facilitator using an adaptation of the Child Observation in Preschool Manual.



Screenshot of the MEFS assessment

### Assessments



- ❖ The PSL-5 will be administered at the start and end of the preschool year.
- ❖ The WJ & MEFS will be administered quarterly throughout the preschool year.

### Processing the Data

#### Sample Items

Run your finger across top row of pictures on child's page from left to right and say: **Look at these pictures. Tell me the names of these pictures as fast as you can. When you finish the first row, start with the next row right away. Go ahead.**



WJ sample item example

- ❖ 3 partial correlation analysis between socialization and scores on MEFS and WJ assessments regarding
  - language development
  - executive functioning skills
  - academic achievement
- ❖ controlled for outside influences and demographics (collected in optional parent-survey)
  - parental education
  - parental income
  - socio-economic status (SES)

