

**Supplemental Material S1.** Summary of study quality coding for each paper, study quality criteria used to assess 21 studies, and excluded studies.

**Table S1.** Summary of study quality coding for each paper, according to modified criteria from the NIH Quality Assessment Tool for Observational Cohort & Cross-sectional Studies (2014). Please see Table 2 below for details regarding each criterion.

Study Name	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	C11	C12	Total Score
Aarne et al., 2014	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	8
Andrés-Roqueta et al., 2016	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	10
Bakopoulou, 2010	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	9
Black, 1989	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	10
Charman et al., 2015	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Chiat & Roy, 2008	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	10
Coales et al., 2019	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Conti-Ramsden & Botting, 2004	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	10
Dockrell & Lindsay, 2000	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	7
Farmer, 2000	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Farmer & Oliver, 2005	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	10
Feeney et al., 2015	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	7
Gibson et al., 2013	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	10
Hart et al., 2004	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Horwitz et al., 2003	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	9
Knox, 2001	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	10
McAndrew, 2001	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Redmond & Rice, 2002	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	11
Schachinger-Lorentzon et al, 2018	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	6
St. Clair et al., 2011	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Stern et al., 1995	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	8

**Table S2.** Summary of the study quality criteria used to assess 21 studies. The criteria were modified according to the NIH Quality Assessment Tool for Observational Cohort & Cross-sectional Studies (2014).

Criterion	Description	Coding
C1. Research Question	Was the research question or objective clearly stated?	1= yes 0= no
C2. Study Population	Was the study population clearly specified and defined?	1= yes 0= no
C3. Participation	Did the study report a participation rate?	1 = yes 0 = no
C4. Inclusion and Exclusion	Were all the subjects selected or recruited from the same or similar populations (including the same time period)? Were inclusion and exclusion criteria for being in the study prespecified and applied uniformly to all participants?	1= yes 0= no
C5. Sample Size	Was the sample size justified in the study based on a power analysis, or variance and effect estimates provided?	1= yes 0= no
C6. Exposure	Was the assessment of language before the assessment of social competence?	1= yes 0= no
C7. Validated Language Instrument	Did the study include a validated instrument in the assessment of language? If participants were diagnosed prior to the study, were participants assessed with a validated instrument of language?  **if has both validated and non-validated, code 1=yes	1 = yes 0 = no  <i>Validated measure = PPVT, CELF, CCC-2, TROG, BPVS, etc.</i> <i>Non-validated measure = created by the researcher</i>
C8. Validated Social Instrument	Did the study include a validated instrument in the assessment of social competence?  **if has both validated and non-validated, code 1=yes	1 = yes 0 = no  <i>Validated measure = SSRS, SDQ, BASC-3</i> <i>Non-validated measure = created by the researcher</i>

C9. Objective Language Instrument	Did the study include an objective reporter, multiple methods or multiple reporters in the assessment of language?	1 = objective reporter (e.g., SLP), multiple methods (e.g., PPVT + CELF) or multiple reporters (e.g., SLP, teacher) 0= no
C10. Objective Social Instrument	Did the study include an objective reporter, multiple methods or multiple reporters in the assessment of social competence?	1= objective reporter (e.g., teacher), multiple methods (e.g., SDQ + BASC-3) or multiple reporters (e.g., SLP, teacher) 0= no
C11. Attrition	Was the attrition rate less than or equal to 20%?	1= yes 0= no
C12. Adjusted Effects	Were key potential confounding variables measured and adjusted statistically for their impact on the relationship between language and social outcomes (e.g., age, gender)?	1 = yes 0 = no
Total	Sum all above to get a total score out of 12	Total Score /12

**Table S3.** Excluded studies ("near-misses") with reasons for exclusion.

Study Reference	Reason
Aro et al., 2014	No usable statistics
Bradshaw, 2006	No useable statistics*
Botting & Conti-Ramsden, 2008	Age range requirement unmet
Bretherton et al., 2014	No useable statistics*
Carson et al., 1998	No useable statistics
Conti-Ramsden et al., 2019	Age range requirement unmet
Dahle & Loge, 2018	No useable statistics*
Dynia et al., 2019	No useable statistics*
Ellis, 1986	Irrelevant construct measure
Flapper & Schoemaker, 2013	No useable statistics*
Ford & Milosky, 2008	No useable statistics*
Forrest et al., 2018	Non-DLD sample (risk for DLD)
Forrest et al., 2020	Non-DLD sample (risk for DLD)
Fujiki et al., 1996	No useable statistics*
Fujiki et al., 1999	No useable statistics*
Gertner et al., 1994	No useable statistics*
Guralnick et al., 1996	No useable statistics*
Helland et al., 2020	No useable statistics*
Irwin et al., 2002	No useable statistics*
Jerome et al., 2002	Overlapping sample
Justice et al., 2009	No useable statistics*
Laws et al., 2012	No useable statistics*
Le et al., 2020	No useable statistics*
Levickis et al., 2018	No useable statistics
Lundervold et al., 2008	No useable statistics
Nungesser, 2005	No useable statistics*
Marton et al., 2005	No useable statistics*
McCabe, 2005	No useable statistics*
McCabe & Meller, 2004	No useable statistics*
McCormack et al., 2011	No useable statistics*
Murseep et al., 2012	No useable statistics*
Mok et al., 2014	No useable statistics
Paul et al., 1991	No useable statistics*
Potter, 2009	No useable statistics*
Qi & Kaiser, 2004	No useable statistics*
Rinaldi et al., 2009	No useable statistics*
Robinson, 2012	No useable statistics*
Roy & Chiat, 2014	No useable statistics*
Stanton-Chapman et al., 2007	No useable statistics*
Timler, 2008	No useable statistics*
Toseeb et al., 2020a	Irrelevant construct measure
Toseeb et al., 2020b	No useable statistics

van Agt et al., 2005	No useable statistics*
Vallance & Wintre, 1997	No useable statistics*
Wang et al., 2018	No useable statistics*
Yew & O'Kearney, 2017	No useable statistics

*\*Studies that compared two groups (i.e., DLD children to typically developing children) or combined correlations for multiple groups (e.g., DLD children with typically developing children and a clinical sample)*

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