



## Practice Guideline on Child Development – Section 3

### Pause and reflect on the meaning of ‘typical’ development

With colleagues, think about this statement from Peter Moss (2004):

“[Dominant] perspectives, such as developmentally appropriate practice (DAP), can create a dense network of norms and the means to ensure conformity to these norms.” These norms are influenced solely by western views and colonialism. Moss adds that “schools become, first and foremost, places of technical practice and normalization” (Moss, 2004, p. 2).

Ask yourself what words like *typical* and *normal* mean in relation to development. Critically reflect on the messages these words convey. You can add your thoughts and reflections in the space below.