

The Creative Curriculum

Description:

The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum that features exploration and discovery as a way of learning. The Creative Curriculum fosters exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and critical thinking. The curriculum offers children opportunities for hands-on exploration and discovery that's helps build lifelong critical thinking skills and foster confidence.

The preschool system is based on 38 different objectives for development and learning, and offers educators daily opportunities to individualize instruction. These research-based objectives are the heart of the curriculum and define the path teachers take with children in their classroom.

Philosophy:

The philosophy behind Creative Curriculum© is built on theories of development in young children, that all children learn through active exploration of their environment and therefore the environment plays a critical role in learning. It is built on the importance of using developmentally appropriate practices that match how children develop and learn so as to promote their optimal development and learning. Early childhood educators make informed decisions about their teaching with an understanding of child development and expectations, interest of the children, strengths and areas of growth, and the cultures of each child's family and community.

The curriculum is rooted with five key principles that guide and support the intentional setup of the environment and other programs aspects. These principles include positive and supportive interactions and relationships, a constructive, purposeful play based approach, teaching of social-emotional competence, a quality physical environment, and family partnerships. All of these principles influence an understanding of development and learning and are essential to a child's physical structure of the brain.

Studies:

The Creative Curriculum supports a study approach to learning. Studies are exciting and engaging firsthand explorations of topics that are relevant to the children's everyday experiences. Children raise questions about the topic, and through exploration and discovery they find answers to their questions. The hands on nature of studies encourage children's natural curiosity that allows them to develop skills across all content areas.

Assessment:

There are 38 objectives inform every aspect of teaching that are aligned to the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards. Throughout the day teachers use observation to collect anecdotal notes, and other forms of evidence such as work samples, pictures, and video interactions between peers and with teachers. This information is carefully analyzed to identify areas of strength and growth

in each student, inform instruction, create lesson plans, and guide individual learning and entered into the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system as an online portfolio. This means that when children enter Kindergarten, their learning has already been focused on the skills that are essential for future success.

Parent Involvement :

Opportunities for involving families are built into The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool. The resources and guidance embedded throughout the curriculum help teachers build essential bridges between school and home and create meaningful partnerships with families. Guidance and support for including families are built right into daily plans, with regular opportunities to invite and include family participation.

The Creative Curriculum Objectives:

<https://teachingstrategies.com/our-approach/our-38-objectives/>

More information about the Creative Curriculum:

<https://teachingstrategies.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/The-Creative-Curriculum-for-Preschool-Touring-Guide.pdf>

New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards:

<https://www.state.nj.us/education/ece/guide/standards.pdf>

Teaching Liaisons

Teaching Liaisons/ Coaches provide and maintain high levels of quality by helping and supporting preschool teachers. They visit classrooms on a regular basis to coach and provide feedback to teachers to improve teaching practices and implementation of the curriculum through the reflective cycle process. Coaches use performance-based assessment data and results of structured classroom observations to determine and support a high level of curriculum implementation, plan specific goals and training opportunities, including, but not limited to, modeling classroom practices and lessons, facilitating PLC meetings, and planning and implementing workshops.

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Supporting English Language Learners

In order to create optimal language environments for English Language Learners, many provider locations have bilingual staff available to interact with children as well as families. Activities and the classroom environment reflect both the children's native language as well as English. We are dedicated to creating an atmosphere where children can continue to develop their first language while enhancing and facilitating the acquisition of a second one.

In collaboration with community provider locations, it is our goal to:

- * Provide an environment and materials that incorporate and enhance the languages represented by all of the students.
- * Use instructional strategies to facilitate receptive and expressive language acquisition skills.
- * Use the Creative Curriculum for Preschool to help children acquire English language skills.
- * Increase awareness of and foster cultural diversity through activities, the environment and learning materials.
- * Help children to develop oral language skills in both their first and second language.

Early Childhood Teaching Liaisons support staff in their development of strategies to support English Language Learners by providing modeling of strategies in classrooms and conducting professional development opportunities related to ELL teachings and mythologies.

Developmentally Appropriate Practices at Home

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1589382965/morrisschooldistrictorg/hfdsiirh0izq4tphpncj/DevelopmentallyAppropriatePractices.pdf>

Math At Home

Math Picture Books: <http://youngmathematicians.edc.org/math-books/published-books/>

Math at Home

http://youngmathematicians.edc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/mib_12.2_Young_Reed.pdf

Math at Home- Spanish

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/dec2018/backpack/dic-2018-ene-2019>

5 Ways to Help Children Learn Math

http://youngmathematicians.edc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/LoveMath_P1.pdf

5 Ways to Help Children Learn Math- Spanish

http://youngmathematicians.edc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/LoveMath_2pages_9_22_18_SPAN.pdf

Math Activity Ideas (English and Spanish)

<http://youngmathematicians.edc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Math-activity-texts.pdf>

Literacy at Home

Learning At Home: 9 Early Learning Activities

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/learning-at-home-9-early-literacy-activities>

Ready Rosie: Funny Reading

<https://youtu.be/mu8PeVgjTQc>

Ready Rosie: Funny Reading Spanish

<https://youtu.be/i67YvmfcQck>

ReadyRosie: The Name Game

<https://youtu.be/oWvvL2QBnSk>

Ready Rosie: The Name Game- Spanish

<https://youtu.be/SbzXvD-n1yc>

ReadyRosie: Vocabulary Games in the Kitchen

<https://youtu.be/FGsHBHCr5TY>

Returning to School Resources- COVID 19 Resources for Families

Wearing a Mask Story- English and Spanish

<https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1596810821/morrisschooldistrictorg/r0hqwjvzferabah0lgd3/NC-PMI-WearingMasksStory-ENGLISH.pdf>

<https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1596810839/morrisschooldistrictorg/vnhzyolizy2npngy3br2/NC-PMI-WearingMasksStory-SPANISH.pdf>

Handwashing

<https://youtu.be/c890Th4sqho>

New Ways to Greet Others

<https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1596390647/morrisschooldistrictorg/eixji4py9cbigbvzw3v/greetingsduringCOVID.pdf>

Seeing Other People Wearing Masks

<https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1596390524/morrisschooldistrictorg/avznbvojwx0jyitn52fh/SeeingOtherPeopleWearingMasksSpanish.pdf>

Getting a Coronavirus Test Done

<https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1596391331/morrisschooldistrictorg/ocini163cosrdsexqch9/COVIDTestStory.pdf>