The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool

Ordering

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Summary
(Available in English and in Spanish)

The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool is a comprehensive set of research-based resources that helps teachers establish developmentally appropriate programs for children with diverse family backgrounds, life experiences, languages, and skill levels. All of the materials are available in English and Spanish. Five foundational volumes provide the knowledge base of the curriculum and explain best practices in the field. Daily practice resources offer detailed guidance through Teaching Guides and other instructional tools.

The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool: Foundation provides the essential knowledge base for up effective learning environments, planning learning experiences, seizing unplanned teaching opportunities, scaffolding each child’s learning, and building partnerships with families.

− Volume 1: The Foundation summarizes the research behind the curriculum and addresses five central components of teaching preschool children effectively: 1) how children develop and learn; 2) how to set up and maintain the classroom environment and daily schedule; 3) the essential skills and concepts that preschool children should learn in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts, technology, and English-language acquisition; 4) a variety of intentional instructional strategies teachers use to teach all children effectively; and 5) how to build strong partnerships with families.

− Volume 2: Interest Areas applies the five components of The Creative Curriculum® framework to 10 interest areas (Blocks, Dramatic Play, Toys and Games, Art, Library, Discovery, Sand and Water, Music and Movement, Cooking, Computers) and the outdoors. The book explains ways to set up the classroom and interact with children in order to support development and learning in all domains.
Volume 3: Literacy reviews research findings about early literacy development and discusses seven components of literacy. It explains how to organize the environment to support language and literacy learning, and how to integrate literacy experiences throughout the day and throughout the classroom. Six basic teaching strategies for supporting literacy learning are described in detail: talking, singing, and playing with language; reading aloud; storytelling; story retelling; writing; and meaningful play.

Volume 4: Mathematics helps teachers understand the mathematical concepts and skills they will be teaching, and how children learn mathematics through the use of process skills. It shows how to create a mathematics-rich environment that helps children explore number and operations, patterns, geometry, measurement, and data analysis. The book explains how to integrate mathematics learning with learning in other domains, throughout the day.

Volume 5: Objectives for Development & Learning: Birth Through Kindergarten explains the research that underlies each of the curriculum’s 38 objectives, the progressions of development and learning, and widely held expectations for various age-groups and classes/grades. It also offers practical classroom strategies for promoting children’s learning in relation to each objective.

Daily Practice Resources

Six Teaching Guides provide detailed daily plans for a full school year. They help teachers introduce knowledge and skills in a cohesive, sequential manner and show them how to promote learning in all domains. Additional Guides are available to educators who already have the original set.

Intentional Teaching Cards™ explain playful, engaging activities that can be offered throughout the day, typically during small-group time but also as large-group or one-to-one experiences. The experiences support language, literacy, mathematics, physical, and social–emotional development. Each card explains the steps of an activity, lists the related objectives and necessary materials, suggests ways to individualize the experience for each child, and presents questions to guide teachers’ observations.

Mighty Minutes™ is a set of 100 small cards with songs, chants, rhymes, games, and other short activities that are rooted in the curricular objectives and that help teachers use brief transitional times effectively.

The Teaching Strategies® Children’s Book Collection has 150 high-quality children’s books (67 in English, 67 in Spanish, 8 bilingual books, and 8 big books) for reading aloud with children. It includes classic tales, contemporary works by well-known authors, and original nonfiction books created especially to complement the studies featured in the Guides.
− The Children’s eBook Collection encourages re-reading and retelling of stories, and it enables Spanish-speaking children to experience the first reading of a story in their home language. When families use the DVD for shared readings at home, the sound can be turned off so families who speak other languages can talk about the pictures and make up their own stories.

− Book Discussion Cards™ explain how to read and talk about selected books in the Children’s Book Collection, helping teachers conduct high-quality interactive read-alouds with children.

− Getting Started is a DVD that helps educators begin using the many resources of The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool. It provides a brief introduction to each component of the curriculum.

− Guide to The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is a booklet that also provides a thorough overview of each component of the curriculum. It explains how to use the resources together to build a high-quality program, and it helps teachers understand how the resources help them address state early learning standards every day.

− Classroom and Family Resources is a CD-ROM that provides easy access to adaptable letters to families about learning in the interest areas and learning through studies. It also provides prefilled but adaptable weekly planning forms that help teachers prepare for each day and share information with families.

### Detailed list of materials submitted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Title</th>
<th>ISBN***</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool (complete monolingual system)</td>
<td>English: 978-1-60617-375-6</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spanish: 978-1-60617-401-2</td>
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<td>The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool (complete bilingual system)</td>
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<td>Available for Purchase Separately From Full Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool Foundation (5 volumes)</td>
<td>English: 978-1-60617-374-9</td>
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<td>Bilingual: 978-1-60617-490-6</td>
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Professional Development and Implementation Plan

Training on The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool

Teaching Strategies offers introductory and advanced training to support curriculum implementation, and we have facilitated ELC Curriculum Learning Communities for several years.

Six hours of free online training are included with the purchase of The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool. Available in English and in Spanish, these interactive online modules guide introduce all of the components of The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool. Teachers learn how the resources work together and how to use them to carry out project-based investigations in the classroom. Teachers learn how to organize the materials and plan for individual children and the group. This session enables teachers to become familiar with the materials and feel confident about implementing the curriculum.

Recommendations for additional training are based on an assessment of the strengths and needs of each program. Customized training plans identify specific learning outcomes that are aligned with each program’s goals and are based on the groups’ level of expertise. Services can be delivered on-site, online, and at Teaching Strategies’ Professional Development Center, with options to fit every budget, schedule, and level of teaching experience. The following tables show popular in-person sessions related to The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool.

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<tr>
<th>In-Person Sessions: The Creative Curriculum for Preschool (Instructor Led)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Foundation of The Creative Curriculum for Preschool (Teachers)</td>
<td>2 days</td>
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<td>Participants learn how to design effective learning environments, develop daily schedules based on program needs and curricular objectives, and use intentional teaching strategies to support each child’s development and learning.</td>
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<td>Implementing The Creative Curriculum for Preschool (Teachers)</td>
<td>2 days</td>
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<td>Participants learn more about all aspects of The Creative Curriculum for Preschool. By the end of the session, teachers are ready to implement the curriculum successfully in their classrooms.</td>
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<td>Supporting Implementation of The Creative Curriculum for Preschool (Administrators)</td>
<td>2 days</td>
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<td>This training focuses on the administrator’s role in helping teachers create optimal learning environments and plan meaningful learning experiences that are based on children’s continually changing strengths, needs, and interests.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exploring Studies in The Creative Curriculum for Preschool (Teachers)</td>
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<td>This session enables teachers to choose an appropriate study topic for young children, describe what makes a study different from a theme, and be able to plan a study with confidence.</td>
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**Exploring Mathematics in *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* (Teachers)**  
This session focuses on *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool, Volume 4: Mathematics*. It introduces the components and process skills of early mathematics learning and explains how to help children use math to make sense of their world.  
2, 3, or 4 days

**Supporting Social–Emotional Development in *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool***  
This session promotes teachers’ understanding of their role in promoting children’s healthy social–emotional development. It helps them understand the importance of planning, the benefits of using positive guidance, and how to use a practical set of positive guidance strategies. Participants examine appropriate expectations for children’s behavior at different ages, learn how to promote development and learning through routines and experiences, and learn how to tailor approaches to meet each child’s strengths and needs.  
2 days

**Physical Development in *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* (Teachers)**  
Participants learn about the complexities of children’s physical growth processes and the teacher’s role in promoting children’s physical health and development.  
1 day

**Building Partnerships With Families in *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* (Teachers)**  
Participants learn practical strategies for promoting strong teacher–family partnerships that are based on trust and mutual respect.  
2 days

**Language and Literacy in *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* (Teachers)**  
Participants learn about seven components of literacy and how to integrate meaningful language and literacy experiences throughout the classroom and throughout the day.  
1 day

**Intentional Teaching in the Interest Areas of *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* (Teachers)**  
This session provides specific strategies for engaging children in meaningful learning experiences in each of the 10 interest areas and the outdoors.  
2 days

**Supporting Children With Disabilities**  
Incorporating the principles of the Universal Design for Learning (UDL), *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* explains how to create a high-quality inclusive program for all 3- to 5-year-old children. This training helps preschool teachers provide a variety of formats for instruction, learning, and assessment so that all children—including children with disabilities—have multiple ways of acquiring knowledge and skills and of communicating what they know.  
1 day

**Supporting Dual-Language Learners (Teachers)**  
This session focuses on ways to meet the strengths, needs and interests of children who are learning English as a second language. It offers guidance for building effective partnerships with families and strategies for supporting children’s acquisition of English while supporting home language development.  
2 days

Additional sessions are available for Head Start programs. Session titles include
- “A New Perspective on Monitoring: Resources That Support High-Quality Programs”
- “Promoting Positive Teacher–Child Interactions With *The Creative Curriculum*® for Preschool”

*Accreditation Program Training (Training of Trainers)*
In addition to direct (in-person training), Teaching Strategies offers accreditation training (training-of-trainers, or TOT) that can greatly reduce costs and help build ELCs’ internal capacity to implement *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool*. The purpose of the training is to prepare professionals who meet Teaching Strategies’ competency requirements to deliver training and ongoing guidance to other personnel associated with the same sponsoring organization. Accreditation program training prepares participants to deliver one of two preschool sessions: either “*The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool: Foundation*” or “*The Creative Curriculum® System for Preschool*.”

Attendees participate in 2 days of intensive training on *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool*. Successful participants receive the materials needed to deliver training to teachers and administrators (training notes, handouts, video clips, and PowerPoint® slides). Teaching Strategies staff members continue to provide targeted technical assistance and coaching as the participants undertake their training and technical assistance responsibilities. Every session includes a measure to evaluate effectiveness.