Florida Department of Education
2014 School Readiness Curriculum Approval Process

Teaching Strategies for Early Childhood

The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care

Ordering

Contact information: Teaching Strategies Customer Solutions Team
Address: Teaching Strategies, LLC, 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700, Bethesda, MD 20814
Phone: 800.637.3652 (8:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday–Friday)
Online: www.TeachingStrategies.com
Email: edu1st@educationfirstinc.com
Fax: 301.634.0824 (24 hours a day)

Summary

The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care is a comprehensive curriculum that promotes children’s development and learning and addresses the unique challenges of home-based early childhood educators. It helps family child care providers set up effective care and learning environments, plan routines and activities intentionally, build positive relationships with children, and establish partnerships with families.

Volume 1: The Foundation provides the knowledge base that family child care providers need in order to create effective environments and individualize care. It discusses the research and theory that underlie best practices and explains the curriculum’s focus on providing a safe and healthy environment, why positive relationships are the foundation for all learning, how children learn through play and interactions with people and their environment, the importance of individualizing learning, and why partnerships with families are essential. Chapters 1–5 address five components of high-quality programs: knowing how children develop and learn, setting up a child care home and planning the day, what children are learning, caring and teaching, and building partnerships with families.

Volume 2: Routines and Experiences has two parts:

- “Part II Routines” discusses four essential care-giving routines: hellos and good-byes, mealtimes, diapering and toileting, and sleeping and resting. Detailed guidance is provided for making routines comforting, nurturing, wonderful learning opportunities that meet the physical and social–emotional needs of young children, promote trust and autonomy, and support additional aspects of development and learning. Each chapter begins by asking family child care providers to think about their personal
views about the routine. The importance of each routine is explained, as well as ways to set up a home to make the day go smoothly. Guidance is given for involving children actively in routines and partnering with families.

− “Part III: Experiences” addresses the wide range of developmentally appropriate experiences for children: blocks, dramatic play, art, toys and games, stories and books, sand and water, discovery, music and movement, cooking, computers, and outdoor play. Each chapter describes the selection and display of materials and ways to interact with children of different ages and developmental levels as they play with the materials. These chapters also include brief stories to show how family child care providers can engage all of the children in the experiences they offer, making every experience meaningful for children of very different ages, temperaments, interests, developmental levels, and past experiences.

### Detailed list of materials submitted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>ISBN***</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care (2-volume set in English and 68 LearningGames in English)</td>
<td>978-1-60617-103-5</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care (2-volume set in English and 68 LearningGames in Spanish)</td>
<td>978-1-60617-104-2</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Professional Development and Implementation Plan

Teaching Strategies offers introductory and advanced training to support curriculum implementation. As noted above, recommendations for additional training are based on an assessment of the strengths and needs of each customer. Services can be delivered on-site, and at Teaching Strategies’ Professional Development Center, with options to fit every budget, schedule, and level of teaching experience.

Two professional development sessions are designed for family child care providers: a 1-day introduction to The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care and a 2-day overview that adds content related to setting up the environment, how and what children learn, planning, building relationships, nurturing routines, and meaningful learning experiences. Both sessions are available in English and Spanish.

− Learning Objectives, Day 1
o Explain the importance of the early childhood theory and research that is the basis for a quality early childhood curriculum.
o Describe how to create a responsive program based on the children's individual and developmental needs.
o Create an indoor environment that meets the needs of both the children in your program and their families.

− Learning Objectives, Day 2
  o Identify teaching strategies to support learning in each of the content areas.
o Describe ways to build positive and trusting relationships with and among the children in your care.
o Develop practical approaches for working with families to develop partnerships based on trust and mutual respect.
o Describe the types of routines and experiences that enable you to focus your attention on the children and provide a responsive and engaging learning environment.

Family child care providers are also welcome to attend other 1- and 2-day sessions that focus on observing children, responsive planning, social-emotional development, language and literacy, physical development, partnerships with families, nurturing routines, meaningful learning experiences, exploring studies, exploring mathematics, supporting children with disabilities, and supporting dual-language learners.

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 Family Child Care. 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. The training prepares the trainer to

− Explain the importance of the early childhood theory and research that is the basis for a high-quality early childhood curriculum,
− Describe how to create a responsive program based on the children’s individual and developmental needs,
− Explain ways to create an indoor environment that meets the needs of both the children in the program and their families,
− Identify teaching strategies to support learning in each of the content areas,
− Describe ways to build positive and trusting relationships with and among the children in the provider’s care,
− Explain practical approaches for working with families to develop partnerships based on trust and mutual respect,
− Describe the types of nurturing routines and meaningful experiences that enable family child care providers to promote children’s development and learning.
Attendees participate in 2 days of intensive training on *The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care*. Successful participants receive the materials needed to deliver training to colleagues (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.