



Developing a Curriculum

Selecting a curriculum is an essential part of defining quality educational experiences for young children. Is your program's curriculum based on?

- Sound child development principles of how children grow and learn and grounded in the Head Start Performance Standards
- Meaningful for the children and relevant to their lives
- Sensitive to and respectful of cultural and linguistic diversity

For a checklist to evaluate and select a curriculum that meets the needs of children and families enrolled in your program [click here.](#)



National Head Start Family Literacy Center

The National Head Start Family Literacy Center at Sonoma State University is funded by the Office of Head Start to provide training and resource materials in family literacy and math to Head Start programs. Training, Information and Practical Strategies in Family Literacy (TIPS) is a newsletter that is published quarterly which contains innovative practical ideas in literacy and math. Head Start programs may use the articles from TIPS as part of training for staff and families. In addition, the National Head Start Family Literacy Center has developed a research-based training curriculum in math and offering professional development opportunities for Head Start staff. To find out more on the curriculum and view the current issue of TIPS go to the [NHSFLC website.](#)

Centers of Excellence in Early Childhood

The Centers of Excellence program has been allocated 2 million dollars as part of Head Start's FY 2009 appropriation. The Centers of Excellence program will recognize Head Start and Early Head Start grantees that are performing at the highest levels of quality. Excellent programs are those that are in full compliance with the Program Performance Standards and are implementing comprehensive, innovative and targeted approaches to enhance program services. In addition, programs should produce positive, measurable outcomes for children's school success and increase staff competency. To read more on Centers of Excellence and the application process, visit the [Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center.](#)

Economically Diverse Neighborhoods Best for Early Development

The August issue of Social Science & Medicine reports young children are better prepared for kindergarten when living in neighborhoods with relatively equal proportions of affluent and disadvantaged kids. In the study researchers at the University of British Columbia studied existing early childhood development data from more than 37,000 kindergarten children in more than 400 communities. Both affluent kids and poorer kids did better when living in the mixed neighborhoods. To read more on the study [click here.](#)

Classroom Assessment Scoring System

The Office of Head Start is offering an on-demand presentation of its webcast discussion on the regionally based trainings conducted on the CLASS Instrument. [Click here](#) to view.

Our Pledge: The KY T/TA State Office pledges to provide timely, current, and interesting monthly newsletters for the Head Start and Early Head Start communities and others interested in the field. In keeping with our mission to be more "green," we will provide our easy to read newsletter via email. We would like to hear from you and encourage your suggestions for newsletter content. Contact the editor: **Joyce Roach**

[Mailto: joyce.roach@stginternational.com](mailto:joyce.roach@stginternational.com)

STG International, Inc – Member of the Head Start National Training & Technical Assistance Network