Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool
Supporting Each Child’s Success
A System to Support All Preschool Classrooms

At Teaching Strategies, we understand why you entered the early childhood profession: You want to help children succeed in school and in life. We do, too. That’s why we developed the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool. It’s a system for success, available in English and in Spanish, that combines curriculum, assessment, professional development, and family connection resources to support every program fully. With 38 core objectives for development and learning that are fully aligned with the state early learning standards, the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool helps teachers focus on what matters most for preschool children.

Respecting the fact that different programs—and different teachers—have different needs, the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool offers a comprehensive collection of resources to support all educators, from knowledge-building volumes to daily practice resources. It also includes a seamless assessment system for children from birth through kindergarten. With professional development and guidance for strengthening family connections included in every resource, the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool helps educators build high-quality preschool programs. You can be confident that you are offering the interactions and experiences that are most important for children’s development and learning.
Our curriculum explains the “what” and “why” of early childhood education...

For over 30 years, early childhood educators have trusted *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool* to help them plan and implement successful, developmentally appropriate early childhood programs. What makes *The Creative Curriculum®* uniquely able to provide this support? It provides a comprehensive foundation to every teacher, whether new to the field or highly experienced. Based on the latest research and best ideas about how children develop and learn, *The Creative Curriculum®* offers professional development support right on a teacher's shelf—a guide for all aspects of teaching young children. *The Creative Curriculum®* has always provided the “what” and “why” for early childhood educators, because all teachers should know what research shows about educating young children.

*The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool, Volumes 1–5*
The five curriculum volumes explain current child development theory and research, provide ways to support engaged learning and promote children's progress, and offer guidance for setting up successful programs. This series offers the comprehensive knowledge base that teachers need for preparing all children to succeed in school and in life.

**Volume 1: The Foundation** presents the theory and research behind the curriculum and translates them into practice. It discusses the five components of teaching preschool children effectively: how children develop and learn, the learning environment, what children learn, caring and teaching, and partnering with families.

**Volume 2: Interest Areas** discusses the 10 classroom interest areas and the outdoors. It suggests appropriate materials, explains what children learn in each area, and presents ways to promote their development.
Volume 3: Literacy explains seven components of literacy and gives teachers the latest research-based strategies for supporting early literacy learning. It helps them teach critical skills intentionally and incorporate language and literacy learning into everyday classroom experiences.

Volume 4: Mathematics explores the latest theories and research on the development of mathematical thinking. It gives teachers practical strategies for incorporating mathematics learning into each interest area as well as into everyday routines and experiences.

Volume 5: Objectives for Development & Learning: Birth Through Kindergarten reviews the 38 objectives for development and learning. It offers a detailed explanation of each objective and the research behind it; user-friendly, color-coded progressions of development and learning that show widely held expectations for children birth through kindergarten; and strategies to help children progress.

...so all educators have the support they need to build high-quality programs.
Curriculum: Helping Teachers With Daily Practice

Daily practice resources combine day-to-day, moment-to-moment support...

Building on the “what” and “why” of teaching young children, Teaching Strategies now offers a new level of support in the form of daily practice resources. They explain the important “how,” providing step-by-step, daily guidance to help teachers plan meaningful learning experiences that engage and challenge children at all times of the day. Teachers can spend less time searching for activities—and more time interacting with children. Our daily practice resources help teachers implement the curriculum in a way that is developmentally appropriate; are introduced in a cohesive, sequential manner; and meet state early learning standards.
Teaching Guides
The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool Teaching Guides help teachers start the year and manage each day. Each guide offers comprehensive, detailed plans that span several weeks. The first guide, Beginning the Year, addresses the first 6 weeks of school. The other five guides feature studies, which are enjoyable, in-depth investigations that begin with children’s questions and encourage them to apply skills in literacy, mathematics, the arts, and technology as they explore concepts in science and social studies. The Teaching Guides explain what to teach, when to teach it, and how to offer experiences that meet the individual strengths and needs of all children. Suggestions for involving and connecting with families are integrated throughout the guides.

...with a comprehensive collection of resources that offer flexibility for structuring your day.
Detailed, supportive teaching tools promote developmentally appropriate practice...

**Intentional Teaching Cards™**

With playful and engaging activities for use during small- and large-group time, *Intentional Teaching Cards™* support social–emotional, physical, language, and cognitive development as well as development and learning in literacy and mathematics. Each *Intentional Teaching Card™* explains the steps of an activity, lists the related objectives and necessary materials, suggests ways to include all children, and presents questions to guide observations. Color-coded teaching sequences on each card enable teachers to individualize support for each child, building on each child’s strengths.

**Mighty Minutes™**

*Mighty Minutes™* help teachers turn every minute of the day into a learning opportunity. Intended for use anywhere, any time, *Mighty Minutes™* help teachers promote language, literacy, math, science, social studies, and physical skills intentionally during “in-between” times—such as when children are preparing to go outside or gathering for large-group time.
Children’s Book Collection™

The Teaching Strategies® Children’s Book Collection features beloved classic tales, contemporary works by award-winning authors and illustrators, and original nonfiction titles. Intended for use during high-quality read-alouds, the books in the collection are linked to the various topics that children study throughout the year. The collection also includes 30 eBooks, conveniently delivered in DVD format for classroom and family use. Like the rest of the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool, the eBooks are available in English and Spanish. Availability in two languages provides extra support for teachers who speak only English but who teach English-language learners.

Book Discussion Cards™

Book Discussion Cards™ explain how to read and talk about selected books in the Teaching Strategies® Children’s Book Collection. They help teachers make the most of repeated, interactive read-alouds with children. With suggestions for introducing the book, explaining vocabulary, commenting, and asking probing questions, Book Discussion Cards™ are for quick reference as teachers read aloud. They enable teachers to use this research-based approach to improve the quality of children’s experiences with books.

...so teachers can feel confident that they are providing instruction that contributes most to children’s success.
Observational assessment is an important part of responsive teaching...

The best way to help children succeed is to understand what they currently know and can do and what steps they are ready to take next. That's why it's important for observational assessment to be part of any meaningful curriculum implementation. To help ensure that it is, all materials in the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool are linked to our 38 research-based objectives for development and learning that are predictors of school success and aligned to the state early learning standards.

Assessment guidance is embedded throughout the materials to help strengthen implementation for teachers at all levels of experience and provides the support they need to help children progress. For example, each Intentional Teaching Card™ helps teachers focus their observations as children engage in the activity.
### Teaching Sequence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Steps to Follow</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>YELLOW</strong></td>
<td>Say, “I have friends coming to dinner, and I want to invite him to finish setting the table. “Put a napkin beside each plate.” “Put a fork on top of each napkin.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GREEN</strong></td>
<td>Encourage the child to count as many as possible. “I have some friends coming to dinner. Can you help me put out these forks, please? We’ll need three. How many did I give you?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GREEN</strong></td>
<td>Using up to 10 items, such as plates, invite the child to add or subtract. “How many remain by counting the items.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BLUE</strong></td>
<td>Invite the child to solve story problems mentally with no more than five items. “Two friends are coming to dinner, and three more ask if they may come. How many will be dining at the end of the year may be very different than how you use it with a 3-year-old at the beginning of the year. The colors directly relate to Objectives for Development &amp; Learning. The color coding key is as follows:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BLUE</strong></td>
<td>Inviting English-language learners to count and make it appropriate for each child in the group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPLE</strong></td>
<td>Using up to 10 items, invite the child to add and subtract. “Can you help me put out these forks, please? We’ll need three. How many did I give you?”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

...so assessment guidance is embedded throughout the materials to help teachers individualize instruction.
Assessment: Helping Teachers Evaluate and Support Children’s Progress

*Teaching Strategies GOLD™* is based on 38 objectives for development and learning that are predictors of school success and aligned with state standards...

Ongoing assessment is an essential part of effective teaching. That’s why, in addition to offering assessment guidance through our curriculum resources, we developed *Teaching Strategies GOLD™*, a brand-new, seamless assessment system for children from birth through kindergarten. With 38 research-based objectives, *Teaching Strategies GOLD™* helps teachers focus on what matters most for children’s success.

This premier assessment solution can be used with *any* developmentally appropriate early childhood curriculum. It is appropriate for all children, with specific sections of guidance for working with English–language learners, advanced learners, and children with disabilities.

*Teaching Strategies GOLD™* online is the easiest and most convenient way to use the assessment system. With activities for classroom and home, easy-to-generate reports for families and administrators, and exciting enhancements that make the assessment process even more accurate, *Teaching Strategies GOLD™* online features convenient advantages:

- streamlined entering and viewing of data
- integrated professional development support
- a dedicated tab for two-way communication with families
In print, the components of Teaching Strategies GOLD™ are packaged in a reusable box so all of the resources you need are at your fingertips. Each component is available in both English and Spanish.

Objectives for Development & Learning: Birth Through Kindergarten explains the “what,” “why,” and “how” of assessment. It shows easy-to-understand, color-coded indicators of widely held expectations for children’s development and learning, and presents practical strategies to help children progress.

The Child Assessment Portfolio enables teachers to record, analyze, interpret, and evaluate all of the information they collect about each child, documenting an entire year’s progress in one convenient place.

Child Assessment Portfolio Summary Forms enable teachers to summarize each child’s progress at the objective level.

The On-the-Spot Observation Recording Tool is a convenient checklist that helps teachers capture information quickly and accurately for multiple children on selected objectives.

Assessment Opportunity Cards™ explain 10 brief, playful, curriculum-embedded classroom experiences during which teachers can focus their observations on particular objectives for literacy and numeracy.

“Family Conference Forms” are a tool for sharing information about children’s development and learning with families in a conference setting.

“Objectives for Development & Learning” Classroom Posters beautifully display the 38 objectives for quick classroom reference.

...so teachers can focus on what’s most important for children.
Professional development support is part of every resource...

Professional development is central to what Teaching Strategies does, and our approach accommodates the different needs of different teachers. In designing our professional development sessions and instructional materials, we think about teachers at all levels of experience: from beginning teachers to those who are refining their skills.

**Embedded Support**

Professional development support is directly embedded in all of the resources that make up the *Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool*. The same supportive approach of the five curriculum volumes is also offered in the daily resources. For example, the *Teaching Guides* provide detailed background information about each featured study topic, and the *Book Discussion Cards™* explain not only how to read aloud effectively but *why*. Call-outs in the *Teaching Guides* draw teachers’ attention to the theory behind each day’s activities and offer helpful tips for individualizing instruction for children. *Intentional Teaching Cards™* offer guidance to support teachers’ observations. In this way, the *Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool* provides moment-to-moment, day-to-day support for teachers who need it, but there’s also plenty of flexibility and choice for more experienced educators.
System Guide for Preschool
The System Guide walks educators through each of the components of the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool. It provides a thorough overview of each component and details how everything works together to help teachers build excellent programs for children. Teachers can easily see how the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool helps them focus on what matters most for each and every child in their classrooms. The System Guide also explains best practice for using the Spanish language resources.

Getting Started (DVD)
The Getting Started DVD helps teachers do just that: begin using the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool. Designed to provide a brief introduction to the components of the system, Getting Started is narrated by Teaching Strategies curriculum authors and presents an insiders’ look at the system’s benefits.

...so all teachers have the support they need for effective implementation.
Opportunities for involving families are built directly into the curriculum...

Finding ways to build meaningful partnerships with families has never been easier than with the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool. Support is embedded throughout the system to help early childhood educators build essential bridges between a child’s two most important worlds: school and home. From letters to families to suggested opportunities for family participation and a library of eBooks to send home, the Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool ensures that families and teachers are true partners in promoting children’s learning.

Family Connection CD-Rom
The Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool includes a CD-ROM with content devoted to helping teachers engage families as active partners. Like the other Teaching Strategies® System materials, every family connection resource is available in both English and Spanish.

• Letters to families are provided for every study. Teachers can use these letters as they are or adapt them as necessary. They introduce families to the study topic and weekly plans and inform them of opportunities for family participation.

• LearningGames®, an award-winning series, offers research-validated activities that teachers can use in the classroom and share with families. LearningGames® provides families with easy-to-use, engaging activities that foster children’s development and that connect their classroom learning to home.

• Weekly planning forms help teachers prepare for each day and share classroom plans with families. Designed to be easily adapted by teachers, these convenient, pre-filled forms save time and assist organization—so teachers can spend more time with children and less on paperwork. Teachers can display these forms to tell families what’s planned for the class that week.
**EBooks DVD**

The *Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool* includes 2 eBook DVDs. The *Children’s eBook Collection* includes titles in English and Spanish. Children and families can listen to the DVD at home, hearing many of the stories that children hear and discuss in the classroom. With multiple copies to borrow, families can participate in the literacy experiences that are so important to children’s development and learning.

**Kindergarten, Here I Come!**

*The Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool* includes *Kindergarten, Here I Come!,* an engaging DVD that helps rising kindergartners build confidence about the transition to kindergarten. Taking this enthusiastic tour of a real kindergarten classroom, children and families will get a glimpse of typical daily routines and activities and get excited about what lies ahead.

...so teachers can engage families as active partners in teaching their children.
The Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool

*The Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool también está disponible en español. The Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool materials are also available in Spanish.*

Curriculum

*The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum designed to help educators at all levels of experience plan and implement a developmentally appropriate, content-rich program for children with diverse backgrounds and skill levels.*

Knowledge Building Resources

![Image of the Creative Curriculum books]

**THE CREATIVE CURRICULUM® FOR PRESCHOOL, FIFTH EDITION**
- **VOLUME 1: THE FOUNDATION**
- **VOLUME 2: INTEREST AREAS**
- **VOLUME 3: LITERACY**
- **VOLUME 4: MATHEMATICS**
- **VOLUME 5: OBJECTIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING**

Daily Practice Resources

**THE CREATIVE CURRICULUM® FOR PRESCHOOL TEACHING GUIDES**
- BEGINNING THE YEAR
- CLOTHES STUDY
- BALLS STUDY
- BUILDINGS STUDY
- REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE STUDY
- TREES STUDY

**TEACHING STRATEGIES BOOK DISCUSSION CARDS™**
44 CARDS (22 IN ENGLISH AND 22 IN SPANISH)

**THE CREATIVE CURRICULUM® FOR PRESCHOOL INTENTIONAL TEACHING CARDS™**
(201 BILINGUAL CARDS)

**CHILDREN’S BOOK COLLECTION**
142 BOOKS (70 IN ENGLISH, 70 IN SPANISH, AND 2 BILINGUAL)
8 BIG BOOKS (4 IN ENGLISH, 4 IN SPANISH)

**EBOOK COLLECTION**
60 EBOOKS (30 IN ENGLISH AND 30 IN SPANISH)

**THE RESOURCE ORGANIZER**

**TEACHING STRATEGIES MIGHTY MINUTES™**
200 CARDS (100 IN ENGLISH AND 100 IN SPANISH)
Assessment

*Teaching Strategies GOLD*™ links directly to the curriculum, helping educators respond confidently to children's individual needs, interests, and skills.

- OBJECTIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING
- CHILD ASSESSMENT PORTFOLIO SUMMARY FORM (SET OF 25)
- CHILD ASSESSMENT PORTFOLIO SUMMARY FORM (SET OF 25)
- ON-THE-SPOT OBSERVATION RECORDING TOOL
- ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITY CARDS (SET OF 10)
- OBJECTIVES CLASSROOM POSTER
- FAMILY CONFERENCE FORM (SET OF 72)

Professional Development

*Teaching Strategies*™ professional development support, embedded throughout the entire *System, guides the learning of early childhood professionals at all levels of experience.

- SYSTEM GUIDE
- GETTING STARTED DVD
- EMBEDDED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT
- TEACHING STRATEGIES CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT TO STATE GUIDELINES (AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY)

Family Connection

*Teaching Strategies*™ family connection resources help educators strengthen connections between school and home and enhance family–child interactions.

- EMBEDDED FAMILY CONNECTION GUIDANCE
- FAMILY CONNECTION CD-ROM (BILINGUAL, INCLUDES 20 LEARNING GAMES, WEEKLY PLANNING FORMS, AND LETTERS TO FAMILIES)
- FAMILY DVD (BILINGUAL)
The Teaching Strategies® System for Preschool, a complete solution that provides complete support for early childhood programs. Ready to get started? Call Teaching Strategies at 800.637.3652 or visit TeachingStrategies.com/System for more information.