



The Creative Curriculum® for Kindergarten: Foundation

SYLLABUS

Course Information

Title: *The Creative Curriculum® for Kindergarten: Foundation*

Duration: 10 hours (self-paced)

Credits: 1.0 CEU

Course Description

General Description: This course helps kindergarten teachers build a strong knowledge base, supporting their comprehensive understanding of best practices in early childhood. Learners will gain the essential knowledge they need to offer developmentally appropriate experiences. They will also explore strategies for applying this understanding to their own practice by using the objectives for development and learning to individualize instruction and support students at every level. Upon completion of this course, learners will receive a certificate indicating the award of 1.0 Continuing Education Unit (CEU).

Learning Objectives: Learners completing this course will be able to apply the objectives for development and learning to individualize instruction and teach intentionally, set up classroom learning stations to support students' development and learning, plan meaningful experiences to support learning in the content areas, confidently assess students' development and learning, and create a positive classroom community.

Course Structure: This course, which is conducted entirely online, is available at MyTeachingStrategies.com. The course is organized into six interests that make up the foundation for what we believe to be the most important elements of *The Creative Curriculum® for Kindergarten*:

1. Using the Objectives to Teach Intentionally (1 hour, 30 minutes)
2. Supporting Development and Learning at the Learning Stations (2 hours, 5 minutes)
3. How Teacher–Child Interactions Support Content Learning (2 hours, 5 minutes)
4. Assessing Students' Development and Learning (1 hour, 10 minutes)
5. Creating a Classroom Community (1 hour, 40 minutes)
6. Individualizing Instruction (1 hour, 30 minutes)

Each interest contains 5–8 activities that present information in a variety of formats designed to engage teachers with different learning styles. These activities include tutorials (slideshows and hands-on interactive experiences), excerpts from *The Creative Curriculum®* foundational volumes, and application exercises that require teachers to reflect on their own practice and

apply their new knowledge. The course is self-guided and self-paced—teachers can view the interests and activities in any order and pause/return to the course at any time.

Here are some examples of topics that learners will explore within the broader interests:

- Scaffolding Students' Development and Learning
- Creating Environments That Encourage Student-Initiated Learning
- Intentionally Supporting Mathematics and Social Studies Learning
- Using Assessment Information to Individualize Instruction
- Supporting Students' Relationships With Others
- Supporting Individual Students' Learning Needs

The course includes a pre- and post-course survey to measure learners' knowledge at the beginning of the course and at the end of the course. Within the tutorials, knowledge check quizzes help reinforce learning.

Course Requirements

Teaching Experience: This course is designed for teachers at all levels, from those who are just starting their practice to experienced educators seeking to refine their knowledge and skills.

Program Application: The course includes a number of practical exercises that require learners to consider their own practice and either observe students with certain curricular objectives in mind or individualize an experience for one or more students. In some instances, it is recommended (although not required) that another adult in the program capture video of the learner's interactions with students for later review and reflection.

Course Materials: *The Creative Curriculum® for Kindergarten*, Volumes 1–2, is recommended, but not required. Learners are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these volumes prior to taking the course.

Technical Requirements: Each learner will need access to a computer or tablet with an up-to-date web browser and operating system. The Teaching Strategies learning management system is compatible with the following web browsers: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Internet Explorer, and Safari. Some activities within the course include PDF documents that learners can download. These documents require Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available for download at <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>.