

The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool: Foundation

SYLLABUS

Course Information

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

Duration: 10 hours (self-paced)

Credits: 1.0 CEU

Course Description

General Description: This course helps preschool 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 children at every level. Upon completion of this course, learners will receive a certificate showing that he or she has been awarded 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 interest areas to support children’s development and learning, plan meaningful experiences to support learning in the content areas, confidently assess children’s 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 Preschool*:

1. Using the Objectives to Teach Intentionally (1 hour, 20 minutes)
2. Supporting Development and Learning in the Interest Areas (2 hours, 10 minutes)
3. How Teacher–Child Interactions Support Content Learning (1 hour, 55 minutes)
4. Assessing Children’s Development and Learning (1 hour, 10 minutes)
5. Creating a Classroom Community (1 hour, 40 minutes)
6. Individualizing Instruction (1 hour, 45 minutes)

Each interest contains 5–7 activities that present information in a variety of formats designed to engage teachers with different learning styles. These activities include tutorials (videos, slideshows, interactive experiences, and articles), 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 Children’s Development and Learning
- How Children Grow and Develop Through Play
- Creating Environments That Encourage Child-Initiated Learning
- Connecting Mathematics to Teaching and Learning
- Using Assessment Information to Plan Experiences and Evaluate Development and Learning

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 and caregivers 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 children with certain curricular objectives in mind or individualize an experience for one or more children. In some instances, it is recommended (although not required) that another adult in the program capture video of the learner’s interactions with children for later review and reflection.

Course Materials: *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool*, Sixth Edition, Volumes 1–6, 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/>.