



Using Positive Guidance for an Inclusive, Collaborative Classroom

SYLLABUS

Course Information

Title: Using Positive Guidance for an Inclusive, Collaborative Classroom

Duration: 10 hours (self-paced)

Credits: 1.0 CEU

Course Description

General Description: Everything a teacher does to create a positive social environment in the classroom, to promote children's social-emotional skills, and to help children become competent, enthusiastic learners makes a profound difference in the way those children experience school. This course examines a variety of ways that teachers can intentionally create a positive, supportive classroom environment built upon a foundation of caring relationships. The course looks at practical strategies for establishing and maintaining such an environment, including ways to address a number of child behaviors that adults and other children may sometimes find challenging. Teachers and administrators who work with children in preschool and kindergarten will gain valuable insights into these behaviors and learn positive guidance strategies that pave the way for an inclusive, collaborative classroom community based on caring and mutual respect.

Learners completing this course will receive a training certificate of completion.

Learning Objectives: Learners who complete the course will have a range of strategies at their disposal for both understanding and responding to behaviors they find challenging.

Course Structure: This course, which is conducted entirely online, is available through the Develop area of *MyTeachingStrategies*®. The course is divided into five interests.

- 1) Understanding Social-Emotional Development
- 2) Individualizing Support for Every Child
- 3) Understanding and Responding to Challenging Behaviors
- 4) Creating a Classroom Structure That Promotes Positive Behavior
- 5) How Teacher and Peer Relationships Support Positive Behavior

Each interest contains 6 activities that present information in a variety of formats. These activities include tutorials (slideshows, interactive experiences, and articles), excerpts

from *The Creative Curriculum*[®] foundational volumes, and application exercises that require learners to reflect on their own practice and apply their new knowledge. The course is self-guided and self-paced; learners can view the interests and activities in any order, and they may pause and return to them at any time.

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 administrators at all levels of experience, from those who are just starting their practice to veteran educators seeking to refine their knowledge and skills.

Program/Classroom Application: The course includes a number of practical exercises that require learners to consider their own practice, plan responsively for one or more children, and compare and contrast their approaches with those of other educators.

Course Materials: This course is beneficial for preschool and kindergarten teachers and administrators regardless of the curriculum materials or assessment system used in their program. Prior knowledge of *The Creative Curriculum*[®] foundational volumes—including *Objectives for Development & Learning, Birth Through Third Grade*—is helpful, but not required.

Technical Requirements: Each learner will need access to a computer or tablet device with an up-to-date web browser and operating system. The *MyTeachingStrategies*[®] professional development platform 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/>.