



Getting Started With Studies

SYLLABUS

Course Information

Title: Getting Started With Studies

Duration: 5 hours (self-paced)

Continuing Education Units: 0.5 CEU

Course Description

General Description: This course is intended for teachers in preschool and kindergarten programs who are interested in using the study (or project) approach to learning in their classrooms. This course guides teachers through all three phases of creating a study: beginning the study, investigating the topic, and documenting and celebrating learning. Teachers will learn how to select appropriate study topics that leverage children's interests and natural sense of curiosity; plan engaging, meaningful learning experiences that help children discover answers to their questions; and document and celebrate children's learning.

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

Learning Objectives: Teachers completing this course will be able to do the following:

- Identify the potential benefits of long-term investigations and incorporate those beneficial elements throughout a study;
- describe the three parts of a study and create a web of investigations;
- select appropriate study topics
- generate robust, relevant questions of the day and investigation questions that reflect children's unique strengths, needs, and interests; and
- intentionally plan for, acknowledge, document, and celebrate children's learning, both during the study and at its conclusion, involving families throughout in meaningful ways.

Course Structure: This online course is available through the Develop area of *MyTeachingStrategies*®. The course is divided into three modules, which mirror the three phases of the study approach.

- 1) Beginning the study
- 2) Investigating the topic
- 3) Documenting and celebrating learning

Each interest contains 8 learning experiences that present information in a variety of formats, including tutorials (slideshows, interactives, 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 includes a pre- and post-course survey to measure learners' knowledge at the beginning of the course and at the end of the course, as well as a downloadable study guide. Within the tutorials, knowledge check quizzes help reinforce learning.

Teaching Strategies, LLC, is accredited by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Teaching Strategies complies with the ANSI/IACET Standard, which is recognized internationally as a standard of excellence in instructional practices. As a result of this accreditation, Teaching Strategies is accredited to issue the IACET CEU.

Learners who successfully complete all 24 tutorials in this five-hour (300 minutes) course, correctly answer all knowledge check questions, complete all interactives, and thoughtfully complete the extended response applications, will earn 0.5 Continuing Education Units (CEU).

Course Requirements

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

Program/Classroom Application: The course includes a number of exercises that require learners to consider their own experience, reflect on their own philosophies and beliefs, and practice using the skills and concepts covered in the course content.

Course Materials: 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 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/>.