



Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County Approved Curriculum and Character Development Programs

Curriculum Listing:

- Beyond Centers and Circle
- Creative Curriculum
- DLM Early Childhood Express
- Doors to Discovery
- Galileo
- High Reach
- High Scope
- Montessori (must be used by teachers trained in this approach)
- Reggio Emilia approach (must be used by teachers trained in this approach)
- Wee Learn

Supplementary Resources:

- Active Learning Series
- All About Preschool
- School Readiness Express

Note: Curriculum must meet elements outlined in the Coalition's Position Paper on Curriculum: must be based in theory and research, address the Florida Standards and be developmentally appropriate. Curricula can be combined to create a comprehensive program. School Readiness program providers may use other combinations of curriculum materials not on this list, however they must first meet with a Coalition quality program staff to discuss their approach and demonstrate how it meets the standards and is developmentally appropriate. The Coalition program manager will determine if an alternative selected curriculum is allowable.

*Providers participating in the Look for the Stars Quality Improvement System are expected to have **six hours of training in their chosen curriculum.***

VPK providers are allowed to use the curriculum of their choice as long as the chosen curriculum can be shown to address all domains in the Florida VPK Education Standards. If a VPK provider's kindergarten readiness rate falls into the low performing category the VPK provider must use a curriculum approved by DOE. See DOE OEL website for this listing and procedures.

VPK Providers must complete the required VPK form indicating how their chosen curriculum relates to the VPK standards.

As DOE and/or AWI/OEL issues new guidance or a recommended or approved list of curriculum, then the Coalition will update and revise its list. As new information and research is released, it will also be revised.

Samples of Character Development Programs/Enhancements:

- DECA-Devereux Early Childhood Assessment system for enhancing social and emotional development of young children
- Positive Behavior Support
- I Love You Rituals – Becky A. Bailey
- Kindness Curriculum
- Optimistic Classroom
- Second Step Program for Preschool

- **Resources:**

Character development may be supported through incorporation of materials related to universal mental health support of young children (i.e. materials from Center for Evidence Based Practice: Young Children with Challenging Behavior and Positive Behavior Support, etc)

Materials related to Tolerance, Diversity, Anti-Bullying, Conflict Resolution, Problem Solving, Communication, Expression of Feelings, Development of Empathy, etc.

Programs and specific lessons within a religious curriculum

Note: Developmentally appropriate “Character Development” programs for young children support and strengthen social/emotional skills and should be infused throughout the curriculum. There are many varied ways that a child care provider can incorporate character development programs within their overall programs. The above are examples only, not a definitive listing. Approval is made on a case-by-case basis. New examples are added to the official list on a quarterly basis.

In addition, examples of how to incorporate character development and support for social emotional health in young children are available in the Coalition’s Resource Room.