



The Big Deal

about curriculum

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You may be hearing a lot of talk about curriculum lately. Maybe you think, curriculum is something just for kids and teachers.

Curricula (there are many to choose from) is the how of teaching. The plan for learning. We know so much now about how children learn, and we know that the first five years are essential to all the school learning that comes after. We are building brains. We are giving each child the chance they deserve to be whatever they want to be. The curriculum is how we make sure that children are learning in exactly the ways their brains are capable of, at the right time, and in the right ways.

Using a research-based curriculum aligned to the science of reading is essential for intentional teaching, and it will result in children who are happy and engaged in play, children who come to understand and control their emotions and get along with others, and children who are ready for school. It makes a difference for you, our early childhood educators, too. Activities and opportunities for learning are laid out in ways that make sense and connect smaller skills to those big ones like reading, running, and eating on one's own. Using the curriculum everyday is not only what is right for kids, but it will make your job easier too. It raises the quality of instruction, children's behavior, can help with marketing and enrollment, and even teacher turnover!

DCY will make curricula that already meet the requirements of Ohio Law available to you in the near future. We are also making training, quick, easily accessible useful tips on everyday use of the curriculum available to you soon.

Curriculum is a Big Deal because it lets you help kids be whatever they can be. Caring for and protecting kids helps them survive and teaching them intentionally ensures they thrive. Children who thrive, learn and children who learn, can overcome, can do and be, anything.

If you want to learn more about the [Why, What, and How of Curriculum](#), check out this two-page Issue Brief.