

CES NEWSLETTER June 2023

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Feature Article

The Current State of Preschool Instruction in America

Why should American schools return to more developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction?

reschool instruction in America has shifted towards an emphasis academic achievement, with a decrease in play-based learning and a lack of attention to developmental needs. Research has shown that sustaining developmental progress is most critical during the preschool and kindergarten years.1 However, the current state of preschool instruction in America does not prioritize this developmental progress. Instead, there is a focus on academic achievement, which can be detrimental to children's overall development.2 Many school teachers elementary lack knowledge of child development and developmentally appropriate practices.3 As a result, there is a need to return to more developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the need for developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction. Research has shown that personalized instruction and after-school activities are essential for effective learning.4 Play-based learning has been found to be particularly beneficial for young children, as it fosters their sense of belonging, purpose, and agency.5 Experts have also emphasized the importance of integrating play and learning, as they mutually support each other.⁶ Therefore, it is crucial to prioritize play-based learning in preschool instruction.

Developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction should focus on teaching children skills and ideas adaptively, posing problems and making connections in an effective manner. Research has shown that play-based learning is more effective than direct instruction in promoting children's academic and developmental progress.⁷ Additionally, child-initiated instruction has been found to have a positive impact on school readiness. Therefore, the overall goal of preschool instruction should be to support

excellence in early childhood education through decision-making based on developmentally appropriate practices. By prioritizing developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction, we can ensure healthy development and prevent long-term problems.

The benefits of developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction

Developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction have been found to promote social and emotional development in young children. Research indicates that children who are mentally healthy tend to be happier, show greater motivation to learn, and have a more positive attitude toward school.8 Teachers who intentionally use developmentally appropriate materials and opportunities to teach children to take turns and express their emotions can help foster healthy social and emotional development. By promoting social and emotional development in preschool, children are better equipped to navigate social situations and have a strong foundation for future academic success.9

Developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction also encourage creativity and imagination in young children. According NAEYC, developmentally appropriate practice promotes each child's optimal development and learning through strengths-based, play-based approach.10 Effective instruction poses problems and makes connections, allowing children to build skills and ideas adaptively. By providing opportunities for creative expression and imaginative play, educators can help children develop their creativity and imagination, which are essential skills for future success in school and beyond.11

Another benefit of developmentally appropriate practices in preschool instruction is that they prepare children for future learning

success. By meeting children where they are developmentally and enabling them to learn at their own pace, educators can help lay the foundation for lifelong learning. Research has shown that students who attend preschool programs are more prepared for school and are less likely to be identified as having special needs or to be held back a grade. By providing developmentally appropriate instruction in preschool, children are better equipped to succeed academically and have a strong foundation for future success in a variety of contexts. 13

Implementing developmentally appropriate practices in American preschools

American preschools should prioritize implementing developmentally appropriate practices to improve the overall educational experience for young children. This involves reconsidering the current curriculum standards and aligning them with researchbased curricula that are tailored to the needs Developmentally of voung learners. appropriate practices, or DAP, aim to support excellence in early childhood education by utilizing decision-making that is based on the latest research in child development. By adopting DAP, preschools can create a more effective and engaging learning environment that is better suited to the needs of young children.14

Research has shown that child-initiated instructional practices are more effective than teacher-directed practices in early childhood Therefore, education. preschools should provide professional development opportunities for teachers to help them gain a deeper understanding of DAP and how to implement it in their classrooms. This can include training on how to develop ageappropriate lesson plans, how to assess student progress, and how to create a safe and supportive learning environment for young children. By investing in the professional development of teachers, preschools can ensure that they have the necessary skills and knowledge to provide high-quality education to young learners.

There are two outstanding curricula available that support DAP very well. The Creative Curriculum is very highly prescriptive and is absolutely the best choice for programs where the teachers lack a complete degree-based educational background and may have difficulty designing prioritized interventions for individual students.¹⁵ Head Start programs are well served by this curriculum. High Scope! is the other superb program. It provides strategies and concept approaches very manageably integrated by teachers who are professionally capable of designing and implementing complex instructional lesson plans, able to make high-level decisions regarding individual student instructional intervention.16 Both these programs, implemented with integrity, will accomplish great strides in holding preschool instruction at a developmental level appropriate to these early childhood students.

Developmentally appropriate practices prioritize learning through play, which is essential for young children's cognitive, social, and emotional development.¹⁷ Researchbased curricula that incorporate play-based learning can help children develop a wide range of skills and strategies that are adapted to their age and development level.18 Effective instruction should pose problems and make connections, helping children build skills and ideas adaptively. By adopting these practices, American preschools can provide a strong foundation for future academic success and lifelong learning.

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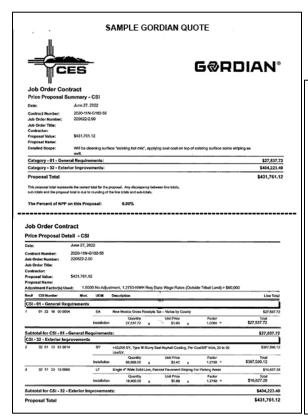
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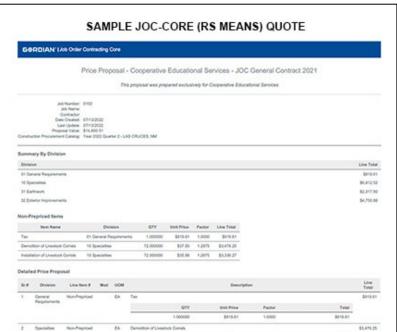
Supporting Sources:

- Chapter:6 Educational Practices, from https://www.nap.edu/read/19401/chapter/12
- ² Early Childhood: Developmentally Appropriate Practices, from https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/devel-approp
- 3 Developmentally-appropriate practice in the classroom, from https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu
- 4 COVID-19 and student performance, equity, and U.S. ..., from https://www.epi.org
- 5 The Power of Playful Learning in the Early Childhood Setting, from https://www.naeyc.org
- 6 Play-Based Learning vs. Academics in Preschool, from https://www.usnews.com
- Play-based learning, from https://www.child-encyclopedia.com/pdf/complet/play-based-learning
- 8 Promoting Young Children's Social and Emotional Health, from https://www.naeyc.org
- 9 What is early childhood education?, from https://www.umassglobal.edu
- DAP: Defining Developmentally Appropriate
 Practice, from
 https://www.naeyc.org/resources/positionstatements/dap/definition
- Cultivating Creativity and Innovation: Environments and ..., from https://www.virtuallabschool.org/fcc/creative-expression/lesson-3
- What Does the Research Really Say About Preschool ..., from https://learningpolicyinstitute.org
- Parenting Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices, from https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK4020 20/
- A top researcher says it's time to rethink our entire ..., from https://www.npr.org
- The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool, 6th Edition, from https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/curriculum/consumer-report/curricula/creative-curriculum-preschool-6th-edition
- HighScope: What to Expect, from https://highscope.org/infosessions/
- 17 Learning Through Play at School A Framework for Policy ..., from https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fe duc.2022.751801/full
- 18 Research-Based Curriculum / ECLKC, from https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/resea rch-based-curriculum

Order Corner

When using a "Gordian" or an "RS Means" contract to order construction services, you should expect your quote from the CES Vendor to be in the appropriate format. If it's a "letterhead quote" from the Vendor, there will be a delay in the processing. The Vendors have been informed, and you can help expedite the process by helping set this expectation for their quote.





Job Opportunities

CES Ancillary Positions Open:

- Adaptive Physical Educator Region 4
- Audiologist Regions 1, 3, 4
- Behavior Management Specialist Region 4
- Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant Regions 2, 4
- Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist Regions 4, 8
- Diagnostician Regions 4, 6, 8
- Occupational Therapist Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7

- Physical Therapist Regions 1, 2, 4, 6
- Registered Nurse Regions 1, 2, 3, 4
- School Psychologist Regions 2, 3, 4
- Social Worker Regions 4, 8
- Social Worker (Regular Education) Region 2
- Speech/Language Pathologist Regions 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8

Other CES Openings:

- Purchasing Specialist
- Chief Operating Officer
- Grant Management Director
- Professional Services Staff

Watch for CES job postings on www.indeed.com.

Procurement News

1) Contract Expirations

17-011A & 17-011B - Playground, Recreational, Water Parks, Swimming Pools, Skate Parks & Surfaces: Layout, Equipment, Accessories, Replacement Parts, and Related Products-No Installation-Site Furnishings-Surfacing:

Creative Recreational Designs, The Playwell Group, Pool Pro, LLC, Play Solutions, Inc.,

2) New Contract Awards:

RFP	Awardee	Contract Number
2023-13 (AEPA) 023.5-B Playground & Recreational Equipment	Kompan Inc. RCP Shelters (New Vendor) Romtec, Inc.	2023-13-A111-ALL 2023-13-A112-ALL 2023-13-A113-ALL
2023-15 Indoor/Outdoor Seating, Lockers, Sports Padding Cat 1 – Lot 1 – Turnkey	Norcon of New Mexico, LLC School Equipment, Inc. A K Sales & Consulting, Inc.	2023-15-C111-ALL 2023-15-C112-ALL 2023-15-C113-ALL
2023-15 Indoor/Outdoor Seating, Lockers, Sports Padding Cat 1 – Lot 2 – Product Only	Norcon of New Mexico, LLC School Equipment, Inc. A K Sales & Consulting, Inc.	2023-15-C121-ALL 2023-15-C122-ALL 2023-15-C123-ALL

2023-16 (Replaces 17-011A&B) Playground, Recreational, Pool, Waterparks Category 1-Lot 1 Design, Installation, Maintenance, Replacement Parts, Removal, Site Prep (Turnkey)	Lone Mountain Contracting, Inc. A K Sales & Consulting Inc. School Equipment Inc. Four Rivers Inc. Hansen & Prezzano Builders LLC Exerplay, Inc Sand Digging It Landscapes, Inc. The Playwell Group, Inc.	2023-16-C111-ALL 2023-16-C112-ALL 2023-16-C113-ALL 2023-16-C114-ALL 2023-16-C115-ALL 2023-16-C116-ALL 2023-16-C117-ALL 2023-16-C118-ALL
2023-16 (Replaces 17-011A&B) Playground, Recreational, Pool, Waterparks Category 1-Lot 2 Equipment & Replacement Parts (Product Only)	A K Sales & Consulting Inc. PLAY, LLC Creative Recreational Designs School Equipment Inc. Altitude Recreation Exerplay, Inc. The Playwell Group Inc. 4B Recreation Group	2023-16-C121-ALL 2023-16-C122-ALL 2023-16-C123-ALL 2023-16-C124-ALL 2023-16-C125-ALL 2023-16-C126-ALL 2023-16-C127-ALL 2023-16-C128-ALL
2023-16 (Replaces 17-011A&B) Playground, Recreational, Pool, Waterparks Category 2-Lot 2 Equipment & Replacement Parts (Product Only)	Creative Recreational Designs	2023-16-C221-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 1 - Lot 1 Synthetic Turf Product, Equipment, Installation, Maintenance and Repairs (Turnkey)	Robert Cohen Co LLC TurfScapes of New Mexico, LLC Lone Mountain Contracting, Inc. A K Sales & Consulting Inc Four Rivers Inc.	2023-17-C111-ALL 2023-17-C112-ALL 2023-17-C113-ALL 2023-17-C114-ALL 2023-17-C115-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 1 - Lot 2 Synthetic Turf Product and Equipment Only	TurfScapes of New Mexico, LLC A K Sales & Consulting Inc	2013-17-C121-ALL 2013-17-C122-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 2 - Lot 1 Natural Grass Product, Equipment, Installation, Maintenance and Repairs (Turnkey)	Robert Cohen Co LLC Lone Mountain Contracting, Inc. Four Rivers Inc. Accent Landscape Contractors. Inc. Organic Technology International	2023-17-C211-ALL 2023-17-C212-ALL 2023-17-C213-ALL 2023-17-C214-ALL 2023-17-C215-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 2 - Lot 2 Natural Grass Products and Equipment Only	Organic Technology International	2023-17-C221-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 3 - Lot 1 Athletic Tracks, Tennis, Basket and Pickle Ball Courts, Products, Equipment, Installation, Maintenance and Repairs	Robert Cohen Co LLC Lone Mountain Contracting, Inc. A K Sales & Consulting Inc	2023-17-C311-ALL 2023-17-C312-ALL 2023-17-C313 -ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 3 - Lot 2 Athletic Tracks, Tennis, Basket, and Pickle Ball Courts Products and Equipment Only	A K Sales & Consulting Inc	2023-17-C321-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 4 - Lot 1 Synthetic Turf Product for Playgrounds, Parks, and Landscaping Applications, Equipment, Installation, Maintenance and Repairs (Turnkey)	Robert Cohen Co LLC A K Sales & Consulting Inc TurfScapes of New Mexico, LLC Lone Mountain Contracting, Inc.	2023-17-C411-ALL 2023-17-C412-ALL 2023-17-C413-ALL 2023-17-C411-ALL
2023-17 Athletic Surfaces, Turf, Tracks, Courts Category 4 - Lot 2 Synthetic Turf Product for Playgrounds, Parks, and Landscaping Applications and Equipment Only (Product Only)	A K Sales & Consulting Inc TurfScapes of New Mexico, LLC	2021-17-C421-ALL 2021-17-C422-ALL
2023-18 School Business Office Management	Axiom Analytics K12 Accounting LLC	2023-18-C111-ALL 2023-18-C112-ALL

3) Current & Upcoming Solicitations:

RFP#	RFP Description	Release	Pre-Prop.	Due	Award
2023-19	Utility Vehicles, Grounds Maintenance Equipment 2020-01 Exp. 8/14/23	5/22/23	5/31/23 (10:00am)	6/23/23	7/25/23
2023-20	Structured Cabling Services, 2020-13 Exp. 10/24/23	5/22/23	5/31/23 (10:00 am)	6/23/23	8/01/23
2023-21	Manufactured Housing, 2020-16 Exp. 11/4/2023	5/22/23	5/31/23 (10:00am)	6/23/23	7/25/23

4) Additional News:

CES/AT&T

FirstNet School Safety Bundle is now available in NM. Pricing is in the Bluebook.

June 6 - Unveiling for NM only at AT&T Headquarters

June 8 – Unveiling for all of the US at AT&T Headquarters

*CES is the only cooperative in the US where the *FirstNet School Safety Bundle* can be purchased.

For Fun!

Rushing up to a large airline's ticket counter, a man gasped, "Miss, please help me. I must get to Chicago in the worst way!"

The clerk calmly pointed to her left and said, "Sir, that would be the airline next to us."

I was visiting my son the other night when I asked if I could borrow a newspaper.

"Dad, this is the 21st century," he said. "I don't waste my money on newspapers. But if you like, you can borrow my iPad."

I can tell you this: That spider never knew what hit him.

A traveling salesman, caught in a torrential rainstorm, stopped overnight at a farmhouse. In the morning, he looked out at a flood coursing through the front yard. He watched pieces of fence, chicken coops, branches, and an old straw hat floating past with the current. Then he saw the straw hat come back, upstream past the house! Then he saw it go down again. Pretty soon it came back upstream—and by now the salesman wondered if he had gone crazy. Finally, he called the farmer's daughter.

"Oh," she said, after a glance out the window, "that must be Grandpa. He said yesterday that regardless of hell or high water he was going to mow the yard today."

Calendar of Events

4/1 April Fool's Day

6/1 NMSBA School Law Conference 6/6 D-Day, WWII 6/9 PED FII Workshop - Albuquerque 6/12-16 NM Counties Annual Conference 6/14 Flag Day 6/14 PED FII Workshop - Deming

6/18 Father's Day
6/19 Juneteenth Day
6/21 June Solstice (First Official Day of Summer)
6/21 PED FII Workshop -Ruidoso

JUNE 2023							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI SAT		
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30		

"Compliance Corner" and "Reading Room Fluency" will again be published in the Fall.

Bulletin Board





2023 School Law Conference

June 1-3, 2023, Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

The New Mexico School Boards Association and the Cuddy and McCarthy Law Firm will host the 44th Annual School Law Conference for school board members, superintendents and school personnel. The conference features presentations on the latest legal issues facing public education and includes numerous breakout sessions to assist new and veteran school board members, administrators and educators.



New Mexico Public Education Department

Superintendents, District Business Managers and School Site Program Managers are invited to join PED for upcoming Family Income Index Regional Sessions! Breakfast, lunch, and mileage are provided. Mileage will be reimbursed for two vehicles per district 60 miles away one way. All sessions will cover the same material from 9am to 3pm starting on June 1st.

Register via the following link today!

https://tinyurl.com/FamilyIncomeIndex





BREAKFAST, LUNCH, & MILEAGE PROVIDED

Register at https://forms.gle/BRAcikH4FB92F2Y59

ESPANOLA, ALBUQUERQUE, DEMING, & RUIDOSO



Principal Learning Institute

Resolve to Evolve: Deepening Campus Learning, Feedback, and Communication

June 12th and 13th 8:30am-4:00pm

Address:

Ruidoso High School 125 Warrior Dr Ruidoso, NM 88345



To Register:

https://tinyurl.com/Ruidoso-PLI

Join us for the New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders Connections Conference



July 17-20, 2023 Embassy Suites by Hilton 1000 Woodward Pl NE, Albuquerque, NM





Virtual, June 12-15; https://tinyurl.com/CB-PED-Jun-B

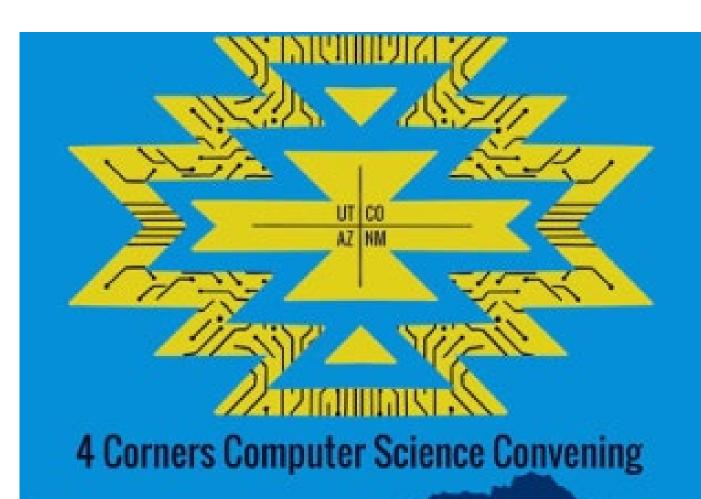
2023 Educators Rising Summer Professional Development

In Person, June 5-8: https://tinyurl.com/CB-PED-Jun-A

Summer teacher professional development will be held in Las Cruces from June 12-14, 2023. All teachers will receive a stipend for participation.

Draft Agenda

Monday, June 12th: (ALL DAY) Teacher Academy I - NM Curriculum Training Tuesday, June 13th: (8:30am - Noon) Teacher Academy I - NM Curriculum Training Tuesday, June 13th: (Noon - 5pm) Teacher Academy II Wednesday, June 14th: (All Day) Teacher Academy II



FREE CS CONFERENCE FT. LEWIS COLLEGE

JULY 2023

Save the Vales

09 JULY

11 JULY 2023

More Information https://tinyurl.com/cbe9eja9

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