Early Education Agenda

- The Great Debate – What is early childhood education?
- What is appropriate to teach and assess in the early years?
- Why assessment is important?

NAEYC position paper, November 2015

Qualitatively Different Thinking Processes

- Piaget - Developmental Stages
- Don’t look now…I’m trying to think
  Doherty-Sneddon, Gwyneth
  Psychologist; Feb 2004; ProQuest Psychology Journals, p. 82
- Connecting the right brain and left brain
  Age and sex differences

I am thinking. Hmm, what's this?

Developmentally Appropriate?

The Developmental Domains

- The Developmental Sciences
  Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.
- NJAECY Policy Paper, November 2015

Bloom’s Taxonomy

Physical
Social
Emotional
Cognitive
The Emotional – Cognitive domain Transition

Reflexes  Emotional Filter  Cognitive
(New born)  (Until age 7 - 8)  (8 – to adolescent years)

Consider:
• Every child has different environmental experiences
• Every child has DNA or genetic material that is affected by experiences

Student Activities and Brain Facts

INTERVENTION ACTIVITY
Alphabet Writing with Clay
Instructions:
Materials:

What we know about Literacy

- Comprehension precedes production
- Phonemic awareness -
  Reading in the Brain by Stanislas Dehaene, Ph.D.

  • The importance of phonics instruction
  • Early childhood predictors of learning to read
    o a child’s understanding of the sound system of the language (phonological awareness)
    o the size of a child’s spoken vocabulary
What is appropriate – academically speaking?

Preschool

Literacy Strands

- Oral Language
- Phonological Awareness
- Alphabet Knowledge
- Print Awareness

What is appropriate – academically speaking? K-3

Literacy Strands

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Vocabulary
- Reading Comprehension
- Fluency
- Listening and Writing

Language Connections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strand</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phonemic Awareness</td>
<td>International Literacy Association (ILA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phonics</td>
<td>National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Comprehension</td>
<td>ACSI Website – Intervention Activities</td>
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<td>Fluency</td>
<td>Necessary Supportive Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listening and Writing</td>
<td>Play (Conversations = practice)</td>
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<td>Group games</td>
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<td>Child appropriate songs (Down by the Bay)</td>
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<td>Crossword</td>
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<td>Riddles</td>
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<td>Jokes</td>
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What we know about mathematics based on brain research

- We are born with a basic understanding of numbers.

- “As humans, we are born with multiple intuitions concerning numbers, sets, continuous quantities, iteration, logic, or the geometry of space.”

  Number Sense by Stanislas Dehaene, Ph.D.
What is appropriate to teach – academically speaking? K-3

Mathematic Strands
- Number and Operations
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Algebra – MUSIC and the ARTS
- Data Analysis and Probability – What if questions? Interest?

First Performances™, Key Concepts

Math Connections

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<th>Strand</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number operations</td>
<td>National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)</td>
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<td>Geometry</td>
<td>National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)</td>
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<td>Measurement</td>
<td>Ohio Resource Center</td>
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<td>ACSI Website – Intervention Activities</td>
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<td>Algebra</td>
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<td>• Play</td>
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<td>• Block building</td>
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<td>• Checkers</td>
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<td>• Chess</td>
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<td>• Origami</td>
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<td>• Jig Saw puzzles</td>
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<td>• Sudoku</td>
</tr>
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<td>• Tangrams</td>
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Benchmark Performance Math
Art and Algebra – sets, patterns, categories

Mathematics - Algebra

INTERVENTION ACTIVITY

Cars and Tires

Grade: 2

Purpose:
In this activity, children use concrete materials to create a pattern in a table, in order to solve a problem. This activity teaches how to recognize and use a pattern in a table.

Materials:
• small toy cars, number of cars, number of tires, and number of wheels

Appropriate assessment to show progress

• Assess readiness for the concepts students will encounter in higher grades
• Child appropriate materials
• Designed as pre and post yearly assessment
  • Midway through the Fall semester
  • Midway through the Spring semester

Continued…
**Appropriate assessment for the early years**

- Individual
- Group Activity
- Puppet Activity
- Timing
  - Assess several children in a day
  - Flexible time structure – can assess child over multiple days
- Independent assessment instrument
- A standardized assessment requires scripted directions

**Why a standardized assessment?**

Teacher’s Guide - Sets requirements for test administrator
Staff Development DVD
Appropriate materials
Observation and scoring records
Intervention Activities

**Appropriate assessment for the early years**

- Benchmarks - Show growth
- Provide activities – that can be personalized for each student
  - Multi-sensory activities
  - Provide additional instruction to students who have scored below benchmarks.
  - (Provide reinforcement for those who have mastered)
Organize data

Materials

Scripted directions

Puppet

Fox in the Box, K-3 Literacy Assessment:

- Letter to Parents (English and Spanish)
- Class Record Sheets
- Class Spelling Record Sheets
- Comprehensive Benchmarks
- General Guide for Assessing Story Retelling
- General Writing Rubrics (Samples)
- General Writing Organizers
- Glossary of Literacy Terms
- Bibliography – Additional Resources
Multiple Types of Assessment

- An Independent tool for language and math assessment
- Student Portfolio
- Observations

Why assessment is important

Is there growth?

- A plan for an appropriately rich environment
  - For the young student
  - Early childhood classroom
- Working with Parents
  - Home activities
  - Letter to parents (English and Spanish)
- Intervention Activities

Sharing information with parents

- The benchmarks provide specific language for discussing student progress
- Activities:
  - Parents can help their children by playing games – Yahtzee (for math), Uno
  - Music and the arts
  - Vocabulary is important – 20 Questions
Summary

• Why assessment is important?
  o Informs instruction, helps parents, and provides a picture of student performance

• What is appropriate to teach and assess in the early years?
  o Look to the developmental sciences.

• The Great Debate – What is early childhood education?

Questions?

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Thank You!