
Why is HIPPY Important to You and Your Child?

Emphasizes the family unit

- Both parents and children participate
- Other children and significant adults may join in
- Based on home visits

Builds on family strengths

- Recognizes the parent as the primary teacher
- Provides the parent with a leadership role
- Incorporates parents' ideas

Makes participation voluntary

- Parents are recruited or referred, but not mandated to participate
- Parents continuously receive benefits and see progress

Addresses family needs comprehensively

- Access to services through SEARK Education Co-Op
- Parent and child needs are incorporated into the curriculum activities (structure for parents and developmentally appropriate for child)

Provides nurturing connections with others

- Parents have the opportunity to strengthen their bond with their child
- Parents meet others in their community in a non-threatening setting
- Parents make lasting relationships with other parents, their homebased educator and their program coordinator

Works to prevent crises

- Home visits are effective for early intervention
- Appropriate referrals can be made based on the family's needs
- Parents receive information regarding special services available

Respects individual and cultural differences

- HIPPY is available in several languages
- Curriculum is culturally varied, providing a variety of ethnic, geographic and cultural settings
- Staff development of coordinators and homebased educators reflects diverse needs