



HEAD START FACTS:

Did you know?

What programs are offered at Head Start to prepare children for Kindergarten?

Head Start Curriculum focusing on School Readiness

The Office of Head Start, in accordance with the Head Start Act, has established “Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework” that is to be used as a guide to develop school readiness goals.

The Early Childhood Advocates at Action, Inc. Head Start, along with the Education Staff, are responsible to guide curriculum, implementation and assessment to plan learning experiences that align to School Readiness. Learning Experiences are planned in five key areas: Social & Emotional Development, Approaches to Learning, Language & Literacy, Cognition & General Knowledge, and Physical Development & Health. Within each of these areas, there are specific objectives that must be planned and implemented with Head Start children.

A specific curriculum program along with various supplemental programs assist in developing a plan of action, to implement activities and to formally assess child progress three times a year.

Our main curriculum program is “**The Creative Curriculum**”. It provides information and activities that complement the “Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework” requirements to obtain school readiness.

The Creative Curriculum recognizes that children have individual rates of development and classroom staff individualize to meet the needs of all children. Parents are recognized as the primary educators of their children and are encouraged to become involved in the development of the curriculum ideas and approach to child development and education. This information is used to plan child classroom activities and to inform parents of their child’s development and progress, as well as, parent-child activities to complete at home.

Supplemental Curriculums also integrated at Head Start include the following:

Social-Emotional Foundations:

During the first six weeks of school, teachers incorporate social-emotional skills into their lesson plans with the use of Creative Expression (music, movement and drama, art), Language and Literacy (books), Physical Development, and Health and Safety. Weeks 1 & 2 Goal: Introducing the 4 R’s- Relationships, Routines, Rules, and Rituals. Week 3 Goal: Help children identify their feelings and emotions/feelings and emotions of others. Week 4 Goal: To recognize strong feelings/use self-control and calming techniques. Weeks 5 & 6 Goal: Problem solving with skills of sharing, trading, and working together.

Conscious Discipline

This program has been named the national model for character education. Educators and parents are empowered with the skills to respond rather than react to life events. Children learn empowerment and confidence building through fun songs and activities.

Heggerty

This is a 10-12 minute daily, oral, and auditory "ear training" program designed to build foundational phonemic awareness in young readers (Pre-K to 3rd grade). It focuses on helping children hear, identify, and manipulate individual sounds in spoken words—without looking at letters—through rhyme, blending, and segmenting, which prepares them for reading and spelling.

Second Step- Personal Safety

This curriculum discusses all kinds of safety (pedestrian, fire and gun) and slowly works into talking about personal safety and keeping their body safe. It empowers children to learn when they should say “no”.

Al’s Pals

Al’s Pals is a SEL curriculum for preschool that provides young children with the skills to prepare for life’s challenges through interactive lessons, engaging puppets, original music, and impactful teaching approaches.

(CALENDER ON OTHER SIDE)