Capable, Confident, and Curious

NOVA SCOTIA’S EARLY LEARNING CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

EARLY YEARS BRANCH

SUMMER 2018
High quality early learning programs are the foundation of successful lifelong learning, development, health, and well-being.
‘All the interactions, experiences, activities, routines and events, planned and unplanned, that occur in an environment designed to foster children’s learning and development.’
Capable, Confident, and Curious

- Focus on children from birth to 8 years old
- Intended for regulated centre-based programs and Pre-primary Programs
- May be used in other early childhood settings
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Outlines:

• Image of the Child
• Influences of Family, Community, and Nova Scotia’s Cultural Heritage
• Early Learning Principles
• Early Learning Practices
• Learning Goals, Objectives, and Strategies
Image of the Child

Curious, competent, full of potential, and born with an intrinsic desire and capacity to learn
Principles of Early Learning

- Play Based Learning
- Relationships
- Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity
- Learning Environment
- Reflective Practice
Practice in Early Learning

- Holistic approaches
- Responsiveness to children
- Intentional teaching
- Valuing the cultural and social contexts of Children
- Continuity of learning
- Authentic assessment
Learning Goals

**Well Being**
- Safe, secure and supported
- Social and emotional well-being
- Awareness of health and physical wellbeing
- Confident self-identities

**Discovery and Invention**
- Creativity, commitment, persistence, confidence and imagination
- Problem-solving, inquiry, experimentation, research and investigation

**Language and Communication**
- Verbal and non-verbal skills
- Ideas through a range of media
- Symbols and patterns
- Access information and represent their thoughts
- Strong foundations in French

**Personal and Social Responsibility**
- Empathy and respect
- Respond to diversity with respect
- Aware of fairness
- Environmental awareness
- Belonging to groups and communities
Educators’ Guide Outlines:

- Reviews the key elements of the Framework
- Poses strategies and reflection inquiry approaches for educators
- Provides further explanation of the pedagogical practices
- Culture and Implications for Practice
- Describes the experiences of educators during the Framework’s pilot implementation phase
- Provides a list of helpful resources
Pilot Implementation Phase

Pilot involved a sample of 41 regulated centres and 2 Early Years Centres who participated in:

• Provincial and regional in-service training sessions
• Centre staff meetings
• On-site consultation
• Feedback including surveys, interviews, etc.
Role of ECD Consultants

• Work closely with child care centres and Pre-primary programs in their region to provide consultation, support, and mentoring
• Attend staff meetings as relevant to share information and expectations
• Support and facilitate “communities of learning” where relevant
• Support child care centres and Pre-primary Programs with resources, information
Stages of Engagement

Infusion of Early Learning Framework: All six principles are embedded in the program’s philosophy, policies and are demonstrated in practice.

Utilization of Early Learning Framework: Provides a framework for program planning and child observation.

Alignment with Early Learning Framework: Reflective practice on program delivery and curriculum, consideration of principles, etc.

Evaluation of the Pilot

- Overall positive feedback
- Centres are at different stages of engagement (knowledge, alignment, utilization and infusion)
  - Most between infusion and utilization (over 70%)
- Centres confirmed level of framework adaptation:
  - 41% identified as having infused the framework
  - 30% identified as utilizing the framework
  - 26% identified as other; in between stages
  - 3% identified as being at the alignment stage
Lessons Learned

• Timing is critical
• Face to face peer interaction
• Coaching, mentoring and on-site support was a key to success
• Not a “cookie cutter” approach
Professional Development (PD)

For Capable, Confident and Curious Curriculum Framework (2018 to 2020)

• PD training sessions for Directors, Pedagogical leaders, ECEs
• 2 modules per session (8 modules)
• 2 year time frame

Session 1: Fall 2018

• Module 1: Image of the Child
• Module 2: Pedagogical Leadership
What’s Next

Roll-out of Framework and Guide in August 2018

Professional Development for Framework begins Fall 2018

Full implementation Fall 2018

On-line e-learning course begins Fall/Winter 2018
Questions!