



## **Curriculum Fidelity – 0-5**

### **APPROACH:**

Southern Oregon Head Start ensures curriculum fidelity, which is the extent to which a curriculum is implemented as teachers use instructional strategies and deliver the content and process of the curriculum in the way to be used and delivered.

Curriculum fidelity involves:

- Curriculum differentiation – choosing our curriculum to meet the needs of the program
- Curriculum adherence – or the extent to which our curriculum components are delivered as described in the curriculum manuals, the components that make up the curriculum and the different strategies or practices outlined in how to deliver them
- Curriculum quality – how we prepare teachers to implement curriculum, including training and coaching provided to help teachers feel confident about implementing the curriculum.

The instructional strategies included in the curriculum are implemented with fidelity, consistency, frequency, and intensity to ensure children's mastery of a skill. Children make more gains when teachers faithfully implement the teaching strategies or curriculum.

#### **HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:**

1302.32 Curricula. (a) Curricula. And 1302.35 Education in Home Based programs (2) A program must support staff to effectively implement curricula and at a minimum monitor curriculum implementation and fidelity, and provide support, feedback, and supervision for continuous improvement of its implementation through the system of training and professional development.

1302.92 (b)(5) Research-based approaches to professional development for education staff who are focused on effective curricula implementation.

### **PROCEDURE:**

Head Start's primary curriculum is the Creative Curriculum for Preschool, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition and the Child Protection Unit from 2<sup>nd</sup> Step Curriculum. Head Start also utilizes Conscious Discipline and other components from Second Step for a Social-Emotional learning resource. Head Start Home Bases Home Visitors also use the forementioned curriculum and learning resources.

Early Head Start curriculum includes Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers & Twos and Partners for a Healthy Baby for our Home-Based Curriculum. Conscious Discipline is utilized as a social-emotional resource.

Fidelity assessment tools:

- Creative Curriculum Teacher Fidelity Checklist
- Creative Curriculum Administrator Fidelity Checklist
- CLASS observations
- Education Monitoring Tools
- HOVRS observations
- Partners for a Healthy Baby Fidelity Tool for Coaches
- Review of lesson plans, including:
  - Child and class Individualization
  - How closely planned learning experiences match the goals for the activity and materials needed to implement the activity or an aspect of the curriculum

Training and coaching are provided to education staff focused on curriculum implementation. Training is provided ongoing and as needed to individual staff at the center level by Education Coaches and Education Supervisors who are trained by Creative Curriculum trainers. New Teachers/Specialists are trained entering the program during New Teacher Content training and throughout the year during New Teacher Cohort Training.

Education Department staff and center education staff review child progress and outcomes regularly and adjust lesson plans to meet the needs of children, attain positive outcomes and achievement of school readiness goals. Curriculum is directly utilized in creating all lesson plans and support individual child goals.