

Write Your Own Curriculum!

90-minute Workshop Presented by:

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Course Overview:

Develop your own curriculum the fun, easy way with Deborah's system. In fact, you'll get 52 weeks' worth of theme-based unit plans FREE for attending this workshop!

Learner Objectives:

- ✓ By the end of this workshop, you will be able to
- ✓ Identify the key characteristics of a "good" child care provider
- ✓ List the key components of a "good" child care curriculum for home-based child care programs
- ✓ Write your own theme-based curriculum and unit plans

What makes a "good" child care provider/teacher?

What should be included in a "good" curriculum?

Internet Resources for Fingerplays & Action Songs:

My folder-style theme units don't list the fingerplays to be used in the unit because I don't know who owns copyright. You can find most of them listed 10-12 times or more on the internet, so I decided to give you a list of websites where you can find free fingerplays to use with your children:

www.preschoolrainbow.org
www.childcarelounge.com
www.perpetualpreschool.com/preschoolsongs.html
www.naturallearning.com
www.fun-baby-games-online.com/preschool-fingerplays-and-songs.html
www.preschooleducation.com/sflower.shtml
www.preschoolexpress.com/music_station.shtml
www.successful-homeschooling.com
www.sqedunk.com
www.creativeteaching.com
www.head-start.lane.or.us/education/activities/music/songs-fingerplays.html
www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/ninos/songsrhymes.html
www.nncc.org/Literacy/fingplus.html
www.angelfire.com/la/kinderthemes/ofingerplays.html
www.kellscraft.com/FingerPlays/FingerPlaysContentPage.html
www.bry-backmanor.org/dinosaurs/dinofingerplays.html
www.educationoasis.com/curriculum/Music_Movement/fingerplays_actionverses.html
www.childfun.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=427
<http://teachers.net/mentors/kindergarten/topic59182/7.14.08.09.33.59.html>
www.slideshare.net/bogeybear/finger-plays-rhymes-and-songs/

You will want to choose 5-10 fingerplays to teach your children, depending on their ages. If they are 0-2, for example, you may only teach them 1 or 2 fingerplays during the week. The older children will want more. Repetition is the key to learning, and children will love doing fingerplays and action songs with you—even the little ones! Babies can watch your hand movements and facial expressions and be delighted with the attention, so don't be hesitant to use fingerplays with infants!

Curriculum Folders/Theme-based Unit Plans:

You can download a whole year's worth (or more!) of theme-based unit plans prepared especially for this folder approach from my website at www.ChildCareSeminars.com. Click on the "Folders" link on the left side of the screen and you will see a list at the bottom of the page. All files have been saved as .pdf files, so you will need the free Adobe Acrobat Reader to view them. Print the files to make your folders, or change them to suit your particular style. If you would like them emailed to you as .doc or .rtf files, email me (info@childcareseminars.com) and I will send them to you so you can make your changes.

The website currently contains about half a year's worth of theme units, but I will have the rest of them on the website by the end of July. If you'd like me to work up a theme unit that is not listed there, let me know and I'll be happy to do it... but after today's workshop, you should feel more confident in your ability to write your own unit plans.

I am always available as a "sounding board" if you just want to run an idea past me, so feel free to contact me at any time. Contact information is at the top of this handout.

What Should Be Included in a “Good” Curriculum?

- ❑ Active & Quiet Times – be sure to find a good balance between these or you’ll go crazy! :)
- ❑ Art
- ❑ Dramatic Play
- ❑ Fine Motor
- ❑ Gross Motor
- ❑ Group Time
- ❑ Individual Time – we usually call this “free play”
- ❑ Indoor & Outdoor Activities
- ❑ Literacy – no, I don’t mean to put this at the bottom of the list!
- ❑ Lunch – and some of you serve other meals!
- ❑ Math
- ❑ Music
- ❑ Nap
- ❑ Reading
- ❑ Science
- ❑ Self-help Skills – dressing, toileting, etc.
- ❑ Snacks
- ❑ Tactile Stimulation

You might also want to jot down a few ideas for field trips, room decorations or set-up, and how to adapt an activity for a child with special needs.

Books

On your folder themes, you will find that I have listed a LOT of books. You don’t have to own all of these books, nor are you expected to use all of them. Even 4 or 5 good books on the topic, read several times (and you know the children always want favorites read over and over!) will suffice, and can be found at your local public library. I just wanted to give you some options....