

January 2012

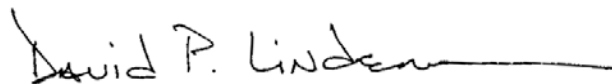
Dear Colleague,

Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) has been associated with early childhood education for many years. As the field of early childhood education shifts its orientation to standards based outcomes it is important to revisit DAP in light of that movement. Educators should not consider these two frameworks as separate and opposing entities, but rather complimentary foundations to build on while focusing on what a child already knows and move them forward in acquiring skills and knowledge. The standards help to guide the educator regarding what a child should know and DAP provides the structure and method for teaching to those standards. The best early childhood practitioners know that it is not only what you teach, but how you teach it that creates a high quality program for children and families a like.

This packet will describe the foundations of DAP, identify intentional, engaging strategies to help the educator meet the needs of all students, take the reader through the steps of adapting activities to create individually appropriate activities in their classroom and discuss the important role families play in developmentally appropriate practice. It will inform you of the current research regarding DAP, and through the practical examples, assist you in reflecting on your individual practice as it relates to DAP. Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues and disseminate as appropriate.

Gathering this information has been a collaborative effort of KITS staff. We hope that when you have taken the time to review this packet you will find that it contains helpful information. After you have examined the packet, please complete the enclosed evaluation and return it to us at the address provided on the form or complete the evaluation online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y2TWYZ6>. Thank you for your interest and your efforts toward the development of quality services and programs for young children and their families.

Sincerely,



David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

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Developmentally Appropriate Practices Packet Evaluation

This packet has been developed as a resource to enable you to understand the issues related to Developmentally Appropriate Practices. Please evaluate how helpful this packet has been for you.

Please check the parts of the packet that you found most helpful. In the space provided briefly tell us how or why each part was helpful to you.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Overview</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Assessment</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Creating a Caring Community of Learners</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Developing Reciprocal Relationships with Families</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Teaching to Enhance Development and Learning</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Play</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Planning Appropriate Curriculum</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>References and Resources</i> |

Please identify why each part you checked was helpful:

Please check the parts of the packet that you found were not helpful to you. Then in the space provided, briefly tell us how or why each part was of little use to you.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Overview</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Assessment</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Creating a Caring Community of Learners</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Developing Reciprocal Relationships with Families</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Teaching to Enhance Development and Learning</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Play</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Planning Appropriate Curriculum</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>References and Resources</i> |

Please identify what about this part(s) made it of little use:

Please tell us what was not available in the packet that would have been helpful to you.

Please describe how you plan to use the information in this packet.

Other comments or suggestions for future packets:

Thank you for completing this form and returning it to us!
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