

*Implementing the Florida Standards in Early Learning Classrooms: Birth to Kindergarten
Course Companion Guide*

The purpose of the Companion Guide is to provide assignments to help you apply the learning goals addressed in the Implementing the Florida Standards in Early Learning Classrooms: Birth to Kindergarten online course. You are encouraged to stop the course and complete the assignment then return to the course.

Course Introduction and Overview

Assignment #1

What do you already know about the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards?

- If you are familiar with the Florida Standards, record three ways you currently use the standards when planning for instruction.
- If this is your first experience with standards, write three things you hope to gain from taking the course to support you as you begin to implement standards when planning for instruction.

Module 1: Overview of the Standards

Assignment #2

The Educator's Guide for Understanding the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards is designed as a resource for implementing the standards. Write a brief statement about each of the following sections.

- How to Use the Standards
- Using the Standards with Diverse Learners
- Environmental Considerations
- Concepts Across the Standards

Module 2: Physical Development and Approaches to Learning

Assignment #3

- What did you already know about the Physical Development domain? What new information did you learn?

- What activities are you already practicing that include Physical Development standards? What new activities will you begin to incorporate?

Assignment #4

What do you already know about the Approaches to Learning domain?

With what Approaches to Learning strategies are you familiar?

- Write the four Approaches to Learning components and standard on one side of a 3/5 card.
- Review the standard for each component and read the examples given for “Children may...” and “Educators may...” in the Florida Standards Educator’s Guide.
- Write one example of the standard (Children may...) to observe.
- Write one instructional strategy (Educators may...) to implement.
- Create additional cards for each standard and place them with your planning materials. Choose one to focus on for a day or even a week.

<p>Approaches to Learning Eagerness and Curiosity Shows increased curiosity and is eager to learn new things and have new experiences</p>	<p>Children may investigate and experiment with new materials in activity areas to see how the materials work and what they can do. Educator may ask open-ended questions and encourage dialogue for deeper understanding.</p>
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Module 3: Social Emotional Development and Language and Literacy

Assignment #5

How does social and emotional development impact all other domains?

What are some of the ways you specifically plan for social and emotional development?

- Small group learning provides opportunities to focus on the individual needs of children. What other ways can provide time for children who need additional support?

Assignment #6

Go to the Standards website to review the standards for Emergent Writing.

http://flbt5.floridaearlylearning.com/standards.html#d=IV&a=three_year_olds,four_year_olds

How does looking across age groups support instructional planning for children who may not be progressing at their expected age range?

Module 4: Mathematical Thinking and Scientific Inquiry

Assignment #7

Instruction with Storybooks.

1. First: Download and print the resource **Math Instruction with Storybooks**.
2. Next: Select a book that you have read to the class that would work for a mathematical concept.
3. Then: Complete the Math Instruction with Storybooks Template.
4. Some possibilities could be “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” to demonstrate Number Sense (quantity of three), or “The Three Billy Goats Gruff” to demonstrate Spatial Awareness (the goats crossed over the bridge, the troll was under the bridge, etc.)

It’s FUN – give it a try.

Assignment #8

List the themes or units of study that you currently implement in your program.

How many scientific components do you address in your current curriculum?

Module 5: Social Studies and Creative Expression Through the Arts

Assignment #9

Inviting families to participate in program activities will encourage families to become involved with their child's education. *The Educator's Guide for Implementing the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards* include ideas for each standard to share with families. How will you share this information with your families?

Assignment # 10

Think about the art projects you do throughout the year. How has your thinking shifted regarding process art and product art?

Note a few ways that you will increase opportunities for children to express themselves creatively in all areas.

Module 6: Implementing the Standards in Early Learning Classrooms

Assignment #11

Reflective practice is driven by the belief that educators can continually improve on their teaching. Make a few notes about how you will plan to grow your practice through reflection.