



Developmentally Appropriate Practice

Educators intentionally design lessons and classroom layouts using consideration of each child's interests and home life, as well as their physical, socioemotional and cognitive development. Data collected through observations of children as they interact with their peers and environments, combined with a general understanding of age-appropriate milestones, will also inform the classroom model.

Challenging and achievable goals are set for the classroom and each child using the background and observational data collected.

Suggested Reading

"Basics of Developmentally Appropriate Practice" (Eva C. Phillips and Amy Scrinzi)

"Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Focus on Kindergarteners" (Carol Copple, Sue Bredekamp, Derry Koralek, and Kathy Charner)

"Developmentally Appropriate Practice" (Carol Gestwicki)



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"DAP is a set of guidelines used to help make curriculum and teaching strategy decisions" — Phillips and Scrinzi (2013)