What do you really need?

- A complete learning and teaching program that includes curriculum, teaching practices, and assessment tools.
- A focus on active participatory learning.
- Key developmental indicators and comprehensive content to help guide teachers.
- A plan-do-review process that teaches children to be self-directed.
- A supportive, child-centered approach to teaching.
- Ongoing professional development opportunities.
Dear Educator,

Welcome to the HighScope Curriculum With a Difference!

Beginning with the Perry Preschool study, HighScope revolutionized early childhood education with a completely new approach to teaching and learning. Research-based and child-focused, the HighScope Preschool Curriculum used a carefully designed process of learning through discovery — better known as active participatory learning — to achieve powerful, positive outcomes.

As teachers, parents, and educational researchers soon discovered, the HighScope Preschool Curriculum not only helped young children excel in language development and cognitive learning but also promoted independence, curiosity, decision making, cooperation, persistence, creativity, and problem solving — all the fundamental skills that help determine success in adult life.

Today, despite attempts by competitors to create “me too” products, HighScope continues to set the standard in early childhood education. And the HighScope Preschool Curriculum, with its emphasis on active learning, continues to be one of the most widely used educational programs in the world.

What accounts for the HighScope Difference? The answer lies in the fact that everything we do, every program we offer, every tool we develop, and every research study we conduct is driven by our mission of lifting lives through education. We envision a world in which all educational settings use active participatory learning, giving everyone a chance to succeed in life and contribute to society.

This brochure is an introduction to four of our most popular early childhood learning programs:

- The HighScope Infant-Toddler Curriculum
- The HighScope Preschool Curriculum
- The Growing Readers Early Literacy Curriculum
- The Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum

For more information about any of the programs in the HighScope Curriculum, contact Kathleen Woodard at 734.485.2000, ext. 255, or kwoodard@highscope.org.

Thank you for your interest in HighScope. And thank you for all you do to teach and support young children.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Schweinhart, PhD
President, HighScope Educational Research Foundation
Leading the Way

Today there is wide agreement among educators, parents, researchers, and legislators on the crucial importance of early childhood development. But that hasn’t always been the case.

HighScope was one of the first organizations to conduct research in infant and toddler development, beginning in 1968 with the Ypsilanti-Carnegie Infant Education Project and continuing with other studies to the present day. That research has led to a new understanding of how our youngest children learn. For more than 30 years, we’ve been putting those discoveries to work, publishing materials and providing training to help caregivers and administrators develop group-care settings that support effective early childhood learning.

The HighScope Infant-Toddler Curriculum: Comprehensive, Supportive, and Research Based

Our Infant-Toddler Curriculum is the product of decades of observation, feedback, and ongoing research. Like all HighScope learning programs, it includes a complete system of field-tested teaching practices, key curriculum content areas, an in-depth training program, and easy-to-use assessment tools. Flexible by design, the curriculum is easily adapted to individual needs and educational settings.

The Infant-Toddler Curriculum is child focused and designed to integrate all aspects of child development. It does this through an approach based on five key principles:
- Active learning for children
- Warm, supportive adult-child interactions
- A welcoming, child-oriented physical environment
- Schedules and routines that flow with the children
- Daily child observations that guide teamwork among staff and parents

Hands-On Learning for Natural Explorers

Young children are explorers by nature, constantly using their environment to discover how to move, how to hold and use objects, and how to communicate. For that reason, the Infant-Toddler Curriculum is based on active learning: the principle that children learn best through direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas.

Central to this active learning approach is the notion that as children explore, it is the task of caregivers to observe these explorations and learn from children’s actions and behaviors. Caregivers use these observations to shape the physical environment, the schedules and routines of the center, and their day-to-day interactions with the children.

An Array of Professional Development Tools

Training and support are an integral part of the HighScope approach. Our complete Infant-Toddler Curriculum Course consists of 10 two-day workshops designed to improve both staff skills and overall program quality. Those interested in a curriculum overview can enroll in our two-day introductory workshop. To make training as convenient as possible, workshops can also be offered at your site to meet your organization’s needs.

To complement its training programs, HighScope has developed a variety of child and program assessment tools. Caregivers and parents can also choose from books, newsletters, posters, and other resources designed to support infants and toddlers in their early learning experiences.

A HighScope participant reflects on the HighScope Infant-Toddler Curriculum:

“From birth through age three, children gain a sense of self, create a communication and language system, and construct ideas about how the world works — ideas that will stay with them throughout their lives. The HighScope Infant-Toddler Curriculum helps caregivers create an environment that is both nurturing and educating for even the youngest learners.”

Marisa B., preschool teacher, New Jersey
Setting the Standard
Research shows that children, especially young children, learn best through direct hands-on experiences with people, materials, events, and ideas. That fact forms the core of the HighScope Preschool Curriculum — a complete system of child instruction, staff development, and evaluation procedures based on the principle that all children are active learners, to be supported and challenged by adults.

A Comprehensive Curriculum
In the HighScope Preschool Curriculum, learning is focused on the five dimensions of school readiness, identified by the National Education Goals Panel and widely accepted as standard by the early childhood community. They include:
- Approaches to learning
- Language, literacy, and communication
- Social and emotional development
- Physical development and health
- Arts and sciences (mathematics, creative arts, science and technology, and social studies)

But HighScope takes the learning process beyond traditional academic subjects by applying methods that promote independence, curiosity, decision making, cooperation, persistence, creativity, and problem solving in young children.

In the HighScope Preschool Curriculum, learning is guided by 58 key developmental indicators (KDIs) that meet all state standards. Each KDI is linked to one of the dimensions of school readiness. Teachers use these childhood milestones to design the classroom environment, plan teaching experiences, interact with students, and assess outcomes.

Learning Through Discovery
The heart of the HighScope daily routine is a plan-do-review sequence in which children make choices about what they will do, carry out their ideas, and then reflect on their activities with adults and peers. Through the plan-do-review process, children gain confidence in their ability to think, decide, and solve problems. They also learn how to act with intention and reflect on the consequences of their actions — abilities that will serve them well throughout their lives.

Shared Control
In a HighScope classroom, adults and children work together to shape the learning experience. The role of the teacher is to listen, ask open-ended questions, engage in conversations, challenge students to explain their thinking, and create a balance between the freedom children need to explore and the limits they need to feel secure.

Educational materials and experiences build on the children’s interests and reflect their environment. In this way, teachers support children’s current level of understanding, while challenging them to advance to the next stage of thinking and reasoning.

Children With Special Needs
The HighScope Curriculum is ideal for classrooms serving children with special needs. Because it supports each child at his or her developmental level, the learning program is equally effective in both dedicated and inclusion classrooms.

Flexible Training Options
A one-week introductory course presents strategies on how teachers can implement all the key components of the Preschool Curriculum. For more in-depth training, HighScope offers the Preschool Curriculum Course (PCC), which includes 20 days of comprehensive course work scheduled over two summers. In addition, training can be customized to meet your organization’s specific needs and on-site course work can be scheduled anywhere in the world.

A HighScope participant reflects on the HighScope Preschool Curriculum:
“Even after 20 years of using the HighScope Curriculum, I continue to be amazed and delighted by how effectively it integrates all aspects of child development.”

Adrian J., preschool teacher, Alaska
The Growing Readers
Early Literacy Curriculum
The Following key components Help You to Plan and Implement the Literacy Activities in Each Growing Readers Curriculum Kit:

- **A Teacher Guide** includes complete instructions, background information, Scope and Sequence, Individual and Group Progress Profiles, and Activity Log.
- **126 Small-Group Activity Cards** give detailed instructions for classroom activities.
- **46 Short Activity and Teaching Strategy Cards** describe how to support and integrate literacy throughout the day.
- **25 Quick Look Cards** provide a handy overview of the activities.
- **13 Vocabulary Cards** list new words for children to hear and try out as they look at, listen to, and talk about Growing Readers books and materials.
- **8 Activity Support Cards** describe additional materials, strategies, and techniques.
- **Letter Links Online** easily and automatically creates children’s letter-linked pictures and nametags as well as class lists; it allows users to choose from both English and Spanish word sounds and corresponding pictures.
- **9 children’s storybooks**, new and classic, have been selected for level of complexity, story structure, representation of cultural and ethnic diversity, and illustration quality.

Teach Comprehension, Phonological Awareness, Alphabetic Principle, and Concepts About Print

The *Growing Readers Early Literacy Curriculum* supports the teaching of language and literacy in preschool and kindergarten settings. Through this focused approach to small-group literacy instruction, teachers and caregivers can systematically

- Increase young children’s oral language development, phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, and print awareness.
- Meet early literacy requirements specified by the Early Reading First section of the No Child Left Behind Act.
- Structure the content of literacy learning.
- Tailor curriculum activities to meet the developmental needs of individual children.

An Excellent Addition to Any Early Childhood Program

*Growing Readers* is designed for use in all early childhood education programs — including (but not limited to) those that follow the HighScope approach. The curriculum includes a set of detailed plans for 126 teacher-led small-group activities as well as a collection of nine children’s books. All activities are focused, self-explanatory, and require no special materials beyond those typically found in an active learning preschool setting.

Literacy at Three Levels

By emphasizing small groups, *Growing Readers* ensures that every child receives equal exposure to teaching and learning on the same literacy topics. Teachers then continue to work on those topics with children throughout the day, both one-on-one and in group settings.

The curriculum provides literacy activities at three levels of development. This allows children to use their current strengths and abilities as a base on which to build new knowledge and skills.

Training and Support

HighScope offers a two-day workshop designed to familiarize teachers with the *Growing Readers* approach, activities, and materials.
Math for Preschoolers Made Easy

The Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum is a comprehensive set of plans for small- and large-group activities, with ideas for extending mathematics learning throughout the program day. By actively engaging young children with materials and ideas, the curriculum builds on the latest knowledge from research and practice about early mathematics learning — and how adults can support it.

A Fresh Approach to an Important Subject

In the past 25 years, researchers have come to appreciate how much young children enjoy mathematics and how adept they are at grasping basic math concepts. Educators have also discovered that early mathematics involves much more than reciting numerals or rote counting.

Like adults, young children use math every day, without even realizing it. With young children, opportunities to investigate mathematics are everywhere — in seeing colors that range from light to dark; in counting cookies or toys; in arranging objects; and in ordering items according to their size, color, or other attributes. Numbers Plus makes it fun and easy to use these opportunities in ways that foster math learning.

Quality You Can Count On

Developed under a grant from the US Department of Education, Numbers Plus is aligned with the standards of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The 120 activities in the curriculum are divided into five content areas: number sense and operations, geometry, measurement, algebra, and data analysis.

A Curriculum That Benefits Every Child

What makes Numbers Plus unique is that it sequences children’s mathematical learning within activities. Teacher “alerts” are built into each activity, indicating what students at different developmental and ability levels may do and say and recommending appropriate support strategies. This built-in progression makes it possible for all children to have a positive and meaningful learning experience.

Training and Support

HighScope offers a two-day workshop designed to familiarize teachers with the Numbers Plus approach, activities, and materials.

The Following key components Help You to Plan and Implement the Math Activities in Each Numbers Plus Curriculum Kit:

- **120 Activity Cards** for small and large groups include materials lists, step-by-step plans for carrying out the activities, developmental charts that show how teachers can scaffold learning for children at different levels, and follow-up suggestions to extend mathematics learning in the classroom.
- **5 Content Area Dividers** organize activities according to the mathematical content areas.
- **A Teacher’s Manual** simply and clearly explains early mathematics development and provides adults with many strategies they can use to help children build skills and construct mathematical knowledge through active participatory learning.
- **25 English-Spanish Parent Booklets** (also available separately) support parents with ideas on how to extend math learning at home.

A HighScope participant reflects on the Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum:

“Numbers Plus training has taught me that teaching math to my children doesn’t have to be hard or stressful.”

Cynthia F., preschool teacher, Florida
Mission Driven
Unlike other organizations in the field of early childhood education, HighScope isn’t a commercial enterprise. It’s a nonprofit organization — motivated not by money, but by mission. Where our competitors see customers, we see colleagues and collaborators. That’s why we offer so much more than off-the-shelf “learning products.”

As part of the HighScope community, you’ll have access to a wide range of expertise, support services, tools, and resources.

Books, Books, and More Books
Our ever-expanding collection includes how-to books on everything from choosing the best learning strategies to setting up the preschool classroom and from effective home visits to active learning for children with special needs. You’ll find books on conflict resolution, books on how to implement and customize your HighScope program, and a complete series of The Teacher’s Idea Books.

Classroom Resources
To help you create a nurturing, engaging learning environment, we offer colorful classroom area signs, daily routine cards, and educational posters. Plus, our song books and storybooks make learning fun for children and caregivers alike.

Assessment Systems
Evaluations are essential in building a successful early childhood program. To help you gauge progress and performance, we offer both an online and a paper version of the Child Observation Record (COR) assessment tool for both infant-toddler and preschool programs as well as an Early Literacy Skills Assessment (ELSA) and a Program Quality Assessment (PQA) for infant-toddler, preschool, and family child care settings. We’ve even developed a Ready School Assessment (RSA) planning tool to assist with schoolwide improvement.

Professional Development
Training is a vital component of our approach, and we work hard to make professional development opportunities as convenient as possible for teachers in the US and abroad. Offerings include one- and two-day workshops, week-long courses, and multiple-week courses that lead to HighScope Teacher Certification, Trainer Certification, and Program Accreditation. Agencies and teachers with specific needs can take advantage of our customized training options. In addition, our online training courses can be accessed and completed anywhere, anytime.

Conferences
Every year, the annual HighScope International Conference draws hundreds of educational professionals from around the globe to our headquarters in Ypsilanti, Michigan. In addition, we sponsor regional conferences across North America and exhibit at major educational events throughout the year.

For more information or a copy of the latest HighScope Training Catalog, visit highscope.org, call 800.587.5639, or e-mail info@highscope.org.
HighScope Educational Research Foundation is an independent, nonprofit research, development, training, and public outreach organization founded by Dr. David Weikart and headquartered in Ypsilanti, Michigan. For more than 40 years, HighScope has helped lead worldwide educational reform through research, international conferences, training programs, creative learning tools, assessments, and a demonstration preschool.

HighScope’s mission is to lift lives through education. We envision a world in which all educational settings use active participatory learning, thus giving every individual a chance to succeed in life and contribute to society.
No single step in the HighScope process stands on its own — and our process never ends. Our rigorous, ongoing evaluation of our own materials ensures that HighScope offers the most effective, substantive early childhood classroom products available today.

**Research**
Research is the rock on which we build our products. HighScope leads education with over four decades of groundbreaking early childhood research — research that is benchmarked by nearly everyone in the industry.

**Application**
Sometimes even the most promising theories and concepts fail in the real world. Time is the real test. In the case of HighScope’s Curriculum and products, tens of thousands of real-life classroom hours demonstrate the validity and effectiveness of our research findings and product design.

**Validation**
What works stays. What doesn’t work is eliminated. Unlike our competitors, we don’t just base our curriculum and products on research — we validate them with research as well. And when we discover better methods and tools, we use them. In this way, the HighScope Curriculum content is constantly renewed and updated using the latest data from research and practice.

Reaching out to educators worldwide.
HighScope’s international institutes and teacher education centers bring the HighScope message of active participatory learning to new audiences throughout the world.

**HighScope International Institutes**
- HighScope Chile: Centro de Formacion Docente (Chile)
- HighScope – Great Britain
- HighScope – Indonesia
- HighScope – Ireland
- HighScope – Mexico
- HighScope – Kaleidoscoop, The Netherlands
- HighScope – Portugal
- HighScope – South Korea

**HighScope Teacher Training Centers**
- HighScope Teacher Education Centre — South Africa
- Sheridan College — HighScope Teacher Education Centre (Ontario, Canada)
- Moncton Headstart and Teacher Education Centre (New Brunswick, Canada)
- The HighScope Teacher Education Centre for Western Canada, (British Columbia, Canada)

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