



HIGHSCOPE[®]

Preschool Curriculum

A comprehensive approach to hands-on learning

The HighScope Preschool Curriculum is based on the principles of active learning and positive interactions with adults and peers. Longitudinal studies show that the HighScope Preschool Curriculum promotes children's development and provides lasting benefits into adulthood.

Active Learning

Play is at the heart of the active learning curriculum. Children engage in active learning when they construct knowledge through interactions with materials, people, events, and ideas. Nurturing adults help children explore, make decisions, and get excited about learning.

The Key Developmental Indicators (KDIs) define the important knowledge and skills children gain in eight content areas: Approaches to Learning; Social and Emotional Development; Physical Development and Health; Language, Literacy, and Communication; Mathematics; Creative Arts; Science and Technology; and Social Studies.



Adult-Child Interactions

Teachers act as partners with children, scaffolding children's learning and using a six-step approach to conflict resolution that allows children to express emotions safely, come up with solutions, and become confident and capable problem solvers.



Daily Routine

HighScope classrooms follow a consistent yet flexible daily routine that includes HighScope's unique plan-do-review sequence, in which children plan their own activities, carry them out, and reflect on what they did and learned. Through this purposeful behavior, children acquire executive functioning, which includes memory, problem solving, and self-regulation.



Learning Environment

To create a predictable and active learning environment, teachers arrange and equip the classroom with diverse, open-ended materials that reflect children's home cultures and languages. The room is organized and labeled so children learn important concepts while they independently carry out their intentions.



Child and Program Assessment

Program practices and accountability are enhanced by HighScope's child and program assessment tools. COR Advantage is a validated observation measure that lets teachers record objective child anecdotes throughout the day, use these notes to make daily plans, and share information with families to extend children's learning at home. The Program Quality Assessment (PQA), is used to document and improve classroom teaching practices, relationships with families, staff professional learning, and administrative practices.

Family Engagement

HighScope works with families as partners to support children's learning. Whether it's through parent meetings, learning activities to do at home, or using the Family Network, our online parent portal which shares regular information about the child's activities at school, HighScope has the tools to help you build strong connections with your families.

Professional Learning

HighScope offers a comprehensive system of professional learning. Its flexible in-person and online training options — ranging from one-day to multi-week courses — are suitable for teachers, teacher-trainers, and administrators.

Diversity

The HighScope Preschool Curriculum accommodates children from diverse backgrounds, including those with special needs and English language learners. It is aligned with Common Core, state early learning standards, and Head Start. It is used nationally and internationally in a wide variety of programs such as family child care, child care centers, Head Start, and state-funded preschools.



“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



Additional information about the HighScope Preschool Curriculum can be found at highscope.org/preschool.

HighScope's KDIs work seamlessly with **COR Advantage** — an observation-based tool for assessing child development at all stages from birth to kindergarten, with distinct and well-defined criteria that are easy to apply. See coradvantage.org for more information.



Preschool Curriculum Content

A Framework for Understanding and Supporting Children's Learning

The Key Developmental Indicators (KDIs) form the curriculum content for children ages three to five years. All together they define the knowledge children are acquiring as they interact with materials, people, ideas, and events.

A. Approaches to Learning

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Initiative | 3. Engagement | 5. Use of resources |
| 2. Planning | 4. Problem solving | 6. Reflection |

B. Social and Emotional Development

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7. Self-identity | 10. Empathy | 13. Cooperative play |
| 8. Sense of competence | 11. Community | 14. Moral development |
| 9. Emotions | 12. Building relationships | 15. Conflict resolution |

C. Physical Development and Health

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 16. Gross-motor skills | 18. Body awareness | 20. Healthy behavior |
| 17. Fine-motor skills | 19. Personal care | |

D. Language, Literacy, and Communication*

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 21. Comprehension | 25. Alphabetic knowledge | 29. Writing |
| 22. Speaking | 26. Reading | 30. English language learning
(if applicable) |
| 23. Vocabulary | 27. Concepts about print | |
| 24. Phonological awareness | 28. Book knowledge | |

E. Mathematics

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 31. Number words and symbols | 34. Shapes | 38. Patterns |
| 32. Counting | 35. Spatial awareness | 39. Data analysis |
| 33. Part-whole relationships | 36. Measuring | |
| | 37. Unit | |

F. Creative Arts

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 40. Art | 42. Movement | 44. Appreciating the arts |
| 41. Music | 43. Pretend play | |

G. Science and Technology

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 45. Observing | 48. Predicting | 51. Natural and physical world |
| 46. Classifying | 49. Drawing conclusions | 52. Tools and technology |
| 47. Experimenting | 50. Communicating ideas | |

H. Social Studies

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 53. Diversity | 55. Decision making | 57. History |
| 54. Community roles | 56. Geography | 58. Ecology |

*Language, Literacy, and Communication KDIs 21–29 may be used for the child's home language(s) as well as English. KDI 30 refers specifically to English language learning.

The HighScope Approach — Designed and Research-Validated to Have a Lifelong Positive Effect

- The HighScope Curriculum is a high quality, developmentally based program, founded on a philosophy of “active participatory learning,” in which children and adults are engaged, interactive partners in the learning process.
- In HighScope programs, learning occurs in a play-based environment where children and adults work together to develop children’s knowledge and skills in problem solving, decision making, and dependence, and to promote their sense of curiosity, persistence, and creativity. Educational materials and the learning environment build on children’s interests, accommodate different developmental and ability levels, and reflect the diversity of children’s family and community backgrounds.
- In HighScope programs, knowledgeable and intentional teachers scaffold early learning by supporting children’s current level of understanding and gently extending their thinking and reasoning to the next level.
- There is a growing awareness among educators, policymakers, parents, and the general public that social and emotional learning is equally, if not more, important than early academics in determining school readiness. The HighScope Curriculum fully integrates academic and social-emotional learning in its curriculum content (key developmental indicators) and assessment (COR Advantage), addressing all domains of development: approaches to learning; social and emotional development; physical development and health; language, literacy, and communication (including English language learners); mathematics, science; social studies; and the creative arts. These domains are aligned with Common Core State Standards, the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework and Early Head Start Essential Domains, state early childhood learning standards, and the standards and recommendations of professional educational organizations.
- The number and scope of state-funded early childhood programs has grown. With a few exceptions, state governments have invested in preschool programs aimed at serving at-risk children. Many states have already or are in the process of instituting universal preschool and full-day preschool. In addition to traditional, classroom-based preschool programs, states are also funding community-based initiatives with a birth-K focus. The HighScope Curriculum is appropriate for use in all of these settings and has an important role in state-funded early childhood programs.

HighScope Preschool Curriculum

- [Overview](#)
- [How We Teach](#)
- [What We Teach](#)
- [Research That Supports our Approach](#)
- [Children With Special Needs](#)

Following is a list of HighScope Preschool Curriculum materials, assessment tools, and professional learning opportunities.

Follow the linked catalog number to place an order online.
Or call 800.40.PRESS



HighScope Preschool Curriculum Materials*	Price	Catalog Number	Notes/ Recommendations
<p>HighScope Preschool Curriculum Set This new set of nine books is a comprehensive curriculum resource that helps teachers, administrators, and early education students build effective programs around young children’s active learning. Written in practical terms, it presents the latest research information on how young children develop and learn, updated curriculum content in eight key areas, and intentional teaching strategies for child development programs.</p>	\$189.95	P1415SET	Manual required for implementation of the HighScope Preschool Curriculum
<p>Essentials of Active Learning This practical guide presents a comprehensive and user-friendly introduction to the HighScope Preschool Curriculum, covering early childhood theory and research, teaching practices, curriculum content, and professional development. The book’s appealing format offers examples, checklists, photos, child and teacher anecdotes, and thoughtful questions and hands-on exercises to help both experienced and new teachers reflect on their beliefs and practices.</p>	\$30.00	P1423	Recommended for every teacher/ Fundamental Resource
<p>The Intentional Teacher: Choosing the Best Strategies for Young Children’s Learning (Rev. ed.) How do preschoolers learn and develop? What are the best ways to support learning in the early years? This revised edition of <i>The Intentional Teacher</i> guides teachers to balance both child-guided and adult-guided learning experiences that respond to children’s interests and focus on what they need to learn to be successful in school and life. Intentional teaching does not happen by chance. This book will help teachers apply their knowledge of children and of content to make thoughtful, intentional use of both child-guided and adult-guided experiences. Co-published with NAEYC.</p>	\$30.00	P1426	Fundamental Resource
<p>Lesson Plans for the First 30 Days This appealing guide puts 30 days of ready-to-use HighScope lesson plans right at your fingertips! For teachers new to HighScope, there are six weeks of user-friendly plans that build on children’s developing skills and model the HighScope active participatory learning approach. Teachers experienced with HighScope will find the book a ready source of new ideas.</p>	\$34.95	P1418	Fundamental Resource
<p>Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum <i>The Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum</i> is a comprehensive set of detailed plans for small- and large-group early childhood mathematics activities, with ideas for extending learning throughout the program day. What’s special about <i>Numbers Plus</i> is that children’s mathematical learning is sequenced within activities — each activity has a built-in progression so children of different developmental and ability levels can participate together and have a positive and meaningful learning experience.</p>	\$274.95	P1377SET	
<p>Setting Up the Preschool Classroom This book is designed to help preschool teachers arrange and equip their classroom or center, including the outdoor play space. In addition to explaining the principles of designing active learning preschool settings, it provides helpful strategies, detailed lists of equipment and materials, and sample classroom layouts to guide teachers in designing an entirely new learning environment or in making improvements to an existing space.</p>	\$25.95	P1383	

*Highlighted items are recommended for purchase in addition to the curriculum and fundamental resources.

HighScope Educational Research Foundation

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HighScope Preschool Curriculum Materials*	Price	Catalog Number	Notes/ Recommendations
<p>50 Large-Group Activities for Active Learners Large-group time brings children and adults together for companionship, information-sharing, and the enjoyment of participating in a group. This book presents 50 engaging large-group activities that stimulate children’s creativity, help them learn skills and concepts, introduce them to a wide range of new and thought-provoking experiences.</p>	\$25.95	P1316	Fundamental Resource
<p>Small-Group Times to Scaffold Early Learning This book presents 52 small-group activities based on five curriculum content areas: language, literacy, and communication, mathematics, science and technology, the creative arts (art and music), and physical development and health.</p>	\$25.95	P1370	Fundamental Resource
<p>From Message to Meaning This book describes the benefits of using a daily message board at greeting time, guides teachers through the process of creating messages, and offers strategies for making the message board an engaging and interactive experience for children.</p>	\$19.95	P1355	Fundamental Resource
<p>Daily Routine Cards The Daily Routine Cards are a set of 21 easy-to-read pictures with time-of-day names that identify the parts of a typical preschool classroom day. Use of these cards allows children to easily read the <i>Daily Routine Card</i> sequence and anticipate what happens next.</p>	\$24.95	PC1001	
<p>Tasty Talk: 40 Mealtimes Conversations You can make snack and mealtimes important learning times for preschool children! <i>Tasty Talk: 40 Mealtimes Conversation Starters</i> puts ideas for conversation and simple games at your fingertips so you can get children thinking, talking, reflecting, and sharing on a variety of subjects while enjoying a snack or meal. In addition to helping boost children’s literacy and social skills, these ideas can help children engage with other key curriculum content through playful talk with adults and other children.</p>	\$14.95	P1357	
<p>“I Know What’s Next!” Preschool Transitions Without Tears or Turmoil This book provides guidelines that help teachers understand transitions from the child’s point of view, along with a host of strategies, songs, games, and other experiences that are useful for particular transitions.</p>	\$19.95	P1336	Fundamental Resource
<p>You’re Not My Friend Anymore! <i>You’re Not My Friend Anymore!</i> expands on HighScope’s six-step problem-solving approach with a series of 21 scenarios based on real-life parent and teacher interactions with young children.</p>	\$15.95	P1389	Fundamental Resource

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HighScope Preschool Curriculum Materials*	Price	Catalog Number	Notes/ Recommendations
<p>I Belong: Active Learning for Children With Special Needs While current teaching practices in the field of special education are often based on correcting children’s “deficits,” the HighScope educational model builds on and maximizes children’s strengths and abilities, recognizing each child’s individual needs and developmental differences. <i>I Belong</i> includes practical strategies and real-life examples of the authors’ applications and adaptations of the HighScope Preschool Curriculum in a variety of preschool settings serving children with special needs.</p>	\$25.95	P1348	Applications and adaptations for serving children with special needs
<p>Letter Links Online Subscription With Letter Links: Alphabet Learning With Children’s Names This two-year online subscription complements the English and Spanish <i>Letter Links: Alphabet Learning With Children’s Names</i> books, enabling you to create a nametag for each child in your group, select a letter-linked picture, and print these out in various sizes and combinations quickly and easily.</p>	\$44.95	P1374SET	Fundamental Resource
<p>Fee, Fie, Phonemic Awareness This book focuses on phonemic awareness — the ability to recognize the smallest sound units that make up words — identified by reading experts as an essential skill that prepares children for reading.</p>	\$25.95	P1190	Fundamental Resource
<p>Rhythmically Moving 1 (CD) Music for students of all ages. Includes suggestions for use with <i>Teaching Movement & Dance: A Sequential Approach to Rhythmic Movement</i>.</p>	\$15.95	M2401	Fundamental Resource
<p>Rhythmically Moving 2 (CD) Music for students of all ages. Includes suggestions for use with <i>Teaching Movement & Dance: A Sequential Approach to Rhythmic Movement</i>.</p>	\$15.95	M2402	Fundamental Resource
<p>Wheel of Learning/Key Developmental Indicator Card Handy laminated reference card containing the HighScope preschool key developmental indicators (KDIs) on one side and the wheel of learning on the other.</p>	\$3.95	P1397	Fundamental Resource
<p>KDI Scaffolding Cards The 58 scaffolding charts in this set, one for each KDI, are organized by the eight content areas of HighScope’s Preschool Curriculum. Each scaffolding chart contains examples of what young children at three developmental levels (earlier, middle, and later) might do and say as they engage with each KDI, with corresponding examples of how adults can support and gently extend learning at each level as they play and interact with children through the program day.</p>	\$64.95	P1422	Fundamental Resource
<p>Preschool PQA Starter Pak The Preschool PQA is a rating instrument designed to evaluate the quality of early childhood programs and identify staff training needs.</p>	\$27.95	P1203SET	Fundamental Resource

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HighScope Preschool Curriculum Materials*	Price	Catalog Number	Notes/ Recommendations
Bringing Active Learning Home: Workshops for Preschool Parents Parent workshops can help parents bring active learning home to their children! The 27 workshops contained in this book, a part of the Teachers' Idea Series, help family members learn about and appreciate the importance of active learning by experiencing it the way their children do.	\$30.00	P1425	Fundamental Resource
Making the Most of Plan-Do-Review This book includes support strategies for the plan-do-review process, including practical tips and suggestions, tried-and-true games and experiences for children, answers to frequently asked questions, real-life examples, sample notes to parents, a parent workshop plan, and planning and recall sheets to use with children.	\$25.95	P1152	
Something From Nothing: Using Everyday Materials With Preschoolers This book focuses on open-ended materials that you can find in your everyday environment, materials that are often free or available at a very low cost. Each chapter contains information on where to find the materials, where to add them to your classroom, and how to use them.	\$19.95	P1417	
English-Spanish, Large and Small Classroom Area Sign Set This set of colorful signs features easy-to-see, simple pictures and area names that identify each part or interest area of the classroom in English and Spanish. Organizing the classroom into clear work-and-play areas helps children find materials they need and to return them after use. Set includes 10 large cards and 2 sets of 10 small cards per package.	\$48.00	PC1006SET	
Subtotal Preschool		\$1,082.95	

*Highlighted items are recommended for each classroom in addition to the curriculum and fundamental resources.

Pricing for large agencies and government contracts are provided at the best value for the lowest overall cost. As a 501(3)c non-profit, HighScope has a mission to create and deliver high-quality early childhood resources for teachers and administrators, that improve the lives of children, families, and communities. Prices included in this overview are provided as an example, they are the retail costs created for individual sales.

Follow the linked catalog number to place an order online.
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HighScope Resource Library Materials**	Price	Catalog Number	Notes/ Recommendations
<p>Small-Group Times for Active Learners DVD</p> <p>In sequences from a variety of HighScope settings, this program illustrates sources of ideas for small-group time, types of materials to use and how to organize them, and strategies teachers employ to support the individual ways in which children use materials throughout small-group time and in follow-up activities.</p>	\$25.95	P1339	Fundamental Resource
<p>The Daily Routine DVD</p> <p>Following a consistent yet flexible daily routine gives children the sense of security they need to make choices, take risks, and become active learners. Drawing upon a variety of HighScope settings, this DVD shows how adults observe children and support and extend their learning from greeting time through group times, the plan-do-review sequence, transitions, and other parts of the daily routine.</p>	\$39.95	P1341	Fundamental Resource
<p>“I Want All the Turns!” Supporting Children in Resolving Problems and Conflicts DVD</p> <p>This three-part DVD shows unstaged examples of preschoolers who are developing essential communication, empathy, and negotiating skills. The problem-solving process they are learning — with their teachers’ guidance and support — fosters social, language, and cognitive abilities they will use throughout their lives.</p>	\$95.00	P1421	Fundamental Resource
<p>Adult-Child Interaction DVD</p> <p>In supportive early childhood settings, adults’ nurturing relationships with children serve as the foundation for learning. Through this DVD, you’ll gain strategies for interacting with children while participating as partners in children’s play, conversing with children, and encouraging learning in curriculum content areas through adult scaffolding.</p>	\$39.95	P1381	Fundamental Resource
<p>Engaging Young Learners With Special Needs DVD</p> <p>This two-part DVD describes how HighScope’s active participatory learning model of early education provides inclusive experiences for children with and without disabilities, allowing children at all levels to succeed.</p>	\$95.00	P1424	If needed
<p>Plan-Do-Review in Action DVD</p> <p>In the plan-do review process, children make plans, carry them out, and reflect on what they have done. In doing so, children learn to take initiative, solve problems, work with others, and accomplish their goals — their play becomes more purposeful and focused. Through this DVD, you’ll learn about the three components that make up plan-do-review and how to use them to encourage purposeful play.</p>	\$39.95	P1385	
<p>The Indoor and Outdoor Learning Environment DVD</p> <p>To support children’s active learning, adults in early childhood programs set up the learning environment to provide children with plentiful materials and choices about how to use them. This DVD includes examples from a variety of HighScope settings showing how adults can foster children’s initiative and creativity through a supportive learning environment, both indoors and outdoors.</p>	\$39.95	P1359	
Subtotal Resources Library		\$375.75	

*Fundamental resources are recommended for each classroom.

**The full Resource Library is recommended for each program.

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Training Options That Reflect the Needs and Realities of Today's Educators

HighScope offers extensive course work at locations worldwide for teachers in infant-toddler, preschool, and elementary programs. Depending on their specific needs, educators and agency administrators can choose from the following options:

One- or two-day workshops — Introductory and entry-level information or content review on a specific component of the HighScope Curriculum. A great place for teachers to begin.

Online training courses — Interactive, web-based course work in which participants join an e-learning community, take part in group discussions, and receive individual attention from the instructor. Course work can be accessed and completed anywhere, anytime — and students maintain close contact with their instructor and their classmates.

Week-long courses — Similar to workshops in that discussion focuses on a specific component of the HighScope Curriculum, but with more in-depth discussion and analysis.

Preschool Curriculum Course — A four-week course that enables colleagues who complete the program to effectively implement the HighScope Preschool Curriculum. It also satisfies the prerequisite for the HighScope Training of Trainers (TOT) course.

Coaching and mentoring training — A one-week course to certify coaches and mentors in the HighScope methodology.

Training of Trainers Course — A three-week course designed for those who wish to extend their skills to training adults in the educational approach. Those successfully completing the course earn certification as HighScope Trainers with an endorsement in the HighScope Preschool Curriculum.

Customized training — Courses designed to serve agencies and teachers with specific needs. HighScope staff discuss the challenges the program is facing and HighScope Trainers conduct a detailed assessment. Then we build training modules around program needs and goals.

HighScope conferences and events — For more than 40 years, HighScope has been reaching out to the educational community through professional conferences and events. These programs offer an ideal format for professional learning and networking with peers.

For more information on HighScope's professional learning options, customized on-site training, or certification, visit highscope.org/training or call 800.587.5639, Ext. 237 or Ext. 224.



Get to the COR of the Child Assessment Process

COR Advantage, HighScope's research-validated child assessment tool, offers comprehensive assessment for children from birth through kindergarten. Administrators and teachers have quick access to a wide range of reports documenting children's growth and development and can use this information to guide teaching and program planning. COR Advantage works seamlessly with the HighScope Curriculum or any other developmentally-appropriate curriculum.

Features of COR Advantage

- Updated categories and items aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, the Common Core State Standards, and other state and national early learning standards
- Seamless assessment for children at all developmental stages from birth through kindergarten
- Distinct and well-defined developmental levels — easy to use and easy to score

What's the Advantage?

- Use the data to guide program improvement and improve outcomes
- Assessment works seamlessly with the HighScope Curriculum and is also compatible with any developmentally oriented early childhood approach

COR Advantage Standard Plan

COR Advantage offers comprehensive reporting for each child and classroom, as well as reporting for state standards and the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. The Data Analytics feature provides customized reports you can create anytime, anywhere based on your reporting needs. The Standard Plan also provides a lesson planning tool and access to the Family Network — which allows families to exchange information with teachers about their child's progress and offers a library of learning activities they can use at home with their children.

For more information on COR Advantage, e-mail CORteam@highscope.org or call 800.587.5639, Ext. 237.

A comprehensive program quality assessment tool

The Online Program Quality Assessment (PQA) evaluates overall quality practices in three early childhood settings — infant-toddler, preschool, and family child care. The PQA is a reliable, research-validated assessment that can be used as a basis for program accreditation, reporting, monitoring, and professional learning.

Based on scores and information entered into the system, the program quickly and easily generates several reports including Classroom, Planning, and Comparative. Using the built-in reports, programs will be able to see changes over time and adjust as needed to reach improvement goals. The PQA offers an option to conduct multiple assessments with the purchase of one classroom license for outside raters, administrators, and/or teacher self-ratings.

Classroom practices assessed:

- Learning environment
- Daily routine
- Adult-child interaction
- Curriculum planning and assessment

Agency practices assessed:

- Program management
- Parent involvement and family services
- Staff qualifications and development

OnlinePQA Plan

Classroom licenses are available through an annual subscription. The OnlinePQA plan allow programs to enter PQA data into online forms and print completed reports. Additionally, subscribers may download and print PQA forms to facilitate the data collection process.