

EARLY EDUCATION ESSENTIALS TOOLS FOR IMPROVEMENT

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LET'S START AT THE VERY BEGINNING...

1. Developed in Chicago: The Ounce of Prevention Fund (Ounce), in partnership with the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research (UChicago Consortium)
2. Identifying organizational supports that lead to best practices and positive outcomes for children and families
3. Validation study confirmed that scores on the Early Education Essentials surveys are directly related to the quality of teacher-child interactions (as measured by the CLASS-PreK) and children's attendance outcomes
4. Aligns with Chicago's K-12 5Essentials framework



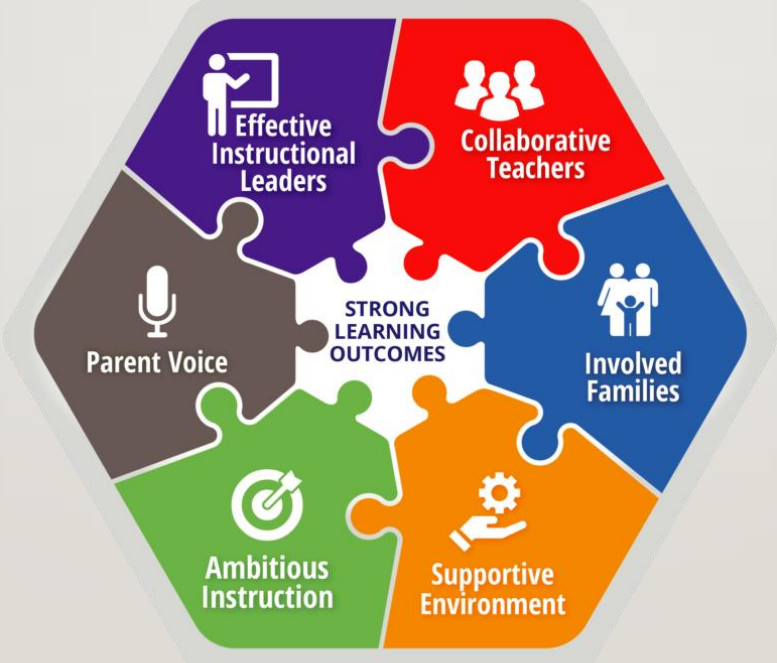
INSPIRE MINDS.

ORGANIZATION SUPPORTS

- Beyond the classroom
- Relationship between program, staff and children
- Supports for Teachers, Families, Children and Instructional Leaders
- Framework of measurable supports

ESSENTIAL: ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY; EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

ESSENTIAL ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTS



Relational Trust among Leaders, Teachers, and Families

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

- School/center leaders are strategically focused on children's development and early achievement. They nurture trust, collective understanding, and responsibility for excellence and improvement among staff and families
- Who are Instructional Leaders?
 - People who have direct influence on the policies, procedures, conditions and teaching practices in the classroom
 - Educational managers/coordinators, coaches, principals, mentors

COLLABORATIVE TEACHERS

- Teachers are committed to the school/center, build strong relationships with colleagues, and work together to continuously improve teaching and children's learning.
- Data Dialogues
 - What types of data do you currently use in your programs?
 - What is the story you are using data to tell and/or share?

SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTS

- School/center is a physically and emotionally safe and engaging environment. Staff hold high expectations for children's social-emotional and academic learning, coupled with nurturing, individualized support for children and families.
- Includes clear supports for inclusion of all children
- A supportive environment as an organizational culture also supports staff and families

PARENT VOICE

- Parents feel respected by all staff and included as knowledgeable partners in their children's early learning and development, and have influence over programming.

INVOLVED FAMILIES

- Staff develop strong, collaborative relationships with families and actively support their engagement with the program and children's learning.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN...

- Parent Voice
 - Parent Involvement
 - Parent Engagement
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- *Families as co-deciders, co-designers, co-evaluators, co-participants*

AMBITIOUS INSTRUCTION

- Teachers and staff provide consistently engaging, effective, rigorous, and developmentally appropriate curriculum and instruction
- Ambitious Instruction Professional Development module (cohort and research)

Connected	Inclusive & Responsive	Intellectually Bold
...to family, culture, and community	...to language and culture	...rich in concepts, feedback, language
...to previous learning and peers	...to group and individual needs	...rooted in projects, stories, studies, and guided play: “applied curiosity”
...across the curriculum and environment	...to toxic stress, trauma and resilience	...prioritizing inquiry, construction, creative expression

EARLY EDUCATION ESSENTIAL SURVEY (PILOT)

January-June 2020

Multi-step process: On-boarding, survey window, reporting back, rapid inquiry and improvement cycles

Oregon Pre-Kindergarten grantees (without additional funding)

Questions to learn:

What is the impact of the reports and data?

How are programs able to use data and improvement cycles to impact practice?

What supports are needed for programs to build improvements?

Are there any surprises?

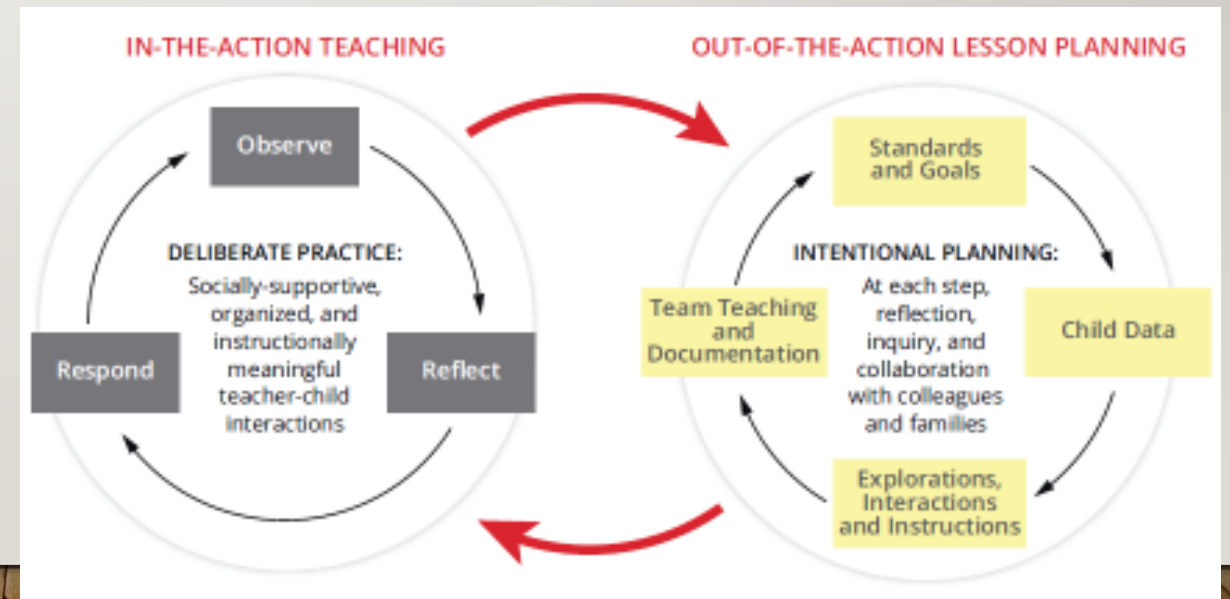


ESSENTIALS REFLECTION ACTIVITY

- Using your handout, reflect on your current early learning program
 - If you are here with a colleagues, feel free to work together
 - Read through the likert scale, where would you rank your program in each Early Education Essential?
 - What supports and opportunities for improvement does this activity make you think about?

TOOLS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Early Education Essential survey
- Lead Learn Excel
- Focused Teaching Cycle for CQI



QUESTIONS?
