



Using + Choosing **CURRICULUM**

1

What is curriculum?

A **curriculum** helps to describe the what, why, how, and when students of all ages should learn. A well-structured curriculum in early childhood education curriculum provides a strong foundation for future academic success and is crucial for fostering cognitive, social, emotional and physical development in young children.

2

Step Up To Quality

2024 Step Up to Quality standards require that any community based or school program participating in SUTQ you must have and be implementing a fully aligned curriculum. The curriculum you chose needs to be aligned to the Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS) and to the Science of Reading (SOR).

3

How to find approved child care curriculum

Research different developmentally-appropriate curricula that would best fit your programs educational philosophy. Different curricula emphasize different skills, teaching methods and content depth, while some focus on rote memorization while others prioritize inquiry-based or hands-on learning. Which one fits your needs?

[Find an approved List of Core Curriculum and Instructional Materials from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce \(DEW\) here!](#)

4

How to get started with curriculum at your program

- Read our blog post, "[Are You AFRAID... of Curriculum and Assessment?](#)"
- Email PD@actionforchildren.org to schedule a FREE onsite training with AFC Coach at your child care program
- Visit our [Events Calendar](#) to see upcoming ECE trainings
- Reach out to your SUTQ Technical Assistance Coach for support