

New York State Education Department Office of P-12 Education  
Office of Early Learning Newsletter

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## **NYSED Learning Standards**

NYSED would like to introduce the [New York State Prekindergarten & Kindergarten Learning Standards Resources](#).

These resources are meant to support the development of curriculum that:

- organizes learning around content-rich themes and texts;
- promotes culturally responsive classrooms;
- uses consistent routines and language;
- provides rigorous, challenging learning experiences in a supportive context;
- combines explicit instruction with inquiry-based learning; and supports peer-to-peer interaction



Also coming soon, New York State First & Second Grade Learning Standards Resources!

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## Integrating Technology into Early Learning

Early childhood educators looking for ways to meaningfully integrate technology tools into their programs can download a free resource from the [Education Development Center](#). The resource funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, provides strategies for teachers, administrators, and parents in using technology as a learning tool for children while ensuring its use is developmentally appropriate. The toolkit comes with a set of checklists of items to consider and a summary of current research on the integration of technology in early childhood programs.

## Early Learning Video Series

*A Guide for Educators Serving Children in Prekindergarten through 2nd Grade*

NYSED's new [Early Learning Video Series](#) provides examples of purposeful, play-based instructional strategies that help children develop critical foundational skills in the early grades. In the early grades, it is particularly important for educators to recognize and provide a balance between individual and group needs, active and quiet times, teacher-directed and child-selected activities, and English and home language development. Teachers influence what and how children learn by creating an environment that reflects developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate practices and instruction. Intentional planning provides a framework for learning that is culturally and linguistically responsive, playful, interactive and interdisciplinary. The videos in this series provide support for educators in creating quality learning environments - in addition to quality curriculum, instruction, and assessment - for children in prekindergarten through grade two classrooms.

The NYSED Office of Early Learning has also released Early Learning Video Series Training Guides for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten. These video companion documents were created to support sessions that encourage participants to engage in rich conversations about prekindergarten and kindergarten. They are intended to guide participants through activities that will support educators and administrators in understanding developmentally appropriate learning environments and instruction for young children. Each session includes seven activities that can be used during one longer session or broken up into multiple sessions.

## Emergent Multilingual Learners

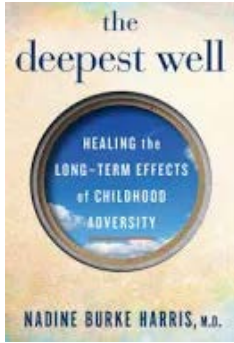
An educational service of [WETA Public Broadcasting](#), the flagship PBS station in Washington DC widely funded by the American Federation of Teachers and National Education Association, [Colorín Colorado](#)\* has been the premier national website for more than a decade offering a wealth of bilingual, research-based information, activities, and advice for educators, communities, and families of language diverse children. The following are just a couple of the myriad of multilingual resources Colorín Colorado offers:

- 1) Available in [thirteen languages](#), Colorín Colorado's [Reading Tip Sheets for Parents](#) support multilingual parents in helping their babies, toddlers, prekindergartners through third graders with pre-reading and reading skills, and developing an affinity for reading in both English and their home language.
- 2) Colorín Colorado offers [Recommended Books for Young Children](#) (babies, toddlers, prekindergarten and kindergarten) that feature diversity in children and families. Bilingual titles include those for [Spanish](#), [American Indian Heritage](#), and [Asian Pacific American Heritage](#).

\*At the conclusion of many Spanish language children's stories, the traditional "Colorín Colorado" comes from, "Y colorín colorado este cuento se ha acabado." Even though there is no literal translation to English, the loose translation is: "And bright red, this story has finished." The English language equivalent would be the traditional, "And they lived happily ever after" at the end of a children's story.

## Recommended Reading

Appointed earlier this year by Governor Gavin Newsome as California's 1st Surgeon General, Dr. Burke Harris has been featured by [New Yorker Magazine](#), [NPR](#) and Jaime Redford in his documentary film, ["Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope"](#). Dr. Burke Harris's Ted Talk, ["How Childhood Trauma Affects](#)

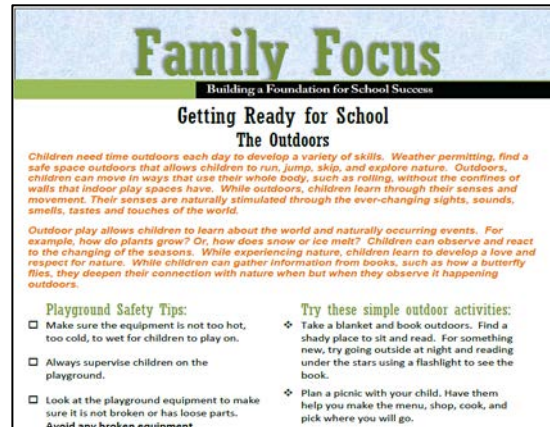


[Health Across a Lifetime](#)” has been viewed over 6 million times. She is considered a pioneer in the study of Adverse Childhood Experiences

In her book, “The Deepest Well: Healing the Long-Term Effects of Childhood Adversity”, Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, M.D., describes what has been learned about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and the many ways in which they can cause lifelong health issues. Through an analysis of the most applicable scientific data on the subject and examples from her own pediatric medical practice in Bayview-Hunters Point San Francisco, she reveals just how deeply our bodies can be imprinted for life by childhood adversity. Her writing style is engaging and accessible for anyone who is interested in learning more about how ACES affect our young children.

## Family Engagement

**Family Focus: Getting Ready for School**, a series of family engagement tip sheets have been posted to our website. Each tip sheet covers one area of learning and provides developmentally appropriate strategies and activities that can be done at home, as well as additional resources. Newly released topics include [The Outdoors](#), [Helping Your Child Learn About Feelings](#), [Smooth and Successful Transitions](#) and [Writing With Your Child Everyday](#). Districts can download the tip sheets, customize it with the district’s name and date, and distribute it to families.



## Resources for Parents: Video Series on Strengthening the Connection Between Home and School



Public television station [WNET](#) has produced a series of videos to help strengthen the connection between home and school. The videos, available in English and Spanish, provide strategies to help families set their children up for success in and out of the classroom.

For example, [routines](#) can reduce stress around transitions from one activity to the next. Following a routine at home is great practice for following a routine at school. Regular family routines also help ensure that children will arrive at school on time, well-rested, and ready to learn.

[Readiness Check](#) is a free interactive tool to help parents understand their children’s strengths and to identify what support they may need with grade-level skills. [Watch the video](#), then visit [Become a Learning Hero](#) for the Readiness Check in both English and Spanish.

## PDG Grant Update: Early Development Instrument

As part of the PDG grant, three of the districts with federally-funded Pre-K participated in the [Early Development Instrument](#) (EDI) Project. The EDI is a valid and reliable tool which assesses the developmental skills and behaviors of children, between the ages of 3.5 and 6.5 years of age, based on teacher observation. This tool gathers information about the developmental health of the children’s population on a whole, and can help identify trends and developmental change, along with inform stakeholders’ decisions. Please visit the [EDI website](#) for more information on the tool.

## Upcoming Fall 2019 Professional Learning Opportunities

### Webinar Series with Kristie Mraz

Kristi Mraz, co-author of Kids' First from Day One, will present an online webinar series to kindergarten teachers, first grade teachers and administrators from New York State. This virtual 2 session course is designed to help teachers reclaim play, inquiry, and responsive instruction as the heartbeat of their classroom as a way to help children meet the next generation standards. This course will provide participants with research that supports playful practice, structures to implement for joyful exploration, and a pocketful of strategies to help each child find their social, emotional, and intellectual path. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions, receive feedback and share classroom practice. Participants are required to attend both sessions. *This session is currently full but there is a waitlist available.*

Dates: October 29 and December 9, 2019 from 3pm-5pm

Register at: <https://webinarkristiemraz.eventbrite.com>

### Professional Learning Seminar with Dr. Rebecca Isbell, Author of *Nurturing Creativity*

We are excited to offer this FREE session to early childhood administrators, teachers, and instructional coaches. During this session, participants will learn how to support children as they problem solve, explore and share new ideas, and collaborate with others. Participants will develop an understanding of how to design spaces that encourage children's experimentation and play. Participants will receive a copy of the book and have an opportunity after the session to have the book signed by the author! Two hours of CTLE professional learning credits will be awarded to participants at the end of the session.

Date: November 5, 2019, 4:30pm-7:30pm (including registration and a book signing)

Register at: <https://drisbell.eventbrite.com>

### P-3 Professional Learning Series

We are excited to offer a professional learning series with experts in the P-3 field. Participants will learn about different instructional strategies that can be implemented the next day in their classrooms. Presenters include; Miriam Beloglovsky, Author of Loose Parts, Dr. Janis Strasser, Co-author of Big Questions for Young Minds, Dr. Shannon Riley-Ayers, Senior Program Officer, Rebecca Burdett and Dr. Marie Masterson, Co-Author of Serious Fun. Participants will receive 5.5 hours of CTLE, and books by the authors.

Date: December 5, 2019- 8:00am-3:00pm

Cost: \$30.00- lunch is included

Register at: <https://decemberpls2019.eventbrite.com>



**New York State  
Education Department  
Office of Early Learning**  
89 Washington Ave  
Rm. 319 EB  
Albany, New York 12234  
Phone: (518) 474-5807  
Fax: (518) 473-7737  
Email: [OEL@nysed.gov](mailto:OEL@nysed.gov)

#### OEL Staff:

DeSylvia Dwyer  
*Acting Director & Supervisor of Education Programs*

Estralita Cromartie  
Ashley DiMeo  
Jane Fronheiser  
Michele Kinzel-Peles  
Karen McMahon  
Meg McNiff  
Michael Montoya  
Tina Rose-Turrioglio  
Rebecca Stahl