Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Technology Integration

Technology is integrated throughout classroom experiences as a tool to facilitate the learning process. Students are provided opportunities to engage in and master the standards set forth in W. Va. 126CSR44N, Policy WVBE Policy 2520.14: 21st Century Learning Skills and Technology Tools Content Standards and Objectives for West Virginia Schools (hereinafter WVBE Policy 2520.14).

Instructional technology refers to a variety of tools including but not limited to: computers, tablets, digital cameras, calculators, and smart phones. The Early Learning Readiness Grades (WV Universal Pre-K and kindergarten) provide opportunities for the intentional use of technology and media to support learning and building of relationships.

The teacher’s ability to integrate high-quality, developmentally appropriate technology and interactive media throughout classroom instruction enhances the learning experience for each student.

**Critical Considerations to Help Assure Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Technology Integration:**

- Educators intentionally integrate the use of technology to maximize learning while managing screen time.
- Student use of technology should reflect a direct connection to instruction and result in demonstrated learning.
- Passive use of technology is not an acceptable replacement for active play, engagement with other children and adults.
- Students at this age benefit from the opportunities to explore a variety of technology and interactive media.
- Students learn best when developmentally appropriate teaching practices guide the selection of classroom materials including technology and interactive media.
- Young children benefit from using technology to document their learning experiences.

**Implications**

- Intentional selection and use of technology tools and interactive media enhances the learning experience within the framework of developmentally appropriate practices to support learning goals. **Ask yourself:** How do I intentionally select technology tools and interactive media to extend children’s learning? How do I integrate technology tools and interactive media to provide developmentally appropriate experiences for my students? How do I monitor student screen time?

- Preschool and kindergarten students interact with technology and media within a variety of learning experiences. **Ask yourself:** How do I integrate technology in the varied classroom experiences including: classroom routines, small groups, creative play and learning centers?

- Technology tools are available for student exploration and use. **Ask yourself:** How do students have access to technology tools? How do I encourage them to use technology to document learning experiences?
Foundations for High-Quality Early Learning Programming

Early Learning Readiness (Pre-K – Kindergarten)

Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Technology Integration

Selected Resources


Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc

National Association for the Education of Young Children. (Technology and Interactive Media as Tools in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth through Age 8) Online: http://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/PS_technology_WEB.pdf


Related Policies

Policy 2510 Assuring the Quality Of Education: Regulations For Education Programs
Policy 2525 West Virginia's Universal Access to an Early Education System
Policy 2520.15 Early Learning Standards Framework: Content Standards and Learning Criteria for West Virginia Pre-Kindergarten (WV Pre-k)
Policy 2520.14 21st Century Learning Skills and Technology Tools Content Standards and Objectives for West Virginia Schools

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