

Teaching Strategies

Creative Curriculum For Preschool Outcomes Study

FEB 12 – JUN 13



Teaching Strategies has been creating innovative and effective curriculum and classroom experiences for over 25 years. With both *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool* and *Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment System* teachers are provided a solid set of resources to prepare their preschool classrooms for the school year, demonstrate growth, and also make their planning process a little less cumbersome.

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is widely used by a variety of preschool programs throughout the country. Teaching Strategies was interested in conducting a 2-year pilot study to evaluate the outcomes of using this comprehensive curriculum compared with other curriculum systems. The *Creative Curriculum* is designed to:

- Create learning environments
- Individualize learning to meet the needs of all learners
- Teach curriculum in specific content areas
- Integrate curriculum investigations of topics that interest children

This pilot study aimed to evaluate child outcomes of using *The Creative Curriculum®* for 1 year or 2 years. All study participants were given the opportunity to be trained with this curriculum but length of time using the curriculum depended on the cohort preschools were placed in. Results comparing teachers using *The Creative Curriculum®* for a second year with teachers using it for the first year only also provided strong evidence that more time with *The Creative Curriculum®* may lead to increased teacher effectiveness.

Research Questions

Does the curriculum provide lasting benefits essential to kindergarten readiness?

What is the impact of *The Creative Curriculum®* on the achievement of preschool children in classrooms where teachers used the curriculum for only one year?

What is the impact of *The Creative Curriculum®* on the achievement of preschool children in classrooms where teachers used the curriculum for two years?

Research Methods

Administer pre and post testing to 2 cohorts of preschoolers, control & experimental groups

Administer training for all programs in order to ensure proper use of curriculum materials

My Role

Lead trainings for teachers and field any problems or struggles that teachers had during initial implementation

Consult with outside data scientists for end-of-year data analysis

Quantitative research: Analyze full data sets using SPSS

Qualitative research: classroom visits, reviewing testimonials and comments about research experience.

Work with several outside researchers to write outcomes study report