

The **Creative Curriculum** is a research-based early childhood education framework that focuses on a **whole-child approach to learning through relationship-building, routine-based care, and purposeful, play-based exploration**. Published by Teaching Strategies, it segments instruction into distinct, developmentally appropriate paths tailored to the rapid changes from birth through age five.

The curriculum focuses on **four core developmental domains**: Social-Emotional, Physical, Cognitive, and Language/Literacy development.



Infants (Ages 0–18 Months)

The infant curriculum prioritizes **responsive caregiving, sensory exploration, and building secure attachments** with familiar adults.

- **Daily Routines as Learning:** Primary tasks like diapering, feeding, and putting a baby to sleep are treated as essential opportunities for bonding, talking, and brain development.
- **Responsive Environments:** The physical space utilizes soft spaces for tummy time, low-safe mirrors, and high-contrast visuals to stimulate innate curiosity.
- **Literacy & Vocabulary:** Educators read baby-proof, high-contrast, bilingual books that highlight human faces and simple rhymes to build early language skills.
- **Individualized Child Plans:** Initial screeners identify each baby's unique milestone baseline to generate personalized care and skill plans.



Toddlers & Twos (Ages 18–36 Months)

The toddler curriculum expands as children gain mobility, moving toward **active thinking, independence, and environment manipulation**.

- **Exploration & Play:** Activities focus on gross and fine motor skills like balancing, sorting, climbing, and tactile exploration.
- **Language & Communication:** Books and lessons transition to more complex words, repeating chants, and nursery rhymes to foster emerging verbal expression.
- **Socialization:** Structured "Mighty Minutes" (short songs, games, and rhymes) are introduced to help toddlers navigate transitions and learn emotional regulation.
- **Discovery Themes:** Monthly plans are organized around developmental themes that give kids a first-hand look at how things work in the world around them.



Preschoolers (Ages 3–5 Years)

The preschool framework shifts to a **comprehensive, project-based study system** explicitly designed to nurture kindergarten readiness.

- **The Study Approach:** Children investigate comprehensive, multi-week topics that deeply interest them (such as boxes, balls, trees, or clothes) through active, hands-on science and social studies exploration.
- **Interest Areas:** Classrooms are organized into distinct, structured zones including the block area, dramatic play, sensory table, library, and science corner.
- **Academic Foundations:** Rather than using passive worksheets, language, literacy, complex math concepts, and scientific thinking are integrated directly into play and daily investigations.
- **Social-Emotional Success:** Heavy emphasis is placed on cooperative play, collaborative problem-solving, and managing peer conflicts constructively.

We also integrate Christian values into our daily routines. The kids have a Bible story time and pray before their meals and snacks.