

**A Foreword from the Co-Director of the  
Center for Child and Family Studies, WestEd**

“ . . .Preschoolers revel in their increasing coordination, using their bodies exuberantly. They thrive in environments that encourage them to experiment with new materials, roles, and ideas . . . .”  
Tomlinson & Hyson, 2009, p. 113

The *California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Volume 2* gives guidance on how teachers can support preschoolers’ ever-developing ability to coordinate and use their bodies to engage in learning. It focuses both on children’s physical well-being and motor development. In addition to offering strategies for planning learning experiences in the areas of health and physical development, Volume 2 of the *California Preschool Curriculum Framework* addresses curriculum planning in the visual and performing arts domain. Young children thrive when they have opportunities to experiment with materials, roles, and ideas. Such experiences allow them to learn in an integrated way.

This document, the *CDE/ECE Faculty Initiative Project Instructional Guide* for the *California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Volume 2*, is the latest installment of practical, user-friendly resources developed by the Faculty Initiative Project. Seeking to forge a strong link between the California Department of Education’s (CDE) early care and education quality improvement activities and higher education in California, the Faculty Initiative Project has been supporting the efforts of faculty to infuse information from the CDE’s activities into their course work. The instructional guides, which are being created collaboratively with higher education faculty, are an essential component of the Faculty Initiative Project’s work.

Higher education faculty will easily recognize the content of the preschool curriculum framework, for many of the principles, concepts, and strategies it presents correspond to content they already teach. This instructional guide is designed to meet the needs of faculty in a wide variety of situations. Following a widely used teaching and learning sequence, it offers open-ended activities that can be used in their current form or adapted. In a nutshell, the instructional guide provides an easy to-use, ready-to-go set of comprehensive resources, including in-class activities and handouts, that relate to all instructional levels, from an introductory class to master’s level graduate study.

My colleagues and I at WestEd greatly appreciate having the opportunity to partner with the Faculty Initiative Project advisors and consultants from higher education. It is our hope that this instructional guide will help faculty foster a broad and deep understanding of early learning and development in their students—tomorrow’s early childhood educators. Together with the CDE, we look forward to continuing our work with higher education to ensure that all young children have teachers who possess the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to provide high quality early care and education.

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