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Overarching Principles

What do we mean by “principle”?

- Basic assumption
- Value-based standard
- Belief- and ethics-based characteristic



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Overarching Principles

The eight overarching principles:

- Are derived from research on what is effective practice and what supports children’s learning and development.
- Have guided the development of the curriculum framework and are intended to provide children “individually, culturally, and linguistically responsive learning experiences and environments” (*California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Volume 3, p. 5*).

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Overarching Principles

1. Relationships are central.	5. Family and community partnerships create meaningful connections.
2. Play is a primary context for learning.	6. Individualization of learning includes all children.
3. Learning is integrated.	7. Responsiveness to culture and language supports children’s learning.
4. Intentional teaching enhances children’s learning experiences.	8. Time for reflection and planning enhances teaching.

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Overarching Principles

- What did you notice about the key points and phrases?
- Where did you see similarities? Where did you see differences? What do you think accounts for the similarities and differences?
- Which phrases or sentences occurred more frequently than others in each principle? Why might that be so?

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Overarching Principles

- Would you change any of your sentences or phrases after seeing some that were different? If so, how and why would you change them? If not, why not?
- What did this learning experience tell you about the eight overarching principles?

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Overarching Principles

Exploring the Overarching Principles

Instructions: In the column titled "Notes," write examples of how you have observed each principle implemented in early care and education settings by responding to the question for each principle.

Overarching Principle	Notes
<p><i>Relationships are central</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are relationships made central? 	
<p><i>Play is a primary context for learning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What evidence is there that play is a primary context for learning? 	
<p><i>Learning is integrated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you see that suggests that learning is integrated? 	
<p><i>Intentional teaching enhances children's learning experiences</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What examples of intentional teaching have you seen? 	



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Handout 1 – Exploring the Overarching Principles

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Overarching Principles

- Relationships are central***
 - How are relationships made central?
- Play is a primary context for learning***
 - What evidence is there that play is a primary context for learning?
- Learning is integrated***
 - What do you see that suggests that learning is integrated?

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Overarching Principles

Intentional teaching enhances children's learning experiences

- What examples of intentional teaching have you seen?

Family and community partnerships create meaningful connections

- How are meaningful connections made with families and communities?

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Overarching Principles

Individualization of learning includes all children

- How are learning opportunities provided for all children as individuals?



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Overarching Principles

Responsiveness to culture and language supports children’s learning

- How is children’s learning supported with responsiveness to culture and language?

Time for reflection and planning enhances teaching

- How is time provided for teachers to reflect and plan?

Overarching Principles

Relationships of the Overarching Principles to the Domain Guiding Principles

Domain: _____

Instructions: Review the guiding principles in your assigned domain. In the column headed "Domain Guiding Principle(s)," write the guiding principle(s) that you think relate to each of the overarching principles.

Overarching Principle	Domain Guiding Principle(s)
Relationships are central	
Play is a primary context for learning	
Learning is integrated	
Intentional teaching enhances children's learning experiences	



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Handout 2 – Relationships of the Overarching Principles to the Domain Guiding Principles

Overarching Principles

- Which overarching principles or domain guiding principles stood out for you?
- What was relatively easy about doing this comparison? What was more difficult? Why?
- Where did you find some close matches between the overarching principles and the domain guiding principles? Where were there some guiding principles for a domain that did not seem to relate to any of the eight overarching principles?

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Overarching Principles

- What did this comparison tell you about the eight overarching principles? About the guiding principles for each domain?



**HISTORY–
SOCIAL SCIENCE**



SCIENCE

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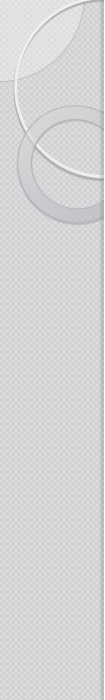
- What stood out for you from this learning experience?
- What was particularly interesting or engaging?
- What new insights or perspectives did you develop about the eight overarching principles?

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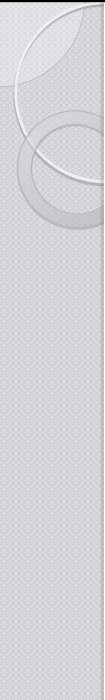
- Which overarching principle do you feel you need to learn more about in order to apply it to young children's learning in history and the social sciences or science?
- What is a first step you can take to start your learning?

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- What are some ideas, concepts, or strategies that you learned from this class session?
- Which ones reinforced what you have already learned or experienced? Which ones were new or caused you to think differently about teaching preschool children and/or engaging their families?

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- Why do you think the content of this class session was presented the way it was? How did this approach help you understand the content? What else would have helped?
- How will you decide what to apply from this class session in your work with preschool children and/or their families? What will you do to ensure you will implement what you have decided to use?

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Deeper Understanding: Principles

Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language, Literacy, and Learning, 2009. 2nd ed. Sacramento: California Department of Education.

Ten principles are found throughout the *Preschool English Learners Guide* and are summarized in Appendix A on page 93 of that publication.

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Deeper Understanding: Principles

“Early Childhood Curriculum, Assessment, and Program Evaluation: Building an Effective, Accountable System in Programs for Children Birth Through Age 8.” ~ Position statement with expanded resources by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), 2003.

The guiding principles and values are on page 5 of the NAEYC document, which is available at <http://naeyc.org/positionstatements/cape>.

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Deeper Understanding: Principles

Write a paper comparing these principles with the 8 overarching principles from the *California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Volume 3*, addressing:

- Where are there similarities? What do these similarities tell us about what is important in the field of early care and education?
- Where are the differences? Why might there be these differences?