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**VPK Emergent Literacy  
5-Hour Course for VPK Instructors  
~ Collaborating Partners ~**

**North East Florida Educational Consortium**

**Florida Center for Interactive Media**

**DOE Voluntary  
Prekindergarten Regional Facilitators**

**Florida Center for Reading Research**

**Early Childhood Association**

**Florida Association for Childcare Management**

**Early Learning Coalitions**

**Department of Children and Families**

**Agency for Workforce Innovation**

This document was developed under the auspices of the Office of Early Learning, Florida Department of Education, to disseminate the Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Standards, adopted by the State Board of Education on March 15, 2005, consistent with the requirements of Section 1002.67, Florida Statutes. Copies of this document, as well as training and assistance in the appropriate implementation of the VPK Education Standards, are available free on request from the Florida Department of Education to any VPK provider in the state.

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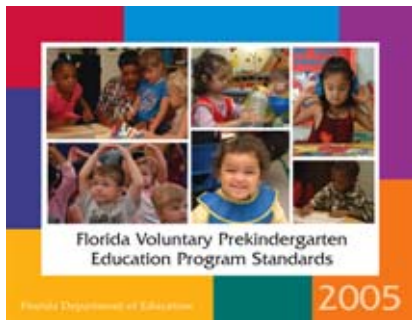
**Florida  
Department of Education  
Office of Early Learning**

**Voluntary Prekindergarten  
(VPK) Education Program**



**Emergent Literacy  
Course for  
VPK Instructors**

In 2002, Florida voters approved an amendment to the state's constitution to provide a high quality prekindergarten learning opportunity for every four-year-old. This program is referred to as Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program. The legislation passed to implement this program required the development of performance standards. Florida's revised VPK Standards address the following areas of child development:



**Physical Health**  
**Approaches to Learning**  
**Social Emotional**  
**Language & Communication**  
**Emergent Literacy**  
**Cognitive Development & General Knowledge**  
**Motor Development**

The Language and Communication standard was revised and Emergent Literacy was added to the standards to achieve the VPK goal of addressing the needs of the total child and to provide clarity and focus in preparing young children to be ready for kindergarten. VPK is seen as one more year to reach the state's goal of having all Florida's children reading on grade level by the end of third grade.

Training in the standards will be offered by the Department of Education and the VPK Regional Facilitators. For additional information, please visit the Office of Early Learning's website:

<http://www.myfloridaeducation.com/earlylearning/>

The goal of the five-hour **Emergent Literacy Course for VPK Instructors** is to provide participants with background information on emergent literacy skills and give exceptional instructional practices that may be used in the VPK classrooms.

This self-paced program is available in either an instructional manual/DVD format, or as an online course. It is comprised of:

- **interactive learning activities**
- **video demonstrations of lessons by Florida VPK instructors**
- **techniques for implementing research-based instructional practices**
- **competency based assessments.**

The **five components** in the Emergent Literacy for VPK Instructors course are as follows:



**Emergent Literacy**  
**Language**  
**Emergent Reading**  
**Emergent Writing**  
**Environment**

This training is designed to follow the initial training on the new Prekindergarten Standards.

For additional information, please contact your VPK center director; regional facilitator or call the Department of Education, Office of Early Learning 850-245-0445. Effective October 2005, this course will be accessible online at [www.flvpkonline.org/emergentliteracy](http://www.flvpkonline.org/emergentliteracy).