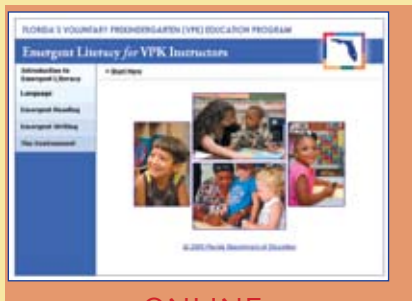


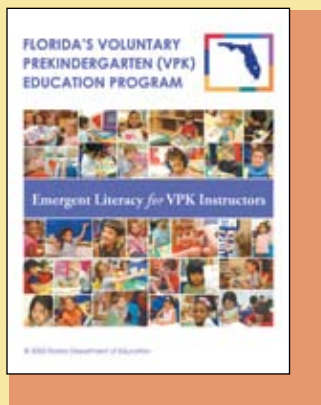
INFORMATION LINKS

The Emergent Literacy Course is online at
<http://www.flvpkonline.org/ellInfo.htm>



ONLINE

or contact your VPK Regional Facilitator for a copy of the Emergent Literacy independent study guide (in English or Spanish) The assessment must be taken online, in English or Spanish



STUDY GUIDE

To contact your VPK Regional Facilitator or view the training schedule for your region the Web address is

<http://www.fldoe.org/earlylearning/regionalfacilitators.asp>

For regular updates, visit the Office of Early Learning's website
<http://www.fldoe.org/earlylearning/>

TRAINING PARTNERS

- North East Florida Educational Consortium
- Florida Center for Interactive Media
- DOE Voluntary Prekindergarten Regional Facilitators
- Florida Center for Reading Research, Florida State University
- Early Childhood Association of Florida
- Florida Association for Childcare Management
- Early Learning Coalitions
- Department of Children and Families
- Agency for Workforce Innovation



September

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Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning
850-245-0445



Emergent Literacy Course

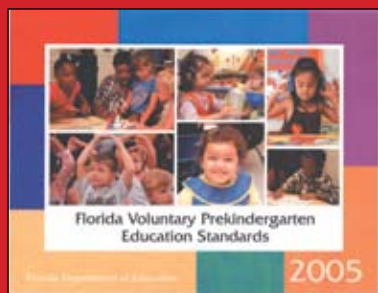


For VPK Instructors

Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning

BACKGROUND

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 child. This program is referred to as Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program. Implementing legislation required the development of performance standards.



VPK STANDARDS

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

These standards address the needs of the total child and provide clarity and focus in preparing them for kindergarten. VPK is seen as providing one more year of skill building to reach the goal of having all Florida's children reading on grade level by the end of third grade.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Florida Department of Education created a five-hour Emergent Literacy Course for VPK Instructors to provide participants with background information on emergent literacy skills and give examples of instructional practices that may be used in VPK classrooms

The course includes

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

This training is designed to follow the initial training on the new VPK Standards. While it is recommended that the initial training be completed first, it is not required.

This self-paced course is available on-line or as a free independent study guide (instructional manual/ DVD format), available from your VPK Regional Facilitator

Some VPK instructors have expressed the need for additional training to help to link the concepts presented in the Emergent Literacy Course For VPK Instructors with hands-on activities. A facilitator-led training, Emergent Literacy in the VPK classroom, will be available in Fall, 2007.

WHO MUST TAKE THE COURSE?

The DOE Emergent Literacy Course for VPK Instructors is required for all VPK instructors with a Child Development Associate (CDA) or Birth through Five Credential (formerly known as the CDAE) who did not complete a DCF-approved training in early literacy and language development prior to November 28, 2005. The requirement that VPK instructors with a CDA or Birth through Five Credential (formerly known as the CDAE) take the Emergent Literacy Course For VPK Instructors applies to VPK instructors in both private programs and public schools.

VPK instructors with an Associate's or higher degree are not required to complete this course, although they are encouraged to do so.

A listing of previously approved courses is available on the DCF website at <http://www.myflorida.com/childcare/> under "training requirements "

CREDIT AVAILABLE FOR COURSE COMPLETION

The Emergent Literacy Course For VPK Instructors may be used for DCF required annual in-service hours.

This course may be used to renew a CDA or Birth through Five Credential (formerly known as the CDAE) only if the participant earns .5 CEUs for the course through DCF. In order to receive CEUs, an individual must complete the course, the online course assessment, and a competency exam. For availability of the competency exam, look under "Competency Exams" on DCF's Child Care Information website at <http://www.myflorida.com/childcare/training>