

# Putting the Pieces Together: Developmentally Appropriate Practice & Outcomes for Preschool Students

Georgia Department of Education

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"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

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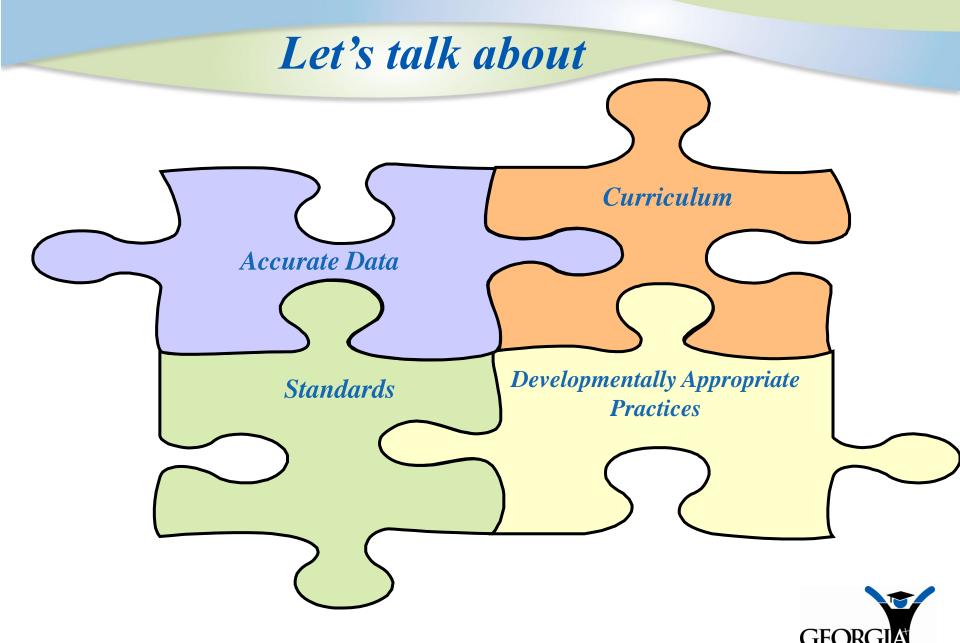
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Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools

### Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) in Early Childhood Programs (2009)



- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- Position statement original 1986 & 1987
- Sue Bredekamp & Carol Copple, Editors
- Reviews and revise every 10 years to ensure currency and accuracy
  - Research-based



## Traditional Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) vs. DAP Models

- Behaviorally oriented
- Skill training orientation
- Discrete instructional periods
- Adult-directed
- Adult-selected activities
- Promotes child-teacher interactions
- Secondary reinforcers

- Age appropriate activities
- Discovery learning
- Child-directed
- Teachable moments
- Adult follows child's lead
- Child-selected activities
- Promotes child-to-child interactions
- Natural consequences of communicative attempts



#### NAEYC: DAP Position Statement



- Children learning preferences
- Practices that are most supportive & respectful of children's healthy development
- Appropriate curriculum content and assessment



#### Core Considerations in DAP



Early Childhood Educators must consider these three areas of knowledge:

- Child development and learning,
- Awareness of the child as an individual, and
- Social and cultural contexts in which children live.



## Twelve Principles of Child Development & Learning that Inform Practice

- 1. Domains of development are closely related; development in one domain influences other domains.
- 2. Development occurs in a relatively orderly sequence, building on those skills already acquired.
- 3. Development preceeds at varying rates from child to child, and may be uneven within areas of each child's development.
- 4. Early experiences have both cumulative and delayed effects on individual children's development; optimal periods exist for certain types of development and learning.



## Twelve Principles of Child Development & Learning that Inform Practice

- 5. Development proceeds in predictable directions toward greater complexity, organization, and internalization.
- 6. Development and learning occur in and are influenced by multiple social and cultural contexts.
- 7. Children are active learners, drawing on direct physical and social experience as well as culturally transmitted knowledge to construct their own understandings of the world around them.
- 8. Development and learning result from interaction of biological maturation and the environment, which includes both the physical and social worlds that children live in.



## Twelve Principles of Child Development & Learning that Inform Practice

- 9. Play is an important vehicle for children's social, emotional, and cognitive development, as well as a reflection of their development.
- 10. Development advances when children have opportunities to practice newly acquired skills as well as when they experience a challenge just beyond the level of their present mastery.
- 11. Children demonstrate different modes of knowing and learning and different ways of representing what they know.
- 12. Children develop and learn best in the context of a community where they are safe and valued, their physical needs are met, and they feel psychologically secure.

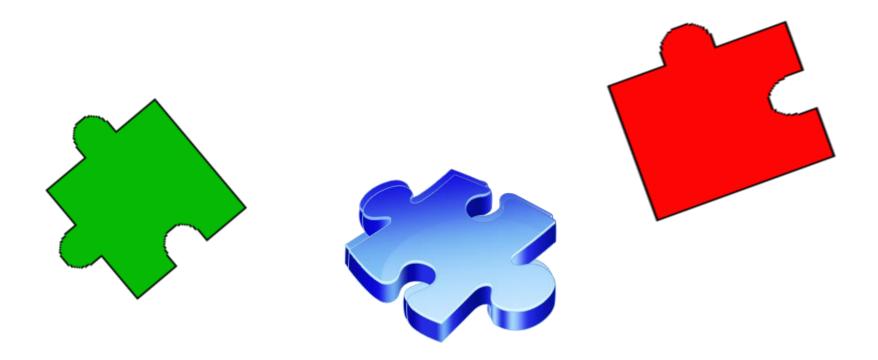
### Guidelines to Developmentally Appropriate Practice



#### See Handout



### Preschool Outcomes





#### Accurate Data

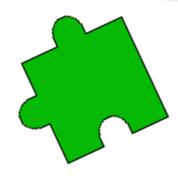


- Preschool Outcome Requirements
  - Summary Statements
  - State Targets
- Exit Measurement Definitions and Ratings
- Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Center Child Outcome Summary Form (COSF)
- Preschool Assessment in Portal



### Georgia Standards for Early Childhood

- Georgia Content Standards
- Georgia Early Learning Standards
  - ➤ Teacher Activity Guide
  - ➤ Parent Activity Guide
- GaDOE's Expectations
  - ➤ Standards-based instruction
  - > Standards-based classroom

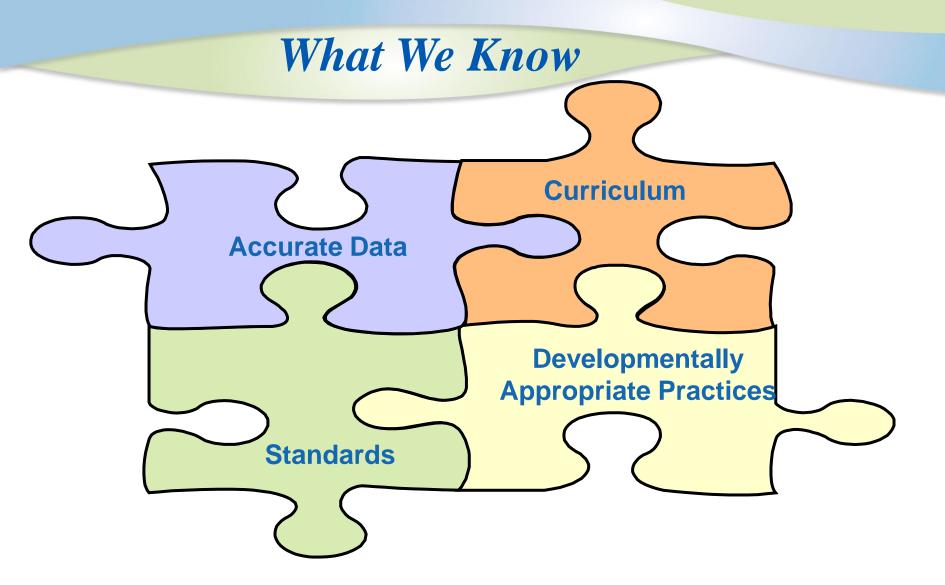




### Curriculum

- Developmental Background
- Bright From the Start Approved Curriculum
- Connection to Standards







### Questions?

