

BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN ENTRY ASSESSMENT TOOL TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD

Course Description:

The state has selected a Birth to Kindergarten Entry Assessment, *Teaching Strategies GOLD* which demonstrates strong alignment with the *Louisiana Birth to Five Early Learning and Development Standards*. Through this training course, teachers will learn how to observe, document and evaluate children's development and learning over time using the *GOLD* online system. They will learn how to use results from their assessments to inform their planning and instruction and to identify children who might benefit from special help, screening or further evaluation. This training also provides participants with information on reports and other resources available to them through their *GOLD* account.

Outcome: Early childhood educators will have the tools necessary to determine how children are progressing and what adjustments they need to make in their activities, interactions and the environment to improve outcomes for children.

Objectives: As a result of this training, early childhood educators will:

- Be knowledgeable about the state's Birth to Kindergarten Entry Assessment - *Teaching Strategies GOLD*
- Understand the connection between the assessment and the *Louisiana Birth to Five Early Learning and Development Standards*
- Be prepared to collect and enter assessment information online
- Be familiar with the array of reports and technical assistance support that can be accessed
- Be able to use assessment information to individualize instruction
- Understand how to share assessment information with families and other stakeholders

Materials and Preparation:

- Teaching Strategies GOLD* training materials
- Computer or other device with internet access to input assessment data
- Access Teaching Strategies website at <http://www.teachingstrategies.com>

Time Frame:

- 9.0 hours for In Person Training
- 8.0 hours for 4 online modules

Follow-up upon completion of this course:

- Provide documentation of course completion to supervisor(s)
- Early childhood educators in child care centers and Head Start/Early Head Start programs will receive credit for training approved through the LDE Licensing Division
- Complete additional online courses (including Inter-rater Reliability Certification)
- Participate in webinars from Teaching Strategies and the LDE throughout the year
- Use the "Guiding Questions" to extend learning and application of the information gained

**BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN ENTRY ASSESSMENT TOOL
TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD**

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

Reflective thinking about this course will help early childhood educators as they work with children and families. When teachers reflect on what they have learned, it allows them to consider what they are doing in their classroom, why they are doing it, how effective they are, whether children are responding and learning, and what they could do better.

- What steps will you take to become more familiar with the *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment?
- What will be the most challenging thing for you when collecting information on children's development?
- What would you need to do to turn those challenges into accomplishments?
- What changes to your program will be necessary in order for you to collect information on children's development (for example: changes in schedules, materials, routines, etc.)
- What on-line resources from Teaching Strategies will you take advantage of?
- How will you use child assessment information (data) when planning activities and experiences for the children you work with?
- How will you use child assessment information (data) to plan collaboratively with your coworkers?
- What steps will you take if you realize a child is not developing at a typical pace based on the assessment information you collect?
- What is your plan for sharing assessment information with families?
- If you have families whose home language is not English, what measures will you take to be certain they understand the assessment information you will share?
- What access to other professionals (speech language pathologists, pediatricians, occupational therapists, physical therapists, etc.) might be helpful if you discover a child who is not developing in a typical fashion?
- What support do you need to improve your assessment practices?