

## What are The TEN Creative Curriculum for Preschool Areas of Development & Learning?

38 research-based objectives are the heart of the curriculum and define the path teachers take with children in their classroom. The objectives cover **10 areas of development and learning**, including broad developmental areas, content areas, and English language acquisition. They inform every aspect of teaching, include predictors of school success, and are **aligned with the NYS P-12 Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS)**, and ensures **continuity with the Common Core State Standards in ELA and Math**.

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL**

**PHYSICAL**

**LANGUAGE**

**COGNITIVE**

**LITERACY**

**MATHEMATICS**

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**THE ARTS**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**



The Creative Curriculum is an early childhood curriculum designed to foster **children's social/emotional, physical, cognitive and language development**, as well as enhance learning in **literacy, math, social studies, the arts and technology**.

**The Creative Curriculum for Preschool** is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum that features exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and lifelong critical thinking skills. It is designed to help educators at all levels of experience plan and implement a developmentally appropriate, content-rich program for children with diverse backgrounds and skill levels.

**What Are Studies?** Studies are hands-on, project-based investigations of topics that are relevant to children's everyday experiences. Studies are exciting and engaging. They tap into children's natural curiosity, resulting in a learning environment that is both fun and intentional. The study approach is a method of integrating content learning through children's in-depth investigations of a meaningful topic. Children raise questions about the topic, and, through exploration and discovery, they find answers to their questions. Throughout the school year children explore a variety of studies through first-hand exploration and discovery. Studies in the Preschool classes include Trees, Clothes, Buildings, Balls, Wheels, Water, Boxes and Getting Ready for Kindergarten.

Teachers are able to structure instruction so each child receives appropriate support to ensure success. Additionally, social and emotional skills are a focus of The Creative Curriculum, giving children the opportunity to learn about sharing, turn taking and self-help skills. Our teachers and caregivers focus on teaching the "whole child" and include plenty of physical activity and chances to explore literacy, math, science, social studies, technology and the arts through a variety of self-directed activities.

**Why Studies?** The study approach allows for deep, firsthand exploration of topics that interest children, offering myriad ways to learn about each topic. Plus, the study approach not only allows children to gain a deeper understanding of the topic but also encourages them to develop skills across all domains as they apply the investigative process.

## Advantages of Studies

- allow children to explore science and social studies topics while developing skills in language and literacy, math, technology, and the arts
- let children apply their acquired skills in meaningful, real-life contexts
- encourage higher-level thinking, development of intellectual interests, and positive approaches to learning
- give children the necessary skills to solve problems and find answers to their questions in a creative way
- support the development of social-emotional skills, such as resolving conflict, sharing responsibilities, and working collaboratively
- encourages family involvement



## Creative Curriculum Investigative Study BALLS Unit

This study of balls will offer children opportunities to investigate objects from many different perspectives. They will explore important concepts of physical science and social studies as they observe, gather data, explore their school and home environment. A study of balls also offers a meaningful way for children to use skills in mathematics, literacy, the arts, and technology.

Children play with balls and look at them in many different ways: throwing, catching, kicking, and rolling them. Children make balls, marbles, and other rolling objects change speed and direction. They see how natural forces such as gravity and friction affect the movement of balls. Children play traditional games with balls and often invent their own games.