

APPENDIX E

Developmentally Appropriate Practice in the Early Learning Setting

Tips and Resources for Early Childhood Educators

There are several ways for program directors, educational leaders, trainers, teachers, and early childhood education students to engage with and think about the material in the fourth edition of the book. These include creating or joining book study or teacher inquiry groups, engaging with other NAEYC members online, and learning about other educators engaged in developmentally appropriate practice in *Young Children (YC)* and *Teaching Young Children (TYC)* articles. Many resources can be found at NAEYC.org/DAP.

This fourth edition provides rich content for book study or teacher inquiry groups. To facilitate your book study, we offer an adaptable book study guide on the NAEYC website.

- › Directors, educational leaders, trainers, teachers, and students can use this guide to engage in a self-reflective and interactive reading of the book with a group of educators.
- › Teachers can read and engage in individual self-reflective journal writing activities.

Read about the ways educators in diverse settings and contexts implement developmentally appropriate practice in articles from *YC* and *TYC*.

- › Dive into the vast archive of articles to augment your understanding, read more examples of developmentally appropriate practice in action, and consider the connections to the position statement on developmentally appropriate practice. Each issue of *YC* and *TYC* is full of articles that show the principles of child development and learning, the core considerations, and the guidelines for practice in action.

- › As you read these articles, use the following thought questions to highlight the connections to developmentally appropriate practice:

1. How does this article connect to developmentally appropriate practice?
2. Which of the nine principles of child development and learning are reflected in this article?
3. How are the three core considerations reflected?
4. Do the examples in this article show any of the six guidelines for practice? Which ones?
5. Are there things you would adjust or do differently in your setting?

Learn and be inspired by educators' vignettes and self-reflections. Appendix A (see page 273) showcases seven teacher reflections in which teachers offer stories about a learning experience from their practice, share a self-reflection on the experience, and make connections to developmentally appropriate practice.

- › As you read through these stories, consider the reflection questions on page 273 and write your responses. Share with a colleague and discuss.

Share your own story and reflection about how you have implemented developmentally appropriate practice. Visit NAEYC.org/DAP and share your stories and self-reflections via the webform. Become part of the DAP community!