

## Preschool Curriculum Resource Consideration

### *The Creative Curriculum for PreK*

#### The Creative Curriculum

#### Alignment to the newly adopted (07/2021) Developmental Learning Standards

The Creative Curriculum is a learning resource that has been approved by the VDOE to support the most recent adoption of the new Developmental Learning Standards and meets the requirement as outlined by the newly adopted Early Childhood Unified Measurement & Improvement System that will become effective in 2023 upon completion of its Practice Year (2021-22).

A team of preschool teachers, that included both Bright Stars and ECSE staff, as well as principals have considered 3 possible options for the adoption of a new learning resource tool: the continuation of *High Scope*, *Frog Street* and *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool*. While *High Scope* is our current learning resource and has been since the inception of our Bright Stars program, it has been a significant challenge to access appropriate and meaningful teacher professional development to adequately train for successful implementation in the classroom with students. This is a significant barrier for teachers feeling prepared to support the new standards since there are only 4/22 current staff who have been fully trained in *High Scope*. The second resource, *Frog Street*, was an excellent instructional resource and comparable to *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool*, but was more expensive for equal quality.

Upon completion of the team review of the resource, their feedback supported the following:

IIAA-F2 Form – Criteria/Considerations Scored 0-4 (The numbers reflect the average score collected from each team member's review)

***Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter: 4.0***

***Timeliness: 3.71***

***Quality of Writing/Production: 3.71***

***Readability: 3.85***

***Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.:***

***Supplemental Sources: 4.0***

***Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel: 4.0***

***Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources: 4.0***

***High Degree of potential user appeal: 3.71***

As can be seen from the scores above, the team found this learning resource to be developmentally appropriate, aligned to our new standards, developed through a student-centered, hands-on,

project/play-based instructional design lens that drives our youngest learners towards deeper thinking and greater creativity through a strong socially constructed format.

The resource was found to align well to support our anti-racist curriculum goals.

It also includes a built-in, developmentally appropriate assessment system that will allow us to have a unified way of measuring the new developmental standards across all of our PreK classrooms. This will provide greater opportunities to work towards more equitable outcomes in student achievement and will better support VKRP outcomes.

In conclusion, another favorable factor that supports the adoption of this resource is that this instructional resource tool is currently being used by our Head Start program, as well as the Preschool program in Charlottesville City school. Given the high degree of mobility that exists in and among our preschools we would be able to offer a similar instructional approach to our students.