

Promoting

INTENTIONAL TEACHING

What is Intentional Teaching?

Intentional Teaching is a process through which educators develop their professional knowledge and skills with specific goals in mind, taking into account the needs and interests of the children that they teach.

Intentional Teachers...

- Design learning opportunities to meet the individual needs, interests, and prior knowledge of all children
- Use ongoing assessment practices to make informed curricular decisions and plan instructional strategies and activities
- Involve children in curricular explorations grounded in rich content (e.g., in science, creative arts, and social studies)
- Engage in high-quality, reciprocal, codirected conversations with each child, rather than a select few, in learning centers, small groups, and individual teaching moments
- Establish a positive classroom climate

When these guidelines are followed in conjunction with one-another, educators can form a comprehensive curriculum, classroom, and relationship with each child that will boost all children's learning and engagement.

Key Components of Intentional Teaching:

- Learning through play
- Including each child
- Culturally responsive practice
- Assessment of diverse young learners
- Linking assessment with curriculum and instruction

Adapted from *Promoting Intentional Teaching: The LEARN Professional Development Model for Early Childhood Educators* by Julie K. Kidd, Ed.D., M. Susan Burns, Ph.D., & Ilham Nasser, Ph.D., Brookes Publishing Co.

