



Features of Quality Instruction: Research-based principles and practices



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Features of Quality Instruction



- Children's learning benefits through integrated instruction
- Learning requires children's minds (not just their bodies) to be active
- High levels of teacher interaction optimize children's learning



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- Play supports children's learning
- Developing competence enhances motivation and self-esteem



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What is Quality Early Literacy Instruction for Children?



- A literacy-enriched environment



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Quality Literacy Instruction



- Intellectually engaging curriculum



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Long-range planning for thematic study



Figure 1. Long-range planning for Thematic Study on The Physical World

Unit	Major Concepts	Materials Need	Prekindergarten Guidelines
Magnetism	Magnetic force attracts things made of iron and steel Magnets have many uses and help us do many things	Objects to test and sort Books Magnets	The child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses one more sense to observe phenomena • analyzes patterns and relationships
Colors	There are many different colors and they have different names Primary colors are red, yellow and blue	Books Paint Colored paper Color swatches Food colors	The child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses different colors to create meaning • uses new vocabulary in everyday communication
Sound	We can identify things by their sounds Sound is created by vibrations of objects Sounds can be high/low, loud/soft	Musical instruments Records Kitchen food containers Chutes and marbles Popcorn cooking	The child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies similarities and differences • Begins to distinguish among sounds of several instruments



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Quality Literacy Instruction



- Clear, systematic, and scaffolded instruction



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Skills that predict early literacy achievement



- Oral language and vocabulary development
 - receptive language and expressive language
- Phonological development
- Letter name knowledge



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Quality Literacy Instruction



- Well-tempo'ed, minds-on, activities
- Language-rich interactive learning
- Integration of reading and writing



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Quality Literacy Instruction



- Parent and community involvement



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Quality Literacy Instruction



- Assessment aligned to theory of reading and designed to improve quality instruction



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