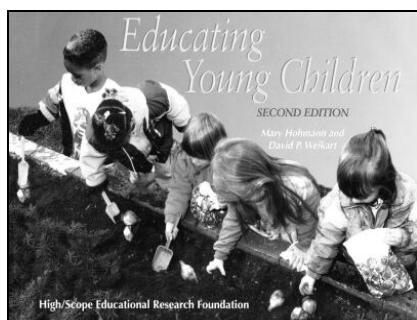


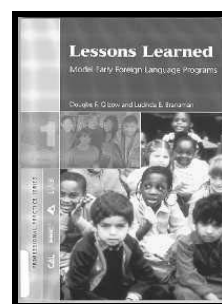
Educating Young Children, by Mary Hohmann and David P. Weikart (Ypsilanti, MI: High/Scope Press, 2002).
Also available: A Study Guide to Educating Young Children, by Mary Hohmann (Ypsilanti, MI: High/Scope Press, 2002).



Long before the words “emergent curriculum” crossed the lips of early childhood educators, teachers using the High/Scope preschool curriculum set the stage for children to engage in “active learning.” *Educating Young Children* (in a newly revised edition) is an incredible a framework for creating active learning experiences that help preschoolers develop “initiative, curiosity, resourcefulness, and self-confidence.” This book includes a listing of High/Scope’s key experiences that guide child development, anecdotes, photographs, sample teacher-student conversations, and helpful suggestions for teacher implementation. Not a curriculum in the sense of lesson plans, but an overview of High/Scope’s philosophy along with the supports for children’s learning within the framework. Highly recommended!

Lessons Learned: Model Early Foreign Language Programs, by Douglas Gilzow and Lucinda E. Branaman (ERIC/Center for Applied Linguistics, 2000).

Hebrew language teachers will find this volume of interest. It offers seven “model” (not “perfect,” the authors are quick to point out) programs for teaching foreign language to students as young as kindergarten. Each program was chosen for its focus on all 5 C’s of the national standards for language study (communication, culture, connections, comparisons and communities). Five are “content-enriched” programs (these reinforce general studies course work by teaching math, science or social studies in the target language), one is content-based (students fully study a general studies subject in the target language), and one is partial immersion. Each of the seven examples is described in-depth using the same set of criteria.



-Reviewed by Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz, Director of Curriculum Resources

Aleh (NY: BJE & WZO, 1989).

This is a professionally developed language readiness program for preschool and kindergarten including 10 unit guides, 8 story books, games and activity sheets, as well as a reference audiocassette. *Aleh* emphasizes the communicative skills of language rather than abstract grammar. It begins with self-identification (“me”), the child, his body, family and home. It expands to include the group, classroom, schoolyard and community, gradually strengthening the child’s ties to his Jewish heritage.

-Reviewed by Bonnie Shapiro, Ratner Media and Technology Center Associate

Websites

Jewish Early Childhood Educators' Exchange (<http://www.geocities.com/amynealw/>) - This site, created and maintained by a preschool Jewish educator, is full of resources for every holiday, plus reviews of teacher resources. It is also a place for teachers to exchange ideas.

CAJE Early Childhood Department, formerly, The Jewish Early Childhood Education Project (<http://www.caje.org/earlychildhood/index.html>) - Here you will find data on early childhood programs and information on advocacy efforts on behalf of Jewish early childhood education

-Reviewed by Maury Greenberg, Director, Technology Resources & Professional Development

ECHO BOXES

The Teacher Center, in conjunction with the JECC Curriculum Department and area early childhood teachers, has created fabulous **E.C.H.O.** (Early Childhood Hands-On) Boxes. The E.C.H.O. boxes, *My Jewish Home* and *Light*, include games, arts and crafts ideas, books, songs, materials, etc. for use in the classroom. A detailed curriculum is included, as well as suggestions for how and when to use these materials. The E.C.H.O. boxes are available for a two-week rental. To check on availability, please call Estee at (216) 371-0446.