

How to Support Active Learning at Work Time

The “Do” in HighScope’s Plan-Do-Review

Syllabus

HighScope's Work Time Online Course



HighScope Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) Professional Learning Statement

Advancing racial equity has been at the core of HighScope's vision since its beginnings with the landmark Perry Preschool Study. Building on our history and ongoing work in the field of early childhood education, HighScope has made racial equity, diversity, and inclusion central to all professional development programs. In all aspects of our work, we advocate for equity through awareness and personal reflection as we encourage educators to celebrate, respect, and incorporate diversity in their programs. We intentionally seek to eradicate racism and other inequities that oppress the potential of children, families, and adults from marginalized and underrepresented groups. Through consultation, training, mentoring, and coaching, HighScope's professional learning courses are designed to respond to participants' individual strengths and focus on practical application and implementation in real-world settings.

Participants are expected to reflect on how they can mitigate biases and inequitable practices, as well as

engage with other participants and HighScope trainer(s) on what they are learning and how the content of the course can be used to support the work they do with children and families in their respective early childhood programs and communities. HighScope has established a protocol to ensure that (1) all training content supports participants' knowledge base and practical application and implementation efforts; (2) all training is implemented at the highest level and as intended; and (3) all training and resource materials incorporate REDI practices and address issues of privilege and cultural sensitivity, as well as the importance of humility in our relationships with families and young children.

As we grow more aware of REDI concepts in our lives and practices, we must understand that equity and inclusion require a continual process of growth. It is important to remember that everyone has their own learning curve, and so as we strive for a more equitable and inclusive world for our children, there will be a need for both hope and grace.

International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training

HighScope is proud to be an IACET Accredited Provider. IACET accreditation reflects the high bar of quality HighScope sets in providing professional learning and allows us to offer Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to learners.

Overall Learning Objectives:

- State the importance of work time
- State the role of adults during work time
- Identifying strategies that adults use to support children during work time

Requirements to complete course and receive IACET CEUs*

- Complete all assignments within the course timeframe.
- Pass each Check My Understandings with an 80% or higher.
- Have a total overall score for the course of an 80% or higher.

*1 CEU = 10 Clock hours

Welcome to HighScope's Preschool Work Time Online Course

This course is 3 weeks long (4 weeks if you include the registration week). Each week runs from Monday to the following Monday. You will get the most out of the course if you do the assignments and activities in the order they are listed. Upon successful completion of all the assignments, you will receive a certificate for 10 clock hours of professional development.

You must complete all the assignments on time to receive credit. We recommend that you regularly review this syllabus so you can plan your work. For discussion post assignments, **all initial posts are due on Thursday** and your **replies are due by the following Monday**. This ensures that your fellow participants have time to read your initial posts and have time to post thoughtful replies. We also recommend you do the assignments in the sequential order in which they are listed to get the maximum benefit.

This training uses a variety of online activities:

- **Learning Unit** — Content for the week. You may find it helpful to print the learning unit so you can easily refer back to the ideas shared.
- **Reading Assignments** — Assignments for the week. Reading assignments must be completed before you do any of activities.
- **Try It Out/Discussions** — In these assignments, you might observe children, try out strategies or ideas in the classroom, and/or reflect on your teaching practices. You may be asked to post your ideas and then share feedback by replying to your classmates' posts. Be sure to check back on your initial posts to see feedback shared by your facilitator and/or your classmates.

Welcome to HighScope's Preschool Work Time Online Course (continued)

- **Check My Understanding** — Interactive format in which you will decide the best answer to questions raised by a variety of scenarios.

Remember, all course work for the week is **due by midnight the following Monday (EST)**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email your instructor.



Registration Week

Course Materials

All reading assignments can be downloaded directly from the course site.

Assignment

Update your HighScope Learning Hub profile.

Discussion

Introduce yourself to the group.

Your first assignment is to introduce yourself to others in this class. You might say something about where you work, the children you work with, and what you hope to get out of this class.

Please also feel free to share a little bit about yourself personally! Read your classmates' introductions. Reply to each other to "connect." This is how we get to know each other!

Week 1: Understanding Work Time

Objectives

Participants will be able to

- State the importance of work time.
- Identify the characteristics of a HighScope work time.

Learning Unit Topics

- Work time basics
- Work time for teachers and children
- Work time, a time for active learning

Reading Assignments

From *The HighScope Preschool Curriculum*: Pages 275–278 (PDF file)



Week 1: Understanding Work Time (continued)

Try It Out

Open-Ended Materials at Work Time

1. Read “A Day in the Life of an Open-Ended Material.” Pay particular attention to the variety of ways the children use this material during work time.
2. Post an example of an unusual open-ended material from your classroom and the different ways the children use it (**due Thursday**).
3. Respond to at least two posts from other people (**due by the following Monday**).

Remember, replies are most useful when you are contributing to, or building, on an idea shared. You might share if you agree or disagree, bring up other examples, pose a question, etc.

You will receive 10 points for your initial post and 5 points for each of your 2 replies.

This assignment is worth 20 points total.

Week 2: What Children Do During Work Time

Objectives

Participants will be able to

- Identify the types of play children engage in during work time.
- Identify the social contexts in which children play during work time.

Learning Unit Topics

- What children do during work time
- The four types of play children engage in during work time
- Social contexts in which children play during work time

Reading Assignment

From *The HighScope Preschool Curriculum*:
Pages 278–282 (PDF file)

Try It Out

Different Types of Play

1. Observe the children in your class or setting during work time.
2. Select two children to write about. In two separate posts, write a brief description of each child's play during work time (it's fine to use a different name for the children). Post the description of each child in separate posts with the child's name in the head or subject line.

These 2 initial posts are **worth 10 points each (20 total) and are due on Thursday.**

Week 2: What Children Do During Work Time *(continued)*

3. Next, reply to at least two other posts made by your classmates. In your reply, identify the type of play described. In addition to identifying the type of play, be sure to share your rationale (or why you chose that type of play). Your two replies are **worth 5 points each (10 points total) and are due on Monday.**

Reminder: You will have 4 posts, totaling 30 points, for this assignment.



Week 3: What Adults Do During Work Time

Objectives

Participants will be able to

- State the role of adults during work time.
- Identify strategies that adults use to support children during work time.

Learning Unit Topics

- The adult's role at work time
- The strategies adults use to support and scaffold children's learning during work time

Reading Assignment

- **From *The HighScope Preschool Curriculum*:** Pages 282–306 (PDF file)
- “Work Time: Teacher Habits that are Hard to Break” (PDF file)
- “TRUST in Play” (PDF file)

Check My Understanding

All About Work Time

Building on what you've learned in this course, read the scenarios or look at the photographs and respond with the most appropriate answer.

This assignment is worth 10 points.

Week 3: What Adults Do During Work Time (continued)

Try It Out

Your Role at Work Time

1. In Learning Unit 3, there are three different adult interaction styles based on three different approaches to work time.
2. Respond to this question:

Which of the roles — Fly on the Wall, Interrogator, or Partner — would be most appropriate in an active learning early childhood setting? Why?

Your **answer is due by Thursday**. This initial post is worth 10 points.

3. Reply to at least two other posts made by your classmates. Your replies are **worth 5 points each (10 points total) and are due the following Monday**. Remember: Replies are most useful when you are contributing to, or building on an idea shared. You might share if you agree or disagree, bring up other examples, pose a question, etc.

This assignment is worth a total of 30 points.

Total points possible for the course = 80.

Points needed to pass the course = 62 (80% of points possible).

Week 3: What Adults Do During Work Time (continued)

Evaluation

Course Survey

Please share your thoughts about your experiences with this class.

Print Your Certificate

Once you have completed all of your assignments, you will be able to print your certificate. Congratulations!

Click on the “Grades” tab along the top of the HighScope Learning Hub dashboard, then click on “My Certificates” in the left-hand sidebar.

Please print as many copies of your certificate as you need (i.e., one for your records, one for your employer).

For this course, your certificate will reflect that you have received 1 IACET CEU which is the equivalent to 10 clock hours.

References

- Epstein, A. S., & Hohmann, M. (2012). *The HighScope preschool curriculum*. HighScope Press.
- Epstein, A. S., Marshall, B., & Gainsley, S. (2014). *COR Advantage scoring guide*. HighScope Press
- TRUST in play. Adapted from Epstein, A. S., & Hohmann, M. (2012). *The HighScope preschool curriculum*. HighScope Press.