

Intentional Lesson Planning for Infants and Toddlers

The Path to Intentional Teaching

Syllabus

HighScope's Infant-Toddler Lesson Planning Online Course



Welcome to HighScope's Infant-Toddler Lesson Planning Online Course

This course is four weeks long, including the registration week, which is the first week of the course. Each week runs from Monday to the following Monday. You will get the most out of the course if you do the activities in the order listed. You must complete all the assignments on time to receive credit for the workshop. We recommend that you log on early in the week to get your assignments so you can plan your work. For your discussion post assignments, all **initial posts are due by Thursday**, and your **replies are due by midnight (EST) the following Monday**.

This workshop uses a variety of online materials and activities:

- **Learning Unit** — This is the content for the week. We recommend that you print the learning unit so you can easily refer back to the content.
- **Reading Assignments** — These are the reading assignments for the week. We recommend that you print these out as well so that you can refer back to them.
- **Check My Understanding** — This interactive assessment asks you to decide the best answer to a variety of scenarios.
- **Share What You Have Learned** — These are the discussion post assignments for the week. You will be asked to answer questions or to reflect on some things you've learned.

Welcome to HighScope's Infant-Toddler Lesson Planning Online Course (continued)

- **Try It Out** — These are assignments in which you will try out strategies or ideas in the classroom. You may be asked to share what happened in your classroom via discussion posts, and get feedback from your classmates. These discussions help you gain new insights, see things from another perspective, and construct a deeper understanding of the topic.

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

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



Registration Week

Assignment

Update your HighScope Learning Hub profile.



Discussion

Introduce yourself to the group.

Your first assignment is to introduce yourself to the 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 as well.

Read your classmates' introductions. Reply to each other to "connect." This is how we get to know each other!

Week 1: The Components of HighScope Lesson Planning

Objectives

Participants will be able to

- Identify the three components of HighScope lesson planning.

Learning Unit Topics

- HighScope lesson plans
- Components of HighScope lesson plans

Reading Assignments

- “Child-Oriented Lesson Plans — A Change of Themes”
- “Planning the Day in Infant-Toddler Classrooms”
- “Using COR Advantage in the Classroom”
- “Following Children’s Interests”
- List of infant-toddler key developmental indicators (KDIs)
- List of COR Advantage items

Week 1: The Components of HighScope Lesson Planning (continued)

Check My Understanding

Connecting Children's Interests and Development to Content Areas

You will need your Infant-Toddler KDI list and your COR Advantage list (PDFs located under Reading Assignments as resources).

- Read each anecdote about a child.
- Choose the content area (either KDI category or COR Advantage category as indicated) that is most related to the child's interests and development.

Please note: These anecdotes are written about many different children. You should treat each question as its own unique example rather than about one individual child. This assignment is **worth 15 points (1 per question)**.

Share What You Learned

Team Planning Video

Watch the video clip of a teaching team planning and do the following:

- Watch for examples of the three components of lesson planning (i.e., content, development, and children's interests) that were discussed in the learning unit, replaying parts of the clip if necessary.
- Write a discussion post describing which component you observed and describe the example you saw.

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

Week 1: The Components of HighScope Lesson Planning (continued)

- Reply to one of your classmates' initial posts. Replies can include sharing your thoughts, connecting a post to your experience, or asking a follow-up question. Responses such as "I agree," "good idea," or "me too" do not add meaningful insight to the discussion and will not count as replies.

Your reply is **worth 5 points and is due by the following Monday.**

HighScope Learning Hub Tip: You can access the discussion posts at any time by clicking on "Discussion" on the left-hand sidebar of your course.

Try It Out

Gathering Anecdotes on Children

- Observe two children and take an anecdote for each that includes an indication of their current development and interests.
- Write two separate discussion posts (one for each anecdote).

Each initial post is **worth 10 points (total points possible = 20) and is due on Thursday.**

- Write one substantive reply to someone else's post.

Each reply is **worth 5 points (total points possible = 5) and is due on the following Monday.**

Total points possible for Week 1 = 55.

Week 2: Integrating Content, Development, and Children's Interests

Objectives

Participants will be able to

- Include input from parents in the planning process.
- Identify and incorporate the steps to scaffolding children's learning.

Learning Unit Topics

- Including parents in the planning process
- Introduction to scaffolding children's learning

Reading Assignments

- "Steps to Scaffolding"
- "Supporting Parents as Notetakers"
- "Maintaining Partnerships With Families"

Check My Understanding

Identifying the Developmental Level

Read each statement. Identify the developmental level as indicated in the question. This assignment is **worth 20 points (1 per question)**.

Week 2: Integrating Content, Development, and Children's Interests (continued)

Share What You Learned

Family Connections

This week's discussion posts will focus on including families in the planning process.

- In the Discussion tab, answer these two questions as separate posts:
 1. How do you learn from families about children's development and interests?
 2. How do you share ideas with families about how you connect children's development and interests to your classroom plans?

Your two initial posts are **worth 10 points each (20 points total) and are due by Thursday.**

- Reply to one of your peers' initial posts.

Your reply is **worth 5 points and is due by the following Monday.**

Remember to check back regularly to see what has been posted and to scroll down to read recent entries, including the replies to your initial post.

Try It Out

Group-Time Idea From My Observations

In this assignment, you will plan for part of the day based on observations of your children.

- As you play and interact with the children in your classroom, collect observations of children

Week 2: Integrating Content, Development, and Children's Interests (continued)

playing (i.e., what do they say, what do they do). From your observations, create a group-time plan using the sample template. Be sure to use the components of both curriculum content and children's interests when devising your plan.

- Upload a copy of your group-time plan to the Week 2 Dropbox. This is **worth 15 points and is due by Monday**.

Total points possible for Week 2 = 60.



Week 3: Team Planning

Objectives

Participants will be able to

- Identify the four strategies for team planning.
- Create a daily plan.

Learning Unit Topics

- Strategies for team planning

Reading Assignments

- “Finding Time for Teacher Planning”
- “Daily Team Planning”
- “Infant-Toddler Sample Daily Plan”

Check My Understanding

Identifying Gentle Extensions

- Read each statement about children’s development.
- Select the statement that represents an adult’s gentle extension.

Please note: These developmental level statements are a blend of infant and toddler development. You are choosing either the earliest of the three statements, the middle of the three statements, or the latest of the three statements.

This assignment is **worth 10 points (1 per question)**.

Week 3: Team Planning (continued)

Try It Out

Completing Your Own Lesson Plan

Complete the plan using the HighScope lesson planning components. Upload a copy to the Week 3 Dropbox. Please be sure to upload one of the following file formats: .pdf, .doc, .ppt, .xls, .odt, .xlsx, .docx, .gdoc, or .rtf.

You can complete your lesson plan using the sample template or by creating your own. Be sure the plan you use includes all components of your daily routine as well as space for adding scaffolding ideas for key parts of the day, such as group times.

This assignment is **worth 15 points**.

Reflective Discussion

Implementing HighScope Lesson Planning

Think about what you have learned about HighScope lesson planning. Answer these two questions in separate discussion posts:

1. From what you have learned in this class, what will you incorporate into your lesson planning?
2. How will you share this information with your teaching team?

Be sure to put your question number at the beginning of your post.

Your two posts are **worth 10 points each (20 points total) and are due on Thursday**.

Week 3: Team Planning (continued)

Read through your classmates' posts and respond to one that you find particularly interesting. Replies should contribute meaningful insight to the discussion. Your reply is **worth 5 points and is due by the following Monday**.

Total points possible for Week 3 = 50.

Evaluation

Course Survey

Please share feedback about your experiences on this course.

Print Your Certificate

Once you have completed all of your assignments, your facilitator will enable you 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).

Please note: HighScope will no longer be mailing you a certificate. Your certificate will be housed in the HighScope Learning Hub should you need to access it at a later date.