

Helping Your Child's Early Years Count!

The Early Years Count! (EYC) initiative helps young children in our community get the best possible start. We believe that high-quality early learning builds the foundation for lifelong success. That is why we partner with early childhood programs to support them in becoming their very best.



Benefits of *The Early Years Count!*:

Children: Classrooms full of curiosity, learning, and fun.

Teachers: Training and support so they can give their best every day.

Programs: Assessments and resources to strengthen classrooms.

Families: Confidence that your child is learning and being cared for in a high-quality environment.



Since 2001, ***The Early Years Count!*** has been helping children, families, and teachers in St. Joseph County thrive.

How Does *The Early Years Count!* Help?

Practical Training

- Introduces HighScope components: active learning, Plan-Do-Review, daily routines, adult-child interaction, and environment setup.
- Workshops include modeling, real classroom examples, and practice activities to use right away.

Classroom Assessments

- Observe classrooms using trusted, research-based tools.
- Observations help provide feedback about what's working well and where small changes can make a big difference.

Coaching & Reflection

- Personalized hands-on coaching helps teachers apply strategies, reflect on their practice, and build confidence over time.
- Mini-grants offer an opportunity to purchase books, toys, and classroom materials.

Why HighScope?

HighScope is a proven, research-based approach built around the idea that children learn best by doing. Through play, exploration, and problem-solving, children develop skills they'll use for life.

What makes HighScope valuable:

- Clear daily routines that help children feel secure and focused.
- The Plan-Do-Review process that builds independence and insight.
- Strong adult-child interactions that support language, problem solving and social growth.
- A framework that helps teachers observe, assess, and adjust to meet each child's needs.

HighScope is a curriculum that supports educators in individualizing their approach to meet the needs of each child and centers on strong family engagement.

Our support cycle of ***Train - Assess - Coach*** repeats! This ongoing support helps classrooms become more engaging, consistent, and nurturing for children.

Learn more about how *The Early Years Count!* is making a difference for children and families in St. Joseph County thanks to generous funding from the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County.

Visit www.famconn.org or scan the QR code.



This sheet was provided by ***The Early Years Count!* education initiative sponsored by The Community Foundation of St. Joseph County.** *The Early Years Count!* supports early childhood educators by promoting high-quality play based early learning experiences. Through a continuous cycle of training, assessment, and support grounded in the research-based HighScope curriculum, we help ensure every child gets the best possible start. Together, we're building strong foundations for lifelong learning.