

# Moving forward with the KDIs

## Overview

The *key developmental indicators* (KDIs) are the in-depth and comprehensive curriculum content of the HighScope Curriculum. The word *key* refers to the fact that these are the meaningful ideas children should engage with. *Developmental* conveys the idea that learning is gradual and cumulative and moves sequentially from the simple to the complex. *Indicators* emphasize that we need evidence that children are learning the essential knowledge and skills that prepare them for school and for life. We must use our knowledge of child development to intentionally plan appropriate learning experiences that match children's interests and abilities.

The significance of the KDIs:

- KDIs place a focus on adults' observations and interpretations of children's actions.
- KDIs serve as a cross-cultural reference for observing and interpreting children's actions.
- KDIs help adults maintain reasonable expectations for children.
- KDIs answer questions about the legitimacy of children's play.
- KDIs guide decisions about materials and the daily routine.
- KDIs enable adults to recognize and support children's emerging capacities.

## Goals for moving forward

The Family Connection team has put together a series of webinars called *Kickin Up the KDIs*. Each of the eight curriculum content areas has its own webinar. Watch the webinars and follow up each one with the reflection sheet attached to the [webinar](#).

## Implementation plan

1. Explore the HighScope Preschool Curriculum [Content](#).
2. Explore this helpful [article](#) about the KDIs.
3. Discover [how the HighScope KDIs align with COR Advantage](#):  
(KDIs are used to plan around children's interests. COR is used to assess children's developmental progress)