



Early Childhood Educators

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What is Share My Lesson?

Share My Lesson is a place where anyone who works with students inside or outside of schools can come together to share their very best resources. Developed by educators, this free platform gives access to high-quality resources and provides an online community where educators and parents can collaborate with, encourage and inspire each other.

- A new teacher working to develop lesson plans and find great materials.
- A food service worker who wants to share all his or her best resources on nutrition.
- An experienced teacher who has successful lessons to share with colleagues.
- An early childhood educator with a great activity for very young students.
 - A classroom paraprofessional with ideas on how to work with individual students and small groups.
- A new hall monitor who needs student discipline strategies.
- A professor of teacher education working with student teachers.
 - A parent looking for meaningful educational activities for children at home.

Share My Lesson is for you!

To join **Share My Lesson**, sign up online at www.sharemylesson.com; registration is quick, free and easy. Then watch our how-to videos on locating resources and uploading *your* materials to the site.

www.sharemylesson.com



Early learning matters. It can't be put more simply than that.

The positive impact of high-quality early childhood programs on children's success in school and beyond has been well documented. Many studies have demonstrated the importance of the early years for the developing brain. And numerous studies have shown that high-quality early childhood education increases the likelihood that children, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, will become successful students and citizens.

High-quality programs provide children with secure and caring relationships with educators and caregivers, stimulating learning opportunities, and experiences that prepare them for the later school years. These programs are characterized by the following practices:

Language-rich and responsive

communication between adults and children;

- Positive and appropriate reinforcement of skills and behavior;
- Extensive rehearsal of old and new cognitive, academic and developmental skills;
- Guidance in desirable social skills and facilitation of positive interactions between peers and adults;
- Various structured and informal activities that encourage children to reflect, predict, question and hypothesize;
- Availability of numerous materials, resources and toys that focus on language and literacy;
- Activities that encourage the involvement of children's families and caretakers; and
- Incorporation of adequate nutrition and habits that will support good health.

After such rich and diverse experiences, children are better able to handle formal schooling. They succeed because they have language skills that are more developed, a better sense of group work and play with other children, and a grounding in other basic academic and social skills. They also have positive expectations about school.

Children who have gone through these programs also have more secure relationships with adults; they are better equipped to follow directions and more likely to trust figures of authority and be able to communicate their needs. Young children are capable learners, and having these types of educational experiences during their preschool years makes it possible for them to learn at a faster rate, become better readers and, consequently, better students.

Share My Lesson can support you in the important work you are doing every day. Use

Share My Lesson to get ideas on:

- Establishing a student-centered learning environment.
- Fostering language-rich and responsive communication.
- Reinforcing positive behavior.
- Facilitating positive interactions between peers and adults.
- Doing activities that encourage children to reflect, predict, question and hypothesize.
- Using resources and toys to focus on language and literacy.
- Engaging families.

To begin, take a look at our early childhood education collection at: http://tinyurl.com/ SMLece, which includes resources on:

- Instructional strategies;
- Behavior, bullying and classroom procedures; and
- Displays and posters you can adapt for your needs.

Share My Lesson has dedicated portals for:

Building Community

Have a question or want to discuss a concern you're having or an idea you would like to try out? Share My Lesson has forums where you can exchange ideas about pedagogy, share best practices or ask for advice from your peers.

Understanding the Common Core

The Common Core State Standards require significant shifts, so whether you are looking for lessons for your early elementary students or want to know what your young learners will be expected to learn when they enter kindergarten, Share My Lesson can help.

Are You Smarter Than a Preschooler?

Test your early childhood education savvy by taking this short quiz to see how much you know about the conditions—and contributions—of early childhood education.

- Investing in high-quality early childhood education results in (circle any that apply):
 - b. Increased achievement on test scores
 - c. Increased high school graduation
 - d. Decreased grade retention
 - e. Decreased special education
 - f. Improved behavior and attitudes
 - g. Decreased crime and delinquency
- 2. Whose average salary is lowest?
 - a. Animal trainer
 - b. Tree trimmer
 - c. Bellhop
 - d. Parking lot attendant
 - e. Early child care worker
- 3. In what age range does an individual experience the most brain growth?
 - a. 0-5 years
 - b. 6-10 years
 - c. 11-15 years
 - d. 16-25 years
- 4. For each dollar invested in high-quality early childhood education, what is the approximate return on investment to society?
 - a. **\$0-**\$5
 - b. \$6-\$10
 - c. \$11-\$15
 - d. \$16-\$20

Share My Lesson was developed by the American Federation of Teachers and TES Connect.



A Union of Professionals

About the American Federation of Teachers

The American Federation of Teachers is a 1.5 million-member union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to furthering these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining, political activism and the work our members do.

The AFT works tirelessly to press for the tools, time and trust educators need to build strong public schools for all children, boost teacher quality, create rigorous academic standards aligned with a strong and deep curriculum, invest in wraparound services that help overcome barriers to student success, and ensure teachers and school support personnel have a voice in improving their schools.

www.aft.org

tes connect

About TES Connect

TES is an extraordinary story, encompassing one of the fastest growing digital communities of any profession globally, as well as a 100-year heritage at the center of teaching and the education community. Today, with more than 2 million registered online users in 197 countries, it is the largest online network of teachers in the world.

More than 2 million resources are downloaded from the TES Connect website every week, and it is home to more than 500,000 individually crafted teaching resources developed by teachers for teachers. This massive collection helps to inspire and inform teachers when they are preparing their lessons. It is no surprise that 3.5 resources are downloaded every second from TES.

www.tesconnect.com

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Why Join?

With Share My Lesson, you can ...

- Use a single website to access more than 300,000 free resources on topics ranging from managing student behavior to supporting students with special needs.
- Search by grade, subject, topic and format of resource.
- See how other educators have rated and reviewed resources.
- Search for materials specifically designed to help implement the Common Core State Standards.
- Access additional high-quality resources from our content partners, including LearnZillion, Colorín Colorado, Student Achievement Partners, Civic Voices, PTA, GLSEN, Bully Project, Peace First, Teaching Tolerance, National Constitution Center, RFK Center and BTU's 21st Century Lessons.
- Have a trusted place to share what has worked with students.



Gather advice and inspiration from your colleagues.

Join now at www.sharemylesson.com