

Theory of Change Summary



THEORY

- SOCIAL-CULTURAL
- ATTACHMENT
- PLAY
- LANGUAGE

ELS PRACTICE

- FAMILY COLLABORATION + ENGAGEMENT
- BUILDING ON FAMILY'S STRENGTHS, VALUES, & CULTURE
- ENCOURAGING PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION
- OBSERVING AND RESPONDING TO EMOTIONS
- EXPLORING CHILD LEARNING + DEVELOPMENT



CHILD OUTCOMES: SCHOOL READINESS

- SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- LANGUAGE + LITERACY
- COGNITION
- PERCEPTION + MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

BEST PRACTICE PRINCIPLES TOOL (BPP)

FAMILY OUTCOMES: DEVELOPMENTAL PARENTING

- ENCOURAGEMENT
- TEACHING (SHARED CONVERSATION + PLAY)
- AFFECTION
- RESPONSIVENESS

ASQ
ASQ-SE

PIEL
PICCOLO

Guiding Principle: Commitment to Race Equity

+ Program Approach:

- ParentChild+ acknowledges that many families have non-dominant ways of parenting, knowing, educating, worshipping, healing, and learning.
- Families are supported in the language they speak at home as a basis of cultural identity and the foundation of early literacy.

+ Key Activities:

- Local sites have input on demographic focus areas and extensive knowledge of target communities.
- Site staff live in/come from the communities in which they work.
- ELSs have diverse experiential, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.
- ELSs choose curriculum materials considering culture, language, and community.
- Early Learning Specialists are trained to ask respectful questions about any aspects of culture that they do not understand.
- Communication with families is in their home language and understanding of the role language plays in school readiness is central to the program curriculum and training.

Guiding Principle: Strength-Based

+ Program Approach:

- Traditions and strengths within the home environment are recognized and respected.
- Strengths within the community are uncovered and supported.

+ Key Activities:

- Local sites choose books and toys that most closely align with each community or family.
- ELSs employ active listening techniques to acknowledge the parent's ideas, questions, and concerns.
- ELSs are trained using active listening techniques to help families understand their strengths.
- ELSs help connect families to social and educational resources within their communities.

Guiding Principle: Facilitating the Parent-Child Relationship

- + **Program Approach:**
 - ParentChild+ believes that parental primacy is key to all home visits.
 - The ParentChild+ model focuses on supporting parent-child attachment.
- + **Key Activities Visits**
 - All visits take place with the parent and child together.
 - ELSs are trained to be attuned to the parent-child relationship.
 - The visits focus on improving parental observation skills.
 - ELSs coach and guide parents in sensitively responding to their children.
 - ELSs model techniques to guide parents in enjoyable and playful interactions.

Guiding Principle: Practicing Self-Reflection

- + **Program Approach:**
 - Self-reflection is introduced at all levels of training within the ParentChild+ model.
 - Self-reflection is reinforced and practiced using reflective supervision and reporting tools.
- + **Key Activities:**
 - Coordinators complete observational assessments of ELSs to support discussion around their practice.
 - Weekly group supervision is grounded in reflective practice and supports reflective functioning.
 - After each visit with a family, ELSs complete Home Visit Reports that are designed to support self-reflection.
 - ParentChild+ sites collect pre- and post-observational assessments each cycle.
 - ELSs record several visits with each family and review them with the Coordinator using self-reflection strategies.

Guiding Principle: Relationship-Based

- + **Program Approach:**
 - Early Learning Specialists (ELs) prioritize creating trusting and nurturing relationships with families.
 - Coordinators prioritize creating trusting relationships with and among staff.
- + **Key Activities:**
 - Early ELSs model nurturing behaviors for parent and child together.

- Twice a week visits for 46 weeks (92 total visits over two program cycles), which allows families to build relationships with ELSs over time.
- Sites have weekly reflective supervision meetings led by site Coordinators to facilitate relationships among ELSs and support them in their relationship building with families.

Guiding Principle: Encouraging Child-Led Exploration

+ Program Approach:

- ELSs encourage children's exploration of the books, toys, and art materials.
- ELSs model acknowledging children's behaviors, interests, and actions.

+ Key Activities:

- ELSs provide a high-quality book, toy, or art materials and tip sheets to families in the first visit each week.
- The materials are gifts to families to support ongoing exploration and learning.
- The children are invited to explore the activity or books in creative ways.
- ELSs share ways to encourage children's exploration.
- Families supported in leading activities with their children.

Guiding Principle: Improving Quality

+ Program Approach:

- ParentChild+ is committed to ongoing quality assurance.
- ParentChild+ is committed to local and external evaluation.
- ParentChild+ utilizes academic research to support and improve its models.

+ Key Activities:

- ParentChild+'s research and evaluation team works with local site staff to collect, measure, interpret, and apply program outcomes.
- ParentChild+ uses decision-making tools like participant satisfaction data, metrics for success, selection criteria, and local and external program monitoring.
- ParentChild+ requires ongoing and annual reporting from its local partner agencies.
- ParentChild+ requires its local sites to use its propriety replication and fidelity tools.