

Increasing Access to High-Quality Curriculum for All

Early childhood educators can use a high-quality curriculum to help young children learn and grow. Yet many programs across Virginia do not have access to a quality curriculum. And, educators say they need more training and resources to use curriculum well.

In response, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and the University of Virginia's Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning (CASTL) will now offer a low-to-no-cost curriculum option, [STREAMin³](#), for all **publicly-funded birth-to-five classrooms**.*

The curriculum provides a high-quality option for infant, toddler, preschool, and mixed-age classrooms. STREAMin³ will include training and professional development to support educators that choose to use the model in their programs.

Alignment to Virginia's Quality & Improvement ECE Initiatives

The VDOE added STREAMin³ to the approved curriculum list after conducting the comprehensive [curriculum approval process](#). In addition:

- ◆ STREAMin³ aligns with Virginia's Early Learning and Development Standards.
- ◆ STREAMin³ supports skills and interactions that align to the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS[®]) and the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP).
- ◆ STREAMin³ is aligned with VDOE's other key Early Childhood Education (ECE) initiatives ([VQB5](#), [AEII](#), [VKRP](#)).

About STREAMin³


STREAMin³ is an engaging, interactions-based curriculum for children ages birth through five. It was developed by a CASTL team in collaboration with, and funding from, [E3:Elevate Early Education](#) at [The New E3 School](#). STREAMin³ is grounded in developmental and early education research. It focuses on **6 STREAM** and **5 Core Skills** to promote children's development and early learning.

*The STREAMin³ Curriculum Model was selected through a competitive process.

6 STREAM Skills

-  **SCIENCE**
-  **TECHNOLOGY**
-  **READING**
-  **ENGINEERING**
-  **ART**
- 123** **MATH**

5 Core Skills

-  **RELATE** - with peers and adults
-  **REGULATE** - their emotions, attention, and behavior
-  **THINK** - deeply about the world around them
-  **COMMUNICATE** - with others productively
-  **MOVE** - their bodies to achieve goals

What's Included?

Programs that choose to use STREAMin³ will receive the following materials and supports over the next three years:

Curriculum Materials:

- ◆ 36 weeks of daily activities.
- ◆ Guides for using the curriculum, setting up the room, and making the most of each part of the day.
- ◆ Descriptions of how Core Skills develop and the best Intentional Teaching Practices to support them.
- ◆ Activity Cards for supporting the Core Skills across the day.
- ◆ Games to promote STREAM Skills (for preschoolers).
- ◆ Family engagement materials (letters in Spanish and English).
- ◆ Ongoing assessments to guide instruction.
- ◆ Guidance for use in mixed-age or home-based (family day home) classrooms and programs.

Professional Development:

- ◆ A professional development library with resources for learning the curriculum and for leading training sessions on the curriculum.
- ◆ Introduction training to STREAMin³ for teachers, assistants, leaders, mentors, and coaches.
- ◆ “Deeper Dive” 2–3-month small group trainings for teachers, assistants, leaders, mentors, and coaches.
- ◆ Webinars, online library of resources, non-credit-bearing courses.
- ◆ Professional Learning Community (PLC)-style trainings.
- ◆ Direct coaching. (Based on availability and need.)

Timeline for Roll-Out

Jan-Feb
2022

Preparation

- ◆ Focus groups.

March-
May
2022

Kick-off

- ◆ Establish an advisory committee from the field for ongoing support and feedback.
- ◆ “Get to Know STREAMin³” webinars and panel discussions.
- ◆ Electronic access to curriculum.
- ◆ Enrollment opens.

June-
August
2022

Introduction Training Events – Group 1

- ◆ Introduction trainings offered for teachers, leaders, and trainers. Offered across multiple formats and schedules to increase access.
- ◆ Printed guides and materials provided. (Based on availability and need.)
- ◆ Children’s books provided. (Based on availability and need.)

Sept.
'22-May
'23

Full Implementation – Group 1

- ◆ 2–3-month “Deeper Dive” small training groups for teachers and leaders/trainers. (Based on availability and need.)
- ◆ Tiered levels of professional development offered to both teachers and trainers. Direct coaching provided to those with the highest need.

June-
August
2023

Introduction Training Events – Group 2

- ◆ A repeat of the summer offerings provided to Group 1 with new programs.

Sept.
'23-June
'24

Full Implementation – Group 2

- ◆ Repeat of “Deeper Dive” small group trainings with new programs.
- ◆ Online courses for asynchronous learning.
- ◆ Online access to STREAMin³ through an improved website. (Provided by June 2024.)