

MAKE IT YOUR OWN SUMMER GUIDE

For programs that are open year-round, the summer weeks are intentionally planned as “Make It Your Own” weeks. After the end of the regular curriculum weeks, you will implement Make It Your Own weeks where you will intentionally focus on supporting children's development of Core Skills. You will select one or two Core Skill Subskills to concentrate on each week. You will then choose activities and incorporate routines and experiences that support the development of that Subskill.

Choosing a Core Skill Focus

In preparation for determining the one or two Subskills that you will focus on, it's important that you spend time observing children and reviewing your ongoing assessments from the Assessment Guide. Choose Core Skills to focus on that your children will **benefit from** (more support or challenge) or ones that align with their **current interests**.

Examples:

- ◆ Many of your toddlers are just beginning their development of a certain Think-Math skill (e.g., Numeracy or Patterning) and would benefit from some extra time dedicated to it, so you spend a few weeks with that as one of your two Core Skill Subskills.
- ◆ Many children are struggling with Relate: Peer Relationships or Regulate: Managing Emotions positively, so you focus on one or both of those areas.
- ◆ Many children show a strength in Think: Inquiry, so you build on this strength by focusing on experiments and extend to other areas by incorporating journals.
- ◆ Many infants in your classroom are drawn to pretend play at the moment, so you choose to focus on Think: Imitation and Symbolic Representation.

Making a Plan

Once you select one or two Subskills to focus on:

- ◆ Reread those Core Skill Summary Sheets in your Core Skills Guide.
- ◆ Complete your weekly planning guide/choose specific activities for the Parts of your Day by:
 - Choosing activities and/or routines from the Setting the Stage section of the Core Skill Summary Sheet.
 - Finding specific STREAM Group Activities and STREAM Story Activities that support that skill (use the Skills at a Glance charts to help identify the Core Skill focus for each activity).
 - Repeat Provocations or create your own based on the chosen Core Skills.

Making Modifications

Once you select STREAM Group Activities to include for the week, you can implement it as-is or modify it. For example, as long as you are focused on the chosen Core Skill and are using the ITPs, it would be okay to take one STREAM Group Activity and extend it across a few days or add additional elements based on your children's interests. What's important is that you are supporting their development of the chosen skill(s).

**A Planning Guide for Make It Your Own is provided on the following pages.*

Week at a Glance: Make It Your Own

Teachers/Class:

Dates:

CORE SKILLS

Core Skill Focus #1:

Core Skill Focus #2:

Why did you choose these Core Skills?

NEXT STEPS

Action plan steps for the week (e.g., read the Core Skill Summary Sheet, implement new routine or ITP, focus on a Part of the Day).

Materials

Use this space to plan out what you can reuse from previous weeks and what you still need to create/gather. Are there materials you could have the *children* help prepare this time (i.e., something you made for them in preparation before)?

<p><i>Things I already have:</i></p>	<p><i>Things I still need/need to recreate:</i></p>
<p><i>Things I need to ask for:</i></p>	

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ARRIVAL PROVOCATION					
MORNING CIRCLE					
CHOICE TIME					
STREAM GROUP ACTIVITY					

