

This month saw the release of multiple resources for learning about and thoughtfully implementing developmentally appropriate practice (DAP), including the **4<sup>th</sup> edition monograph from NAEYC**. This issue of Natural Resources offers information about a few free DAP resources to access, read, and consider using.

## Position Statement on Developmentally Appropriate Practice

[https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/dap-statement\\_0.pdf](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/dap-statement_0.pdf) (English)

[https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/dap\\_ps\\_spanish.pdf](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/dap_ps_spanish.pdf) (Spanish)

The position statement was adopted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Governing Board in April 2020. It describes what early childhood educators need to know and be able to do in order to provide equitable learning opportunities for each and every child, birth through age 8, in centers, programs, family childcare homes, schools, and other settings. It is well worth a serious read. Examine the definition, learn about the core considerations to inform decision making, and consider the principles for professional practice as starting points.

## Early Childhood Educator Resources

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/developmentally-appropriate-practice/ece-resources>

A new section of the NAEYC website offers DAP resources specifically for educators. Visit this site to discover selections from the monograph, a collection of resources for K-3 educators, and more. If you have a copy of the monograph, consider using the Book Study Guide independently or with colleagues to explore and reflect on the chapters of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Or, after downloading and reading the position statement (above), consider submitting a snapshot of how your work reflects the spirit of DAP.

## Engaging in Reciprocal Partnerships with Families and Fostering Community Connections

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/position-statements/dap/engaging-families>

This section of the DAP position statement beautifully articulates what families should be able to expect from the early childhood educators with whom they interact.

## Faculty Resources <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/developmentally-appropriate-practice/get-faculty-resources>

To access the faculty resources, you'll need to fill out a short form. When you receive your password, **save it so you don't need to fill out the form more than once**. Here's what you'll find.

- Appendix C from the monograph which highlights a variety of ways in which faculty may use the position statement and monograph to support their students to learn about and apply the fundamentals of DAP.
- Six online charts, one for each standards of the Professional Standards and Competencies for Early Childhood Educators. Each chart offers readings, vignettes, thought/reflection questions, activities, and assignments to assist faculty in incorporating DAP content and practices across their higher education programs.

**HINT:** Sign up for the **free ACCESS webinar on December 2** to learn about new options, resources, and opportunities for incorporating the new DAP resources in coursework and field experiences.

## GUMDROP: Let the Children Be Free [https://youtu.be/J3\\_-4XUo5r8](https://youtu.be/J3_-4XUo5r8)

A strong theme echoes through the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of DAP: the importance of joyous, engaged opportunities for children to learn through play. Watch this video, listen to Maria Montessori's words, and create those opportunities.

Natural Resources is a free, one-way listserv that is distributed monthly. Each issue features readily available and free resources on a specific topic related to children from birth through Grade 3 and their families. Resources in English and Spanish are **highlighted**. Natural Resources is compiled and distributed by Camille Catlett. Past issues are archived at <https://scriptnc.fpg.unc.edu/natural-resources-monthly-newsletter> To subscribe or unsubscribe, suggest resources, or get more information, please contact Camille Catlett at [camille.catlett@unc.edu](mailto:camille.catlett@unc.edu)