

## Reflect on Key Messages About Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP)

**Directions:** Please read and reflect on the nine key messages about developmentally appropriate practice (DAP) below prior to Day 1. Highlight statements that jump out at you for any reason - positive or negative. Make notes to yourself. We will discuss your reflections as a group on Day 1.

### Developmentally Appropriate Practice...

1. Is intentionally planned instruction.
2. Meets children where they are and helps them reach challenging and achievable goals.
3. Includes clearly defined learning goals and thoughtful instructional decisions to support children to meet those goals.
4. Continuously assesses children's progress and adjusts instruction accordingly.
5. Supports teachers to describe what they are doing and why.
6. Emphasizes curricular goals that build knowledge.
7. Attends to learning progressions in curriculum and teaching methods.
8. Includes both child-guided and teacher-guided experiences.
9. Includes interactive small-group and large group experiences.



Copple, C., & Bredekamp, S. (2006). *Basics of developmentally appropriate practice: An introduction for teachers of children 3 to 6*. Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Copple, C., & Bredekamp, S. (2009). *Developmentally appropriate practice in early childhood programs serving children from birth through age 8* (Vol. 1313, pp. 22205-4101). Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children. [Key Messages of the Position Statement]