

# High Quality Prekindergarten Grant

and Supports from the Texas School Ready Project



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# Professional Development

*To be eligible ... each teacher of a high-quality prekindergarten grant program must be certified ... and have one of the following additional qualifications...*

The grant specifies six mechanisms for satisfying the additional education requirements. CLI provides avenues to meet three of these:

- Completion of the Texas School Ready Training Program (TSR Comprehensive)
- Training for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential™
- Completion of professional development meeting specific requirements (eCIRCLE, CIRCLE Foundations Training)

**eCIRCLE Classroom Management**

**What You Will Learn**

The overall goal of this course is to establish teaching techniques that will help you create and maintain a well-managed, dynamic, warm, nurturing, and supportive classroom.

**By the time you complete this course, you should be able to:**

1. Explain classroom management, including:
  - Defining what classroom management is, breaking it down into its elements, and articulating its importance.
  - Prioritizing the essential physical elements of a well-managed classroom.
  - Recognizing classroom management's key social and emotional components.



As you watch the video, reflect on the questions below.

## Focus Questions

As you watch the video, reflect on the questions below:

1. After reading the book to the students, Cielo goes back to the vocabulary words with a small group of students. How does Cielo use the vocabulary from the book to build new vocabulary?
2. Why is it important to work with students in small groups when possible during vocabulary instruction?



# Progress Monitoring & Kindergarten Screening

... A school district shall measure the progress of each student in meeting the recommended end of prekindergarten year outcomes ... using a progress monitoring tool included on the commissioner's list of approved prekindergarten instruments that measures [certain domains] and the preparation of each student for kindergarten using a kindergarten readiness instrument.

- CLI's CIRCLE Progress Monitoring System is included on the Commissioner's List of Approved Progress Monitoring Instruments.
- The Texas Kindergarten Entry Assessment will launch fall 2017 and will satisfy the kindergarten screening requirement.

**Both CLI assessments are available at no cost.**

# High Quality Curriculum

To be eligible ... a school shall implement a curriculum . . .that addresses all of the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines (updated 2015) in the following domains:

*social and emotional development; language and communication; emergent literacy reading; emergent literacy writing; mathematics; science; social studies; fine arts; physical development and health; and technology.*

To augment the use of the district/charter's chosen curriculum, districts can use the online CIRCLE Activity Collection for supplemental classroom activities and lessons.

## Activities in this Section

### Activity 8.3.2 Letter Sort

8.3.1 Alphabet Discussion

▶ 8.3.2 Letter Sort

8.3.3 Skywriting

8.3.4 Buried Letters

8.3.5 Alphabet Arc

8.3.6 Eye Spy

8.3.7 Letter Detective

8.3.8 Muffin Tin Toss

8.3.9 What Is It?

8.3.10 Venn Diagram

8.3.11 Mommy Where Are You?

8.3.12 Find Your Partner

8.3.13 Alphabet Hokey Pokey

8.3.14 Wiggle Worms

8.3.15 Tactile Letter Experiences

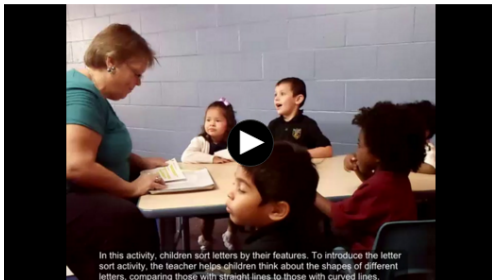
8.3.16 Look Alike or Not?

#### Setting

- ✓ Small Group

#### Materials

- ✓ T-Chart labeled with straight lines and curved lines
- ✓ Plastic letters (T, L, F, E, H, S, O, C)



#### Define concept in child friendly terms

Boys and girls, today we're going to look at the shapes of some letters. Each letter has its own shape. Some letters have straight lines and some letters have curved lines.

#### Model and explain procedure

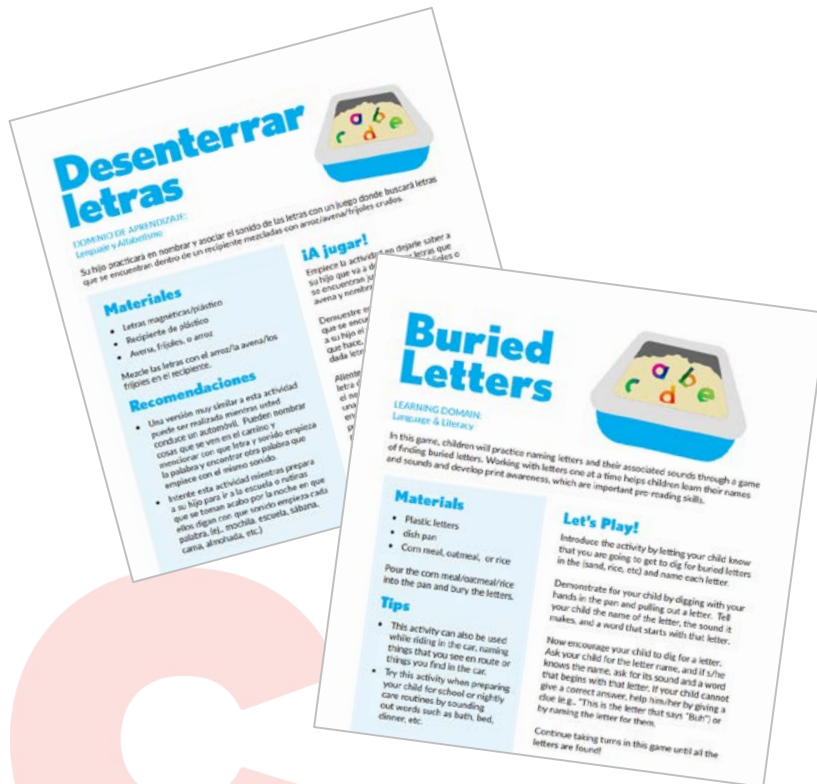
We're going to use this chart to sort the letters. We will put all letters that have straight lines on this side. Point to the side of the chart labeled 'straight.'

We will put all letters with curved lines on this side. Point to the side of the chart labeled 'curved.'

Hold up the letter H. Let's look at the letter H. It has two straight lines down and one straight line across. I'm going to put the letter H on the 'straight' side of the chart. Place the letter H on the 'straight' side.

# Parent Engagement

To be eligible ... a school district or an open-enrollment charter school shall develop, implement, and make available ... a family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education.



CLI Engage features a series of resources for parents and families:

- Child progress monitoring reports
- Activities
- Online courses
- Child Development Checklist

# Other HB4 Quality Targets

## **Adult/child ratios:**

Grantees must attempt to maintain an average ratio in any preK class of not less than one certified teacher or teacher's aide for every 11 students. (Note: one way to accomplish this is through integrated partnerships, below.)

## **School readiness integration partnerships:**

Collaborations are encouraged among public preK programs and local workforce development boards, Head Start providers, college or university early childhood programs, and/or providers of private licensed child care services.





# Integrated Partnerships

Notable integrated partnerships can be found in:

- Fort Worth ISD
- Dallas ISD
- Arlington ISD
- Waco ISD

## Advantages for School Districts

- Collaboration with other programs may allow for expansion to full day programs
- Programs can share a teacher assistant
- Saved district dollars by sharing off-campus facility space
- Enhanced services such as reduced ratios with co-teachers

## Advantages for Childcare

- Enhance quality with TEA certified teachers
- Save dollars by sharing resources such as teacher assistants, facilities, and teaching curriculum/materials
- Provide wrap around childcare services

