Appleseeds: Evidence-Based Foundational Skills for Massachusetts: Learning Series Overview and Registration

September 2022

Overview

Grounded in the belief that high-quality instructional materials can support excellence with equity, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA DESE) is committed to expanding access to stronger curricular materials as a powerful way to narrow opportunity gaps and accelerate student learning at scale. In the fall of 2022, they will release *Appleseeds: Evidence-Based Foundational Skills for Massachusetts*, an open-source curricular resource that is aligned with the standards for Reading Foundational Skills and reflects the evidence-based practices outlined in the state's vision for excellent early literacy instruction, and in the Mass Literacy Guide.

While the primary purpose of this resource is to equip in-service educators with instructional materials that will support evidence-based practice and bring the Mass Literacy Guide to life, an open-source curricular resource also presents an opportunity to improve pre-service preparation. EPP faculty can leverage this resource to support pre-service educators to gain deep knowledge of literacy development and to skillfully implement evidence-based, inclusive, culturally responsive practices for the teaching of reading using high-quality instructional materials and assessments. DESE's goal is that by SY2024-2025, all Early Childhood, Elementary, and Moderate Disabilities teacher candidates in Massachusetts are prepared, through coursework and opportunities for practice and high-quality feedback, in evidence- based early literacy as outlined in the Mass Literacy Guide.

Appleseeds Professional Learning Series (October 2022 - January 2023)

To that end, the Department is partnering with TNTP from October 2022 to January 2023 to provide a learning series designed to provide EPP faculty with professional development related to the design and intent of Appleseeds, and how faculty might integrate this resource into coursework and/or opportunities for clinical practice and high-quality feedback.

Who should consider participating?

- ✓ Faculty from programs that prepare teachers for Elementary, Early Childhood or Moderate Disabilities licenses.

- ✓ Faculty that teach Methods and/or Curriculum and Instruction Courses focused on elementary or early childhood literacy/ ELA, especially those that introduce evidence-based practices for foundational skills.

- ✓ Faculty that supervise and give teacher candidates feedback during clinical practice opportunities in K-2 ELA classrooms.

- ✓ Faculty that have an interest in integrating Appleseeds: Evidence-Based Foundational Skills for Massachusetts into their coursework and/or opportunities for clinical practice and high-quality feedback and want to learn more.

- ✓ Faculty that can devote approximately 8 hours to the learning series from October 2022 - January 2023.

Learning Series Scope & Sequence

Session 1
Oct. 6th, 2022
2-4 PM EST

- Explore the research on how high-quality instructional materials can support excellence with equity

- Understand the design and intent of Appleseeds: Evidence-Based Foundational Skills for Massachusetts

- Engage with deep intellectual preparation grounded in high-quality instructional materials

---

Session 2
Nov. 3rd, 2022
2-4 PM EST

- Explore how Appleseeds reflects evidence-based practice from the Mass Literacy Guide: routines and resources for phonological awareness instruction & assessment

- Make connections to existing coursework and clinical practice experiences focused on recognizing evidence-based practices

---

Session 3
Dec. 1st, 2022
2-4 PM EST

- Explore how Appleseeds reflects evidence-based practice from the Mass Literacy Guide: routines and resources for phonics instruction & assessment

- Make connections to existing coursework and clinical practice experiences focused on recognizing evidence-based practices

---

Session 4
Jan. 5th, 2023
2-4 PM EST

- Explore how Appleseeds reflects evidence-based practice from the Mass Literacy Guide: routines and resources for automatic word recognition instruction & assessment

- Make connections to existing coursework and clinical practice experiences focused on recognizing evidence-based practices

Registration Information

To sign up to participate in the Appleseeds Professional Learning Series, please complete this Registration Survey no later than Friday, September 30th.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Maggie Koelbl at maggie.koelbl@tntp.org.