<u>Developing Weekly Activity Plans for Preschool Children (3 through 5 years)</u> for Adventures in Learning Topics of Study

MINIMUM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR Child Care Centers (Rev. 01/01/16) has the following requirement:

400 PROGRAM

401 Program Requirements for all ages

5.a. The facility shall have an approved curriculum with weekly activity plans appropriate for the developmental needs of each group of children. See Division web-site for a list of approved curricula.

Adventures in Learning is an Arkansas approved curriculum for children from three through five. The curriculum features 40 Topics of Study in 9 Focus Areas. Four plan sheets are included in this handout to use as guides when developing Weekly Activity Plans for your children.

- Two (2) are examples of blank plan sheets. Each is formatted differently.
- Two (2) are samples of completed plan sheets for the Topic of Study, "I Am a Unique Person." Each is formatted differently.

Consider these two options when developing your Weekly Activity Plans:

- **Option 1:** Use Weekly Activity Plan Sheet #1, which is the blank Adventures in Learning Plan Sheet, and complete it to meet the needs of your children and your program.
- **Option 2:** Use Weekly Activity Plan Sheet #2, which is designed for programs choosing to use the Adventures in Learning curriculum, but not the prescribed Weekly Activity Plan Sheet format.

Teacher Note: Prior to developing either of the Weekly Activity Plan Sheets, consider reviewing the Adventures in Learning Tips and Techniques. This will give you background information about all of the sections to be completed on the Weekly Activity Plan Sheets.

Teacher Note: You may also choose to develop your own Weekly Activity Plan Sheet format using the two options presented here as guides.

Here are the steps to follow as you develop Weekly Activity Plan Sheet #1 or #2:

- 1. Select a Focus Area and the Topic of Study from that Focus Area that you would like to use with your children; for example Focus Area #2 Begin With Me, Topic of Study: I Am a Unique Person.
- 2. Review the curriculum guide for that Topic of Study
- 3. Make a list of the featured books you have available for the selected Topic of Study, as well as books you plan to purchase or check out from your local library.

Teacher Note: You may want to list all of the books you have available for the Focus Area.

Book Title	Author/Illustrator	Have Available	Can Purchase	Check Out from Library

4. Make a list of the materials you have available or can make or purchase to support the Topic of Study. Refer to the Materials to Collect and Make section of the Curriculum Guides for ideas.

Teacher Note: You may want to list all of the materials you have available for the Focus Area.

Materials	Have Available	Can Make	Will Purchase

- 5. Begin to develop the Weekly Activity Plan by identifying the learning centers you provide for children on a daily basis and circle the centers on Plan Sheet #1 or add the names of those centers to Plan Sheet #2.
- 6. List under each Center the materials you have available or can make or purchase that relate to the selected Topic of Study; material that you plan to use with children during the week.
- 7. Begin to complete the Weekly Activity Plan Sheet by listing for each day of the week the Group/Circle Time activities you plan to include.
 - Read at least one book to children each day. Remember that the same book can be read to children several times during the week. The Curriculum Guide includes more than one reading of each featured book.
 - Include other language experiences such as telling stories with visuals, singing songs, playing games, and saying Mother Goose rhymes, finger plays and poems.
 - Keep in mind that you can have more than one Group/Circle Time each day. Remember to keep these times short; from 10 to 20 minutes.
- 8. Continue to complete the Weekly Activity Plan Sheet, one section at a time, choosing activities from the Curriculum Guide.
- 9. Include Physical/Movement/Gross Motor Activities each day. MINIMUM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR Child Care Centers (Rev. 1.1.15) has the following requirement:
 - 401.4 Program requirements for all ages
 - 4. There shall be a total of 30 minutes per day of moderate to vigorous physical activity. This could be included in outdoor play time if it meets this criteria.

Teacher Note: Many of the Topics of Study include Movement/Physical Education activities.

Refer to Books and Movement – A Magical Mix (B.A.M.M.M.!) for additional ideas. B.A.M.M.M. can be found on the Division/Better Beginnings web-site.

Teacher Note: Refer back to Adventures in Learning Tips and Techniques if you need help in completing any of the sections of the Weekly Activity Plan Sheet.

Reflection: After you have used the Weekly Activity Plan Sheet with your children, spend time evaluating the activities that worked, didn't work, and the adjustments and changes you can make during future planning.

Teacher Note: You may choose to use the Weekly Activity Plan Sheet for another Arkansas approved curriculum.