DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICES

Grounded in research on child development, developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) provide a framework for the services school psychologists can provide to young children by creating a common approach for assessing and intervening with a child's unique developmental trajectory when necessary.

For more information on developmentally appropriate practices, we recommend checking out the following resources.

- www.nasponline.org
- Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University
- NAEYC DAP: https://www.naeyc.org/resources/topics/dap
- NAEYC Developmentally Appropriate Practice Draft 2019

Knowledge of DAP helps practitioners frame conversations with key stakeholders. DAP encourages partnerships with families and collaboration between educators and service providers.

DAP supports school psychologists advocating for quality care instruction. A DAP environment balances the social, emotional, and physiological needs of learners.

According to NAEYC, DAP includes three core considerations: commonality of developmental milestones, individualism of the learner, and the context or intersectionality of all variables related to the child and service providers.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES