

# Office of Early Learning Newsletter

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This is also a great time for professional development. I want to remind districts that our



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The Resource Guides for School Success in Early Learning are grade-specific resources that consolidate all learning standards into one comprehensive document that provides a uniform format to make them easily accessible for teachers, specialists, administrators and parents. The Office of Early Learning and the Office of Curriculum and Instruction have updated and revised these documents.

Updates include additional links to introductory documents for each subject, listed in the order that they occur in the resources. These links are listed in the “Purpose of this Document” sections. Users will find an additional paragraph added to the science sections with information about the three dimensions of science learning, including the science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts. All links within the documents have been checked and updated for functionality.

As a reminder, these resources are not a curriculum, assessment, or set of teaching strategies but rather, resources for the learning that students should accomplish. Users are encouraged to also review articulations of the New York State Learning Standards. The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASB) recently awarded \$4,000 to OEL to complete the creation of an additional resource for third grade.

## Supporting Learning Through Play During COVID -19

Recent shifts to virtual learning and single-minded emphasis on academic achievement have hampered some efforts to support play-based approaches. According to the Harvard University’s Center on the Developing Child article Play in

## American Library Association Announces 2021 Geisel Award and Caldecott Medal Recipients

At the end of January 2021, the American Library Association (ALA) announced its book and media awards, including the Geisel and Caldecott Awards. The Geisel Award is given annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished American book for beginning readers published in English in the United States during the preceding year, while the Caldecott Medal is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

## Acceptable Experience for Professional Teacher Certification in Early Childhood Settings

One of the requirements for the Professional teacher certificate is to complete at least three school years of valid teaching experience or its equivalent (540 clock hours). A maximum of 180 days of teaching experience will be accepted per school year (July 1 - June 30). In addition, the teaching experience must span at least three different school years.

For individuals who were issued their Initial teacher certificate on or after February 2, 2014, the required valid teaching experience must be in the subject area of the certificate held to be acceptable for the Professional certificate. For individuals who were issued their first Initial teacher certificate before February 2, 2014, the required valid teaching experience does not need to be in the subject area of the certificate held to be acceptable for the Professional certificate.

Please note that if individuals hold multiple Initial teacher certificates, they may combine valid teaching

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