

Celebrating  
Those Who  
Bring the Light  
to Young  
Children



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Research and studies have  
identified the elements of a  
quality early childhood  
program

2

**The essential element which is  
repeatedly identified is:**



A trained,  
responsive teacher  
caregiver, who  
builds positive  
relationships

3

**Every Child Needs Someone Who Believes They Are  
Wonderful: You Are That Person For Many Children**



4

A language  
model during  
the window of  
opportunity for  
development



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Conversations that are  
interactive or essential to  
the language development

- > Serve and Return
- > Reciprocal
- > Be an active listener
- > Be sensitive to the "wait" period



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### The Essential 4C's in the United States

- Creativity
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Critical Thinking (Problem Solving)

(Trilling & Fadel, 2009)

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### Understanding and Respecting the Capabilities of All Children

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This is a critical time to nurture creativity and creative thinking!

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A creative teacher who will help young children gain the skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century: Creativity, Communication, Collaboration, and Critical Thinking

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### Creative Confidence

- You have willingness to try and take safe risks
- You are persistent and capable of doing difficult things
- You welcome challenges and value new ideas
- You know mistakes are opportunities to retry, learn, and grow

Teachers who LOVE teaching  
Teach children who LOVE learning

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A trained and continually learning person who demonstrates this love for learning

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A lover of stories and reader of books that will help young children find joy in stories



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“Children who are read one book a day, will hear about 290,000 more words by age 5 than those who don’t regularly read books with a parent or caregiver.”



Jeff Grabmeir, Ohio State University

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A designer of calm and stimulating environment that is appropriate for active learners



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Calming Area

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Physical Activity Throughout the Day

- Moving
- Stretching
- Dancing
- Jumping
- Climbing
- Rolling



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You are a treasured person to many young children and their families

- You value each young child and his/her uniqueness
- You respond to their needs, questions, and possibilities
- You are a language and literacy model
- You are a creative thinker and problem solver
- You design and implement amazing environments

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You make the difference in the lives of young children  
**YOU BRING THE LIGHT!!!**



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### This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine – I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine – I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine – I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Don't you try to blow it out – I'm gonna let it shine  
Don't you try to blow it out – I'm gonna let it shine  
Don't you try to blow it out – I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Everywhere I go – I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go – I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go – I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

This little light of mine – I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine – I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine – I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine



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