

# Guidelines for Educators

## When using “What are the New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines? A Brief Introduction for Families”

The document, “What are *The New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines? A Brief Introduction for Families*,” was designed to assist early childhood educators when communicating with parents and family members about the *New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines*. It was written to be brief, to the point, and give basic information about what the *Guidelines* are and how you will use them in your program.

A Foundational Principle in the *Early Learning Guidelines* is that family members are the primary educators of their children. Therefore, throughout both the *Guidelines* themselves and the family introduction brochure, you will see the uniqueness of families validated and celebrated. The information in these materials can be used with families in any early childhood program.

## What *educators* can do with these materials

It is recommended that you share this document with *all* of the families in your program through face-to-face interactions. It is NOT recommended that you merely send it home with children.

- The family introduction may best be given to family members when you conduct an intake meeting or orientation session with them. In that way, you can personalize some of the information in the Family Introduction and share the ways that they will see the *New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines* used throughout your program’s curriculum and assessment practices.
- Materials can be integrated into family/educator conferences, meetings, and family events.

This information is not meant to be all inclusive but rather to provide a starting point for an ongoing dialogue between educators and family members. You may have some family members who wish to look at the full *New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines* document. While not recommended, if they are genuinely interested, you are welcome to give them a copy or refer them to the website.

We hope this information is helpful to you as you implement the *New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines* and communicate about them with the family members of the children in your program.

These materials are available for download on the [newmexicokids.org](http://newmexicokids.org) website under the Caregivers & Educators tab.

You can download the brochure:

What are the *New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines*?

A Brief Introduction for Families

at [www.newmexicokids.org](http://www.newmexicokids.org)

