

Theorists: Reggio Emilia Approach

The Reggio Emilia Approach is a progressive model of early care and education practice and curriculum.

Reggio Emilia is a town in Northern Italy that established the preschool programs in 1963 under the leadership of Professor Loris Malaguzzi.



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What is the Reggio Emilia approach to early care and education?

1. The Reggio Approach views each child as an individual and structures programs to meet the needs of each child.
2. Reggio teachers develop the curriculum's general goals, activities, projects, and create the environment. The children's interests influence the curriculum and classroom projects. The projects include class discussions, investigations, field trips, the use of actual materials and guest speakers. The children's work on projects is documented and displayed in the classrooms and the school through drawings, photos, and other visible signs of the children's work.

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3. Reggio Emilia ECE programs view the classroom environment as a teacher and puts high focus on natural materials. The classroom is designed as a warm and inviting environment for children and adults. In a Reggio inspired classroom you might see live plants and homey touches, such as baskets for storage of classroom materials that support the home-school connection. Children's art work and documentation of projects is displayed on the walls of the center.
4. Reggio Emilia approach includes extensive parent participation in the program.

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