

Directions for Color-Coding the Texas PreK Guidelines Big Sheets

1. Print each page using **11 X 17 inch paper**. Print each copy on a separate piece of paper so that the big sheets can be placed side-by-side enabling educators to track the linear progression of children's outcomes across domains.
2. Select the big sheets that align with your needs.
3. Follow the directions provided for color-coding the big sheets and identifying the most important information within the PreK Guidelines.
 - a. Use a **yellow highlighter** and highlight only the **verb(s)** in guidelines. The verb describes the **TYPE OF THINKING**, not the depth of understanding.
 - b. Use a **light blue highlighter** and highlight a few **KEY WORDS** in the guideline that identify the **RIGOR**, or the **depth of understanding or engagement with the content** that helps teachers determine the complexity of the task. Highlight only enough words to support your memory recall.
 - c. Use an **orange highlighter** and highlight words that indicate **teacher support** (e.g., with adult guidance or with support). Most PreK Guidelines do not require mastery; teachers instruct, model, and practice and monitor and report children's progress toward the end of the year goal.
4. Educators may color-code the big sheets by working independently or in small groups. Only work on a few PreK Guidelines each time. Then take a break, return and read the color-coded works aloud and restates in own words. **Working over time rather than completing all at once will enhance understandings a recall.**
5. **Compare and discuss outcomes in guidelines across domains.** Recall the **PreK Guidelines**, reflect **END-OF-YEAR OUTCOMES** for different age groups that children learn by participating in teaching and learning experiences that are interactive and from receiving feedback. **Instruction and practice should be scaffolded** from easy to more complex.
6. **The design of the PreK Guidelines is cumulative and developmental; knowledge and skills build upon each other.** Ensure teaching and practice follow developmental learning progressions and the pace of instruction is age-appropriate.
7. **Identify best practices and instructional routines** that will help children achieve expectations in the PreK Guidelines. Ensure instructional practices are coherent, integrated together in ways that make sense and are consistent from classroom to classroom.
8. **After color-coding the big sheets, laminate the Big Sheets** and use a dry erase marker to highlight guidelines, content and skills that you want to focus on when planning instruction, practice, and assessing or reporting student performance.