




# Big Day for PreK

Aligns to Title III  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

*Title III—English Language Acquisition* is designed to improve the education of limited English proficient (LEP) children and youths by helping them learn English and meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards. The program provides enhanced instructional opportunities for immigrant children and youths. The following chart shows how **Big Day for PreK** can support a Title III program. The criteria are drawn from the Federal *Title III Non-Regulatory Guidance*, posted at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sfgp/index.html>

Components of a Title III Program	Big Day for PreK
<p>Increase the English proficiency of LEP children by providing high-quality language instruction educational programs that are based on scientifically based research</p>	<p><b>Big Day for PreK</b> is a comprehensive early learning program that embraces children’s natural curiosity and encourages them to explore and connect with the world around them. The program provides a comprehensive early learning curriculum for full- or half-day classes; an extensive collection of classic and contemporary children’s literature and nonfiction text in a variety of formats; intensive social emotional, cognitive, and physical development; technology that connects children, teachers and families; and 100% equity in English and Spanish. <i>Big Day for PreK</i> learning experiences integrate all domains, including social-emotional development, oral language, reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, art, physical development, and technology.</p> <p><i>Big Day for PreK</i> lessons are organized into eight engaging and child-friendly themes, covering four weeks of instruction per theme—32 weeks of instruction. Each theme is linked with a Social-Emotional and a Knowledge focus that build children’s knowledge in theme-specific concepts, language, and skills. Throughout, flexible content allows teachers to incorporate their own favorite themes into the classroom.</p> <p><b>RESEARCH</b></p> <p>Grounded in responsive, integrated instruction, <i>Big Day for PreK</i> prepares preschool-aged children for Kindergarten through intentional, engaging learning opportunities that build the foundations in essential learning domains. Development of <i>Big Day for PreK</i> was informed by a team of expert researchers and practitioners, led by Dr. Anne Cunningham, an early childhood researcher and professor at the University of California, Berkeley whose areas of expertise include the cognitive and motivational processes underlying reading ability and the interplay of context, development, and literacy instruction.</p> <p>The <i>Big Day for PreK</i> Research Foundation Paper presents information about relevant research and expert opinions, alongside descriptions of how the research has been translated into the program design and curriculum.</p> <p> To download a copy of the <i>Big Day for PreK</i> Research Foundation Paper, please see: <a href="http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/early-learning-program/big-day-for-prekindergarten-research-authors.htm">http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/early-learning-program/big-day-for-prekindergarten-research-authors.htm</a></p>

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<p>Measure the English proficiency of LEP students so that they develop proficiency in English while meeting State academic content and students academic achievement standards</p>	<p><i>Big Day for PreK</i> includes multiple informal and formal measures that are appropriate to children’s development, to help provide educators and families with a comprehensive picture of each child’s strengths and progress along the path to Kindergarten readiness . Assessment in the program is based on five Pathways to Readiness—developmental continuums with research-based indicators and benchmarks in five domains—Social-Emotional Development; Oral Language Development; Emergent Reading; Emergent Writing; and Emergent Mathematics Development. These developmental continuums identify a discrete set of key skills that indicate key stages of development—Pre-Emergent, Beginning, Emerging, and Developed.</p> <p>The <i>Scholastic Early Childhood Inventory</i> (SECI) formally assesses progress and growth toward competence in four domains that have been shown to be predictive of kindergarten readiness—Oral Language, Phonological Awareness, Alphabet Knowledge, and Mathematics. The SECI can be administered at three points in the school year—beginning, middle, and end. The first administration places every child along a developmental continuum for each of the key domains; subsequent administrations track progress along the developmental path. Data from SECI produces key reports to help the teacher plan instruction and communicate with administrators and families. The reports include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Class Readiness Reports</u>—Four Readiness Reports use SECI results to provide a class summary of development along the pathway to kindergarten readiness in Phonological Awareness, Alphabet Knowledge, Oral Language Development, and Mathematics.</li> <li>▪ <u>Progress Report</u>—This report shows how a child’s scores correspond with developmental stages along the pathway to kindergarten readiness—Pre-Emergent, Beginning, Emergent, and Developed.</li> <li>▪ <u>Assessment Status Report</u>—This report helps teachers track which assessments have been completed for each child.</li> <li>▪ <u>Score Record</u>—This report provides teachers with an individual child’s raw score for each subtest within each module.</li> </ul> <p>The <i>Big Day for PreK</i> curriculum includes daily opportunities to observe children’s growth toward developmental milestones in informal ways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Circle Time/Story Time</i> Observation Guides help teachers to monitor children’s progress and plan one-to-one follow-up.</li> <li>▪ Small-Group Observation Guides help teachers focus their observations of children and plan for Small Group Intervention.</li> <li>▪ Clipboard Observation Guides help teachers track each child’s performance of important skills within key domains.</li> <li>▪ PreK 360 Records are graphic organizers that help teachers organize their notes about each child and summarize observations.</li> <li>▪ Anecdotal Records help teachers keep ongoing daily records.</li> <li>▪ <i>Show and Grow</i> Portfolios provide an authentic and visual representation of children’s progress in print or online.</li> </ul>

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<p>Increases the English proficiency and academic achievement of LEP children in core academic subjects</p>	<p><i>Big Day for PreK</i> provides complete equity in English and Spanish. Over 1,000 components are available in both English and Spanish, including the Teaching Guides, print books and audiobooks, <i>BookFlix</i>, Big Wall charts, <i>BookStix</i>, Math Mats, Science Posters, downloadable teacher resources, family letters, and <i>Family Space</i>. The curriculum provides support for teachers to strengthen English Language Learners’ literacy and language skills; the English Language Development feature in the Teaching Guides provides suggestions for explicit language instruction to help English Language Learners understand new concepts, practice developing language skills, and draw connections between their home language and English.</p> <p>For teachers teaching in Spanish, <i>Bridge to English</i> features provide support for making connections in English during Whole-Group lessons. Small-Group Instruction provides time for teachers to work more closely on specific language skills while Learning Centers provide opportunities for English Language Learners to play and practice communicating with their English-speaking peers.</p> <p><i>Big Day for PreK</i> provides formal and informal opportunities throughout the day to develop vocabulary and oral language—essential for English Language Learners. New vocabulary is always introduced in context, which is particularly useful for supporting the understanding of students whose home language is not English. Structured interactions, such as dialogic reading, provide English Language Learners with highly supported opportunities to practice oral language skills. The Teaching Guides help to guide the teacher in monitoring students’ language skills by elaborating on and extending their statements.</p>
<p>Improve the instruction of LEP children by providing for the acquisition of educational technology or instructional materials</p>	<p>In <i>Big Day for PreK</i>, English Language Learners have daily opportunities to use technology to practice literacy skills and extend their learning. One of the Learning Centers is the Technology Center, where children can independently access <i>BookFlix</i>, an online literary resource that provides children and their families access to literature and related activities. On the <i>BookFlix</i> site, children can click on any of the theme-related reading pairs in English or Spanish; each pair consists of a fictional video storybook and a nonfiction <i>eBook</i>. A read-aloud feature allows children to listen to the books with headphones, with or without captions. They can click on highlighted vocabulary words in the nonfiction books to hear a definition.</p>
<p>Provide high-quality professional development to classroom teachers, principals, and administrators that is designed to improve the instruction and assessment of limited English proficient children</p>	<p><u><i>Big Day for PreK Full or Half Day Implementation Training</i></u></p> <p>This training lets teachers experience <i>Big Day for PreK</i> teaching resources and technology and provides guidance on organizing and managing the classroom, assessing children’s progress, and engaging families throughout the year.</p> <p><u><i>Big Day for PreK Interactive Webinar-Quickstart Training</i></u></p> <p>This interactive Webinar helps teachers and administrators get started using <i>Big Day for PreK</i>, including: using teaching resources, managing the classroom, assessing progress, and engaging families.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CONTINUED</p>

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<p>Provide high-quality professional development that is designed to improve the instruction and assessment of limited English proficient children <i>Continued</i></p>	<p>In addition to the Implementation Training all <i>Big Day for PreK</i> teachers receive access to a <i>Scholastic U</i> online professional course called “Developing Foundations for Early Childhood Success.” This course focuses on developing teachers’ knowledge of children’s development in the social, emotional, and behavioral domains, in communication and language, in early literacy, and in early mathematics.</p>
<p>Assist parents in helping their children to improve their academic achievement and become active participants in the education of their children</p>	<p><i>Big Day for PreK</i> promotes the home-school connection with <i>Big Day Family Space</i>, a secure website that families can log in to from any computer with an Internet connection. Using <i>Family Space</i>—available in English and Spanish—families stay informed about what their child’s class is learning each week. Using the downloadable list of Kindergarten Readiness Indicators, families can understand and monitor their child’s development throughout the year. <i>Family Space</i> also provides suggestions for theme-related books in both English and Spanish, as well as Downloadable Books for parents and caregivers to read with their children. Families can print downloadable, bilingual resources to help their children build mathematics and literacy skills, including <i>Learn Together</i> Downloadables, <i>Clifford</i> Literacy Activities, <i>Clifford</i> Mathematics Activities, and ABC Take-Home Books.</p> <p><i>Family Space</i> also includes access to <i>BookFlix</i>, an online literary resource that provides children and their families access to literature and related activities. The animated fictional and storybooks provide audiovisual support to build and strengthen literacy skills and make learning fun, while the nonfiction <i>eBooks</i> help build background knowledge and introduce content-area learning. Families can play interactive educational games related to the <i>BookFlix</i> book pairs, learn more about the storybook author, or explore carefully selected, age-appropriate Web links. The <i>BookFlix</i> and related activities, as well as <i>Family Space</i>, provide families with rich resources for supporting and extending children’s social-emotional, literacy, and mathematics learning in the home.</p>
<p>Develop and implement elementary or secondary school language instruction educational programs that are coordinated with other relevant programs and services</p>	<p><i>Big Day for PreK</i> can be integrated with funds from state, local, private, and other sources. The federal funding programs for which it qualifies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Title IA—Improving Basic Programs</li> <li>▪ Title I—School Improvement Grants</li> <li>▪ Title III—English Language Acquisition</li> <li>▪ Race to the Top—Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC)</li> </ul>