

Professional Development

Whether you are a new or veteran teacher, you should actively continue your professional development. Are you exploring all the recommended practices and resources that are important for professional growth?

- You continually re-examine your beliefs about your profession. Try keeping a reflective journal or writing for other educators.
- You keep pace with new knowledge and technological developments. Read, read, read!
- You refine your strategies and approaches based on what you learn from experiences and research.
- You maintain a professional portfolio with background information (e.g. resume, educational philosophy), teaching artifacts and reflections documenting an extended teaching activity (e.g. overview of unit goals and instructional plan, student work samples), and professional information (e.g. letters of recommendation, formal evaluations).
- You have considered or have achieved certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Helpful Resources:

- *Instructor Magazine*
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/instructor/>
- *Early Childhood Today Magazine*
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/ect/>