



## 2018 Core Knowledge and Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals

### Summary of Changes

The 2018 Core Knowledge and Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals builds on the 2008 and 2013 versions. Please see below for a summary of the changes:

- The Core Knowledge and Competencies now cover working early childhood professionals working with children birth through age 8 / grade three
- The Knowledge Areas now align with current NAEYC professional standards, Vermont Agency of Education teacher standards with early childhood endorsement, and the Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS)
- There are now eight core knowledge areas instead of five
- Content changes were made based on responses from the field over the past 8 years, recommendations from *Transforming the Workforce (2015)*<sup>1</sup>, updated research, and core knowledge and competencies for early childhood professionals from other states
- Professional Dispositions were added
- Level IV competencies were added
- New formatting allows the reader to view all levels under each subheading, showing the continuum from Level I to Level IV. Level I is foundational including essential health and safety competencies, and engagement with children. Level II adds more responsibility for application. Level III adds full application of competencies into practice. Level IV adds evaluation of implemented competencies.

2018 Core Knowledge Areas	Previous Core Knowledge Areas
Child Development	Child Development
Families and Communities	Families and Communities
Observing and Assessing	N/A
How We Teach	Teaching and Learning
What We Teach	
Health, Safety, and Nutrition	Healthy and Safe Environments
Professionalism	Professionalism and Program Organization
Program Organization	

<sup>1</sup> [Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation](#) (2015) , Institute of Medicine and National Research Council.