

Publisher Response to the Texas Resource Review

The Children’s Learning Institute at UTHealth appreciates the opportunity to participate in the Texas Resource Review. We would like to extend our thanks to the Texas Education Agency and to Safal Partners for their thorough, detailed, and insightful independent review of the CIRCLE Pre-K Curriculum.

The completed quality report highlights many of the strengths and important features of the CIRCLE Pre-K Curriculum. From the time the curriculum was first conceptualized until the last lesson was completed, our decisions were carefully considered and guided by research to ensure the curriculum would be built according to the science of how children learn best. Reviewers of the CIRCLE curriculum recognized the instructional supports that include softly scripted lessons, quality question prompts, teacher tips, and scaffolds to provide extra support and to extend learning. Reviewers also noted the responsive style of lessons and activities that facilitate quality teacher-child interactions, and a balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed activities.

The mission of the Children's Learning Institute is to advance learning and health outcomes for all children, and we are proud to offer our high-quality curriculum free to all educators on our innovative CLI Engage platform. One of the many benefits of a digital curriculum is the ability to add resources and tools in an ongoing manner. We would like to highlight just a few of the additional curriculum resources planned at this time. These include:

- a “Year-at-a-Glance” Texas Prekindergarten Guideline Correlation Matrix indicating the weeks individual guidelines are addressed,
- guidance and recommendations for using the curriculum with three-year-old children, and
- recommendations and a sample lesson plan for using the curriculum in half-day prekindergarten programs.

Through our research-to-practice focus at the Children’s Learning Institute, the curriculum will continue to benefit from our partnerships with schools and our direct work with teachers and children in classrooms. We look forward to offering many more resources to the CLI Engage platform throughout the life of the curriculum.