

# The Bank Street Approach

Bank Street’s creative approach to teaching and learning recognizes that children learn best when they are actively engaged with materials, ideas, and people. Using this approach, Bank Street teachers encourage children to be curious, love learning, be respectful and embrace human differences, engage with the world around them, and prepare to lead lives of consequence.

Referred to as either the “Bank Street approach” or the “developmental-interaction approach,” our educational philosophy begins with sound developmental principles and learning through experience. It sees the teacher as one who facilitates learning, develops clear educational objectives, and encourages learning through discovery and thoughtful engagement.

We strive to foster children’s development in the broadest sense by providing diverse opportunities for physical, social, emotional, and cognitive growth. We respect children as active learners, experimenters, explorers, and artists. We understand that children do not all learn at the same rate or in the same way. We also understand that learning is social, and that children learn in interaction with others in their environment. Finally, we believe that the Bank Street approach leads to a lifetime of learning.

Through its innovative programs, unique philosophy, and commitment to quality education for all, Bank Street influences thousands of children, youth, parents, and educators throughout the United States and abroad.

