



My Big World Supports the Head Start Early Learning Framework



My Big World is a magazine just for early-childhood programs. Here's how it supports school-readiness goals and the domains in Head Start's Framework.

FRAMEWORK DOMAINS	WHAT <i>MY BIG WORLD</i> OFFERS
<p>Approaches to Learning</p> <p>This domain deals with initiative and curiosity, self-regulation, and creativity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New magazines arrive each month, helping children discover a variety of topics and encouraging curiosity. • Articles cover topics such as working together and following rules—aspects of self-regulation. • Big Issues help children focus and listen during circle-time reading—another aspect of self- and cognitive regulation. • Extension activities in the Teacher's Guide promote creativity and cooperative play. • Children receive their own copies of <i>My Big World</i> issues, which promotes appropriate handling of classroom materials and independence. • A safe website lets children demonstrate initiative through independently exploring the various activities.
<p>Social & Emotional Development</p> <p>This domain addresses relationships with adults and other children, emotional functioning, and a sense of identity and belonging.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging articles and online videos focus on social-development themes, such as helping others and sharing. • Clifford's Big Idea: These discussion prompts use Clifford characters to encourage conversations on key social-development topics. • Teacher's Guide lessons provide ideas for cooperative games as well as self-expression. • Big Issues help children focus attention and cooperate during group reading. • The magazine provides group activities (like sing-alongs) that nurture and promote a sense of belonging.
<p>Language & Communication</p> <p>Attending and understanding, communicating and speaking, and vocabulary are all part of this domain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles include discussion prompts that foster rich conversations. • Simple, engaging articles expose children to the language of nonfiction and content vocabulary. • Clifford's Big Word: Key vocabulary words are highlighted and explained in articles every month. • Reading together fosters attention and understanding, as well as speaking in response to the content.

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<p>Literacy</p> <p>This domain includes phonological awareness, print and alphabet awareness, comprehension/text structure, and writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing-along sidebars and Teacher’s Guide rhymes develop phonological awareness as well as expressive language. • Many opportunities are available to practice print awareness while reading individual student issues, Big Issues, and online features. (The Read Together section of Teacher’s Guide gives specific lesson ideas.) • Online learning games include letter recognition. • Online Text-to-Speech feature lets children listen to articles being read aloud. Text highlighting allows them to track text.
<p>Mathematics Development</p> <p>This domain covers counting and cardinality, operations, patterns, measurement, geometry, and spatial sense.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math concepts, such as counting and shapes, are often layered into articles. • Think Big! pages include skills such as number recognition, counting, patterns, and shapes integrated into science or social studies themes. • Online learning games include comparing amounts and pattern completion. • Hands-on suggestions in the Teacher’s Guide cover one-to-one correspondence and math-manipulative ideas.
<p>Scientific Reasoning</p> <p>Scientific inquiry and knowledge are included in this domain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles and posters build essential science knowledge. Common topics include: life cycles, characteristics of animals, how plants grow, categorizing, observing weather and seasonal changes, and freezing water. • Clifford’s Big Word: This recurring feature in the magazine helps build a rich scientific vocabulary. • The Teacher’s Guide provides many hands-on science ideas, including simple experiments.
<p>Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development</p> <p>This domain addresses gross and fine motor skills, health, safety, and nutrition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles cover multiple health and safety topics, such as fire safety, healthy eating, and dental health. Children develop knowledge of personal-safety practices and routines. • Move & Learn: These sidebars build gross-motor skills through activities such as action rhymes and dance. • Illustrated fingerplays in articles help children develop control, strength, and coordination of small muscles. • Movement activity ideas in the Teacher’s Guide extend learning. • Reproducible ThinkSheets: These crayon-paper-scissor activities in every issue promote fine-motor skills. • Online learning games allow children to use fine-motor skills as they manipulate a mouse or touch screen.