

Preface

Completely Kindergarten - The Kindergarten Curriculum Guide (2010) provides direction and support for teachers planning developmentally appropriate experiences for kindergarten children in Newfoundland and Labrador.

In 1967, the Royal Commission on Education and Youth recommended that kindergarten classes be introduced to all schools in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The first provincial Kindergarten Curriculum Guide was implemented in 1985. It supported a cognitive-discovery approach to learning, placing children at the centre of activity-based classrooms.

A Kindergarten Advisory Committee was established by the Division of Program Development to address changes and concerns related to kindergarten education. In 1994, the Royal Commission Implementation Secretariat set up a Primary Working Group to review kindergarten to grade three. The development of preliminary plans for the new Kindergarten Curriculum Guide, *Early Beginnings*, was included in their mandate and published in July 1997.

In 2010, *Early Beginnings*, was revised to include the current research on best practices used in teaching young children. This new guide, *Completely Kindergarten*, was designed to present a balanced approach to teaching and learning. The delivery of a balanced curriculum recognizes that a child-centred and teacher-directed approach is necessary to attain outcomes in all content areas. This is achievable in a classroom environment which promotes learning through play while recognizing the developmental nature of a kindergarten child.

Completely Kindergarten encompasses a cross-curricular approach for teaching and learning in all subject specific areas with an emphasis on play. The four column spread including outcomes, teaching and learning strategies, assessment and resources for each subject area are included within *Completely Kindergarten*. Individual subject specific guides which contain additional information and appendices are available on the Department of Education's website at <http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/>.

An ongoing list of materials and resources which have been issued to each Kindergarten teacher is referenced in the current *Program of Studies* and can be located at <http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/>.

