



Pyramid Leadership Team 2022 Activities



The Acorn School provides a Whole Child (mind, body, spirit) approach.



Our program reflects the research-based understanding that play is essential to children's health and well-being, and foundational to children's learning.



All humans want to feel respect and self-worth and a sense of belonging which occurs in coordination with primary routines, classroom activities and the design of the learning environment.

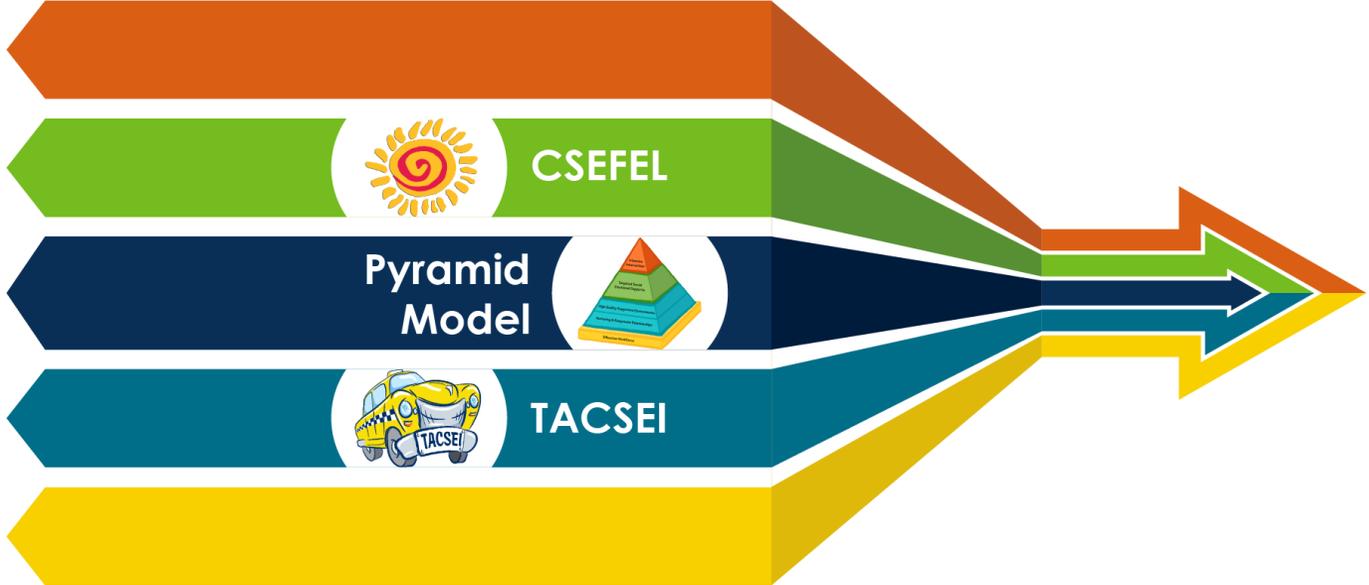
Conceptual understandings emerge through a child's direct engagement with the world. The Acorn School offers hands-in, hands-on learning through rich and rigorous experiences.



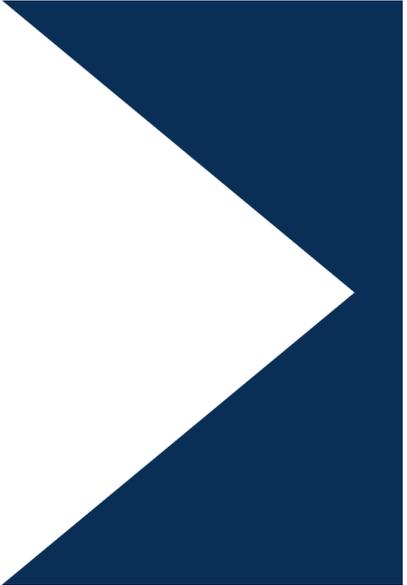
Teachers nurture children, provide primary care for safety and security, and implement an Emergent Curriculum.



Through relationships, shared language and concepts become the tools which children use to absorb social practices and construct their understanding of themselves and their community.



National Center for
**Pyramid Model
INNOVATIONS**



What is the Pyramid Model?

The Pyramid Model is a conceptual framework of evidence-based practices for promoting young children's healthy social and emotional development.

Who uses the Pyramid Model?

The Pyramid Model provides guidance for:

- early childhood special education personnel
- early intervention personnel
- early educators
- families
- other professionals

Who created the Pyramid Model?

The Pyramid Model was developed by two national, federally-funded research and training centers: The Center for the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) and Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Youth Children (TACSEI). These centers' faculty represent nationally recognized researchers and program developers in the areas of social skills and challenging behavior.



The Acorn School began with the Peabody Team proving a 2-hour introduction to Pyramid on October 2021.



Pyramid Leadership Team Formed March 2022

Mission Statement

The Acorn Leadership Team will work collegially to create the architecture to support Acorn Educators and families to implement Pyramid practices to build children's social emotional skills that lead to joyful, confident, and competent learners prepared for their next educational experience.

Pyramid Leadership Team

Jennifer Strange, Lead Teacher @ Edgehill Acorn School

Jennifer.m.strange@vanderbilt.edu

Lan Yang, Lead Teacher @ Edgehill Acorn School

Lan.yang@vanderbilt.edu

Lori Dillingham, Lead Teacher @ 18th Avenue Acorn School

Lori.a.dillingham@vanderbilt.edu

Sheila Ford, Site Director @ 18th Avenue Acorn School

Shelia.Ford@vanderbilt.edu

Cierra Price, The Acorn School Education Director

Cierra.a.price@vanderbilt.edu

Kathleen Seabolt, VCFC Executive Director

Kathleen.c.seabolt@vanderbilt.edu

Shannon Skivers, Lead Teacher @ 19th Avenue Acorn School

Shannon.d.skivers@vanderbilt.edu

Dalila Roman, Lead Teacher @ 19th Avenue Acorn School

Dalila.romans@vanderbilt.edu

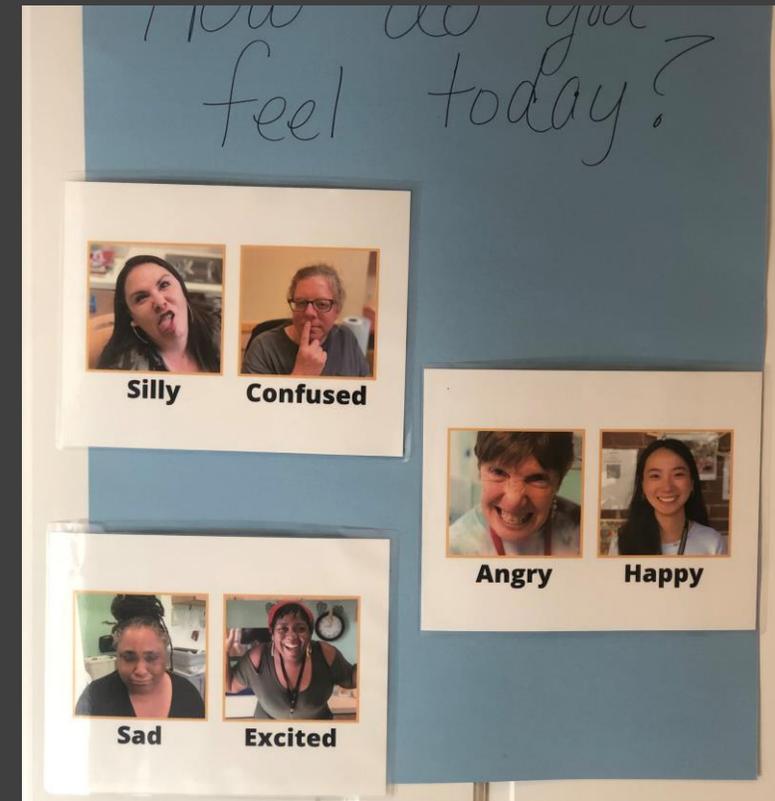
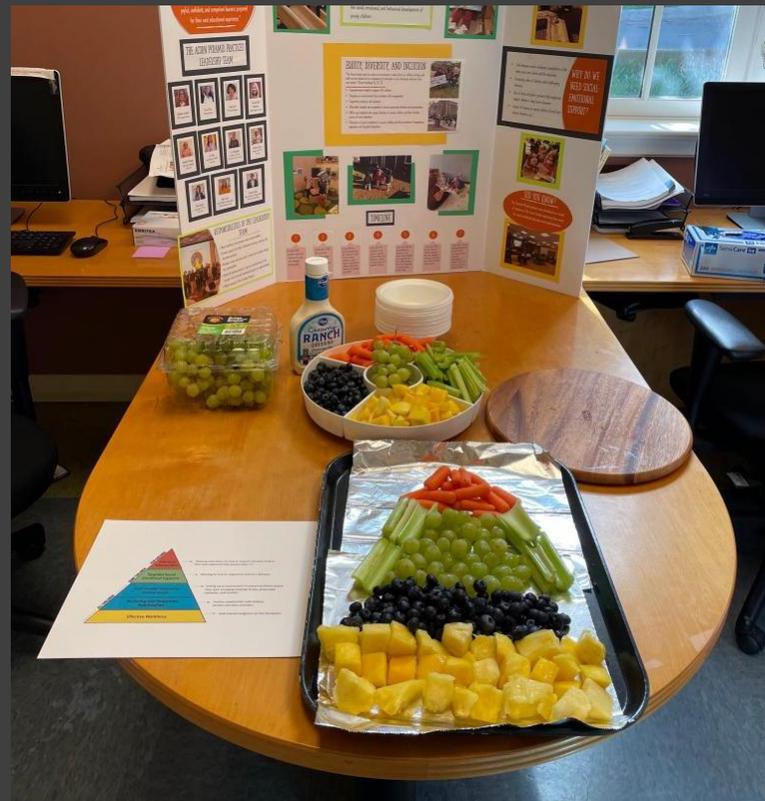
Michelle Wyatt, Site Director @ 19th Avenue Acorn School

Michelle.wyatt@vanderbilt.edu

Cornelia McKeehan, Owls Teacher

Cornelia.g.mckeehan@vanderbilt.edu

Pyramid Trainers: Kiersten Kinder, Abby Taylor

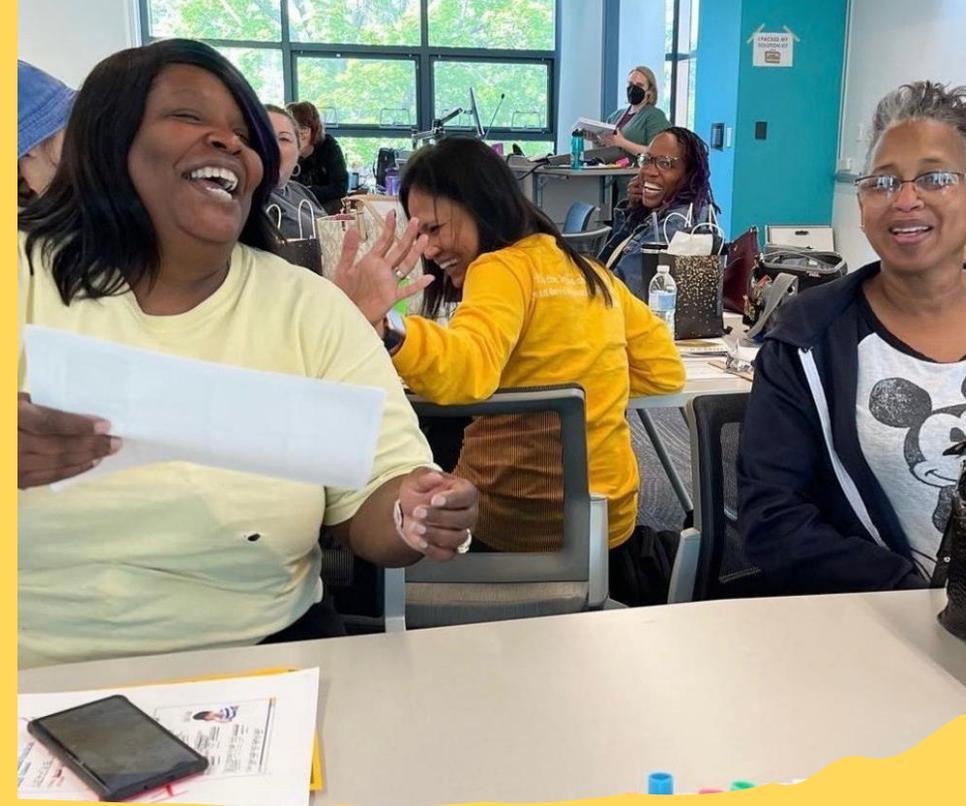


Co-creating Staff Activities at the Acorn childcare centers to provoke teacher curiosity and engagement





Making and modeling curriculum tools that support social-emotional development and represent the actual people in the classroom.



May 20th Training Day was a 6-hour deep dive designed for the entire Acorn Team to understand how current practice aligns with the Pyramid Model, identify opportunities, and set goals for further training.

Next steps:

The Pyramid Leadership Team will be surveying Acorn parents on their thoughts and interests to support buy-in and partnership. The PLT has curiosity about what type of communications and activities best support parent engagement with Acorn curriculum goals and program vision.

VCFC is resourcing further Pyramid Training during the teacher professional development week of August 1 – 5, 2022.

VCFC is resourcing classroom supports, including the availability of coaches, for Acorn teachers beginning the 2022-23 school year.

Curious? Explore more at: www.challengingbehavior.org

Questions?