Criteria for Evaluating and Selecting

Parent Education Curriculum Materials

1. What is the overall purpose? Are there specific goals for parents and their children?
2. What is the theoretical orientation/conceptual basis for it?
3. Who is the object of focus – the parent, child, parent-child relationship, family, etc.?
4. Does it match the needs of the parent(s) with whom you will use it?
5. Is it targeted to a particular group of parents? Can it be adapted for use with other parents?
6. If it includes reading materials that you will share with parents, at what reading level is it? How complex are the thinking skills required of parents to understand it?
7. Is the material current, reflecting the latest research? This is likely more important than date of publication if the material continues to be accurate.
8. What are the qualifications of the authors? Do they have professional preparation in areas related to parenting and parent education?
9. How does it address cultural differences? Can it be used across cultural groups?
10. What does it assume about the preparation of the parent educator?
11. How comprehensive is it? Does it include materials that can be used over several sessions with the parent(s)?
12. What teaching strategies, if any, are suggested? If so, do they match the learning styles of the parent(s) with whom you would use it?
13. Is it easy to obtain? What does it cost? Can it be used multiple times?

**What else needs to be considered?**

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