



Cognitive ToyBox: Child Assessment Tools Designed to Support and Empower FCCs

By
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About Tammy and Teresa



Who is in the audience?

- State CCDF staff
- Family Child Care Provider
- Center-Based Provider
- Shared Services/Child Care Network Staff
- Other



Agenda for Today

1. Introduction to Cognitive ToyBox
2. Why and how does AVANCE use Cognitive ToyBox?
3. Importance of State Funding for Assessment Tools



Question to Audience:

What is your experience with
child assessment?



About Cognitive ToyBox (CTB)

Cognitive ToyBox supports quality monitoring and improvement across all early education settings through easy and efficient child assessment tools.



State of Early Childhood Assessment



Cognitive ToyBox: Hybrid Assessment Platform

Observation-Based



+

Game-Based



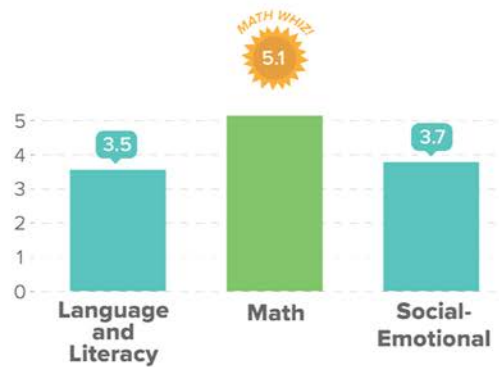
How it Works:

Accurate Assessment Leads to Instructional Adjustment

ASSESS



UNDERSTAND



RECOMMEND



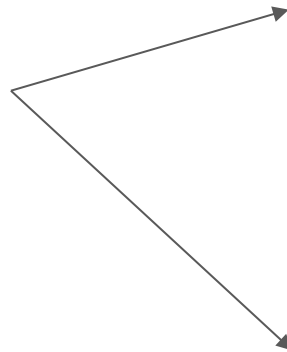
In-Class Use Case

- Small group activity
- One game per week per child
- Each game is less than 5 minutes
- Teachers use reports to inform instruction





Students play games



Objective Report | **Student Report** | Parent Report

Mia x 10/14/19 (4 years) (latest)

- ✓ Recognizes letters in own name
- ✓ Recognizes <25-50% of lowercase letters
- Recognizes 50-75% of lowercase letters
- Recognizes 100% of lowercase letters

Known										Unknown									
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	
j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r		j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	
s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z			s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z		

Level: 4 years | Language: English

Student Alphabet Report

Subobjective	Level	Correct
Recognizes letters in own name	3 years	1/17
Recognizes 25-50% of lowercase letters	4 years	16/17
Recognizes 50-75% of lowercase letters	5 years	12/17
Recognizes 100% of lowercase letters	6 years	0/17

Least Recognized	Sometimes Recognized	Most Recognized
o s v x	a b c d e f g i j k l m n q r t u w y z	h p

Whole Class Alphabet Report

Teachers receive actionable

Cognitive ToyBox Platform

Assessment tools

+ Reports for instruction and family engagement

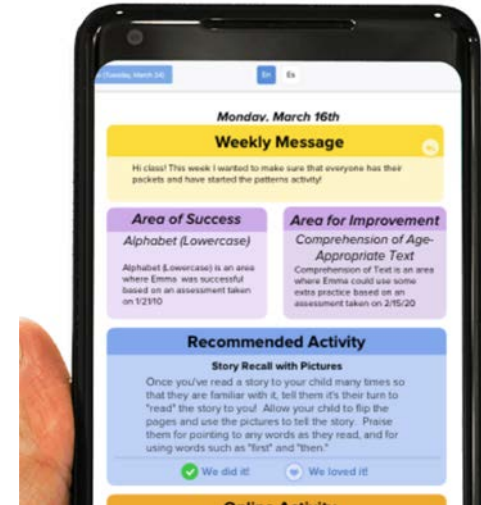


Observations

Games



For teachers and administrators



For families at home

Whole child, standards aligned assessment for virtual and/or in-person

- Aligned to Early Head Start, Head Start and state early learning standards
- Supports children birth to eight years of age
- Available in English and Spanish
- Comprehensive assessments that span across whole child development:
 - Approaches to Learning
 - Social and Emotional Development
 - Language and Literacy
 - Cognition
 - Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development
- For virtual learning: app is available on smartphones and does not require ongoing internet to access games

Research-Based



“Cognitive ToyBox makes assessment easier and more meaningful to educators and families.”

Source: WestEd Subject Matter Expert Review on Cognitive ToyBox

- Supported by funding from the National Science Foundation and the US Department of Education
- Reliable and valid, easy to use, and gives teachers access to frequent, timely information on each individual child’s learning trajectory.
- Visit: www.cognitivetoybox.com/research



**Let's dive into Cognitive ToyBox
with a demonstration!**



Quality Child Care Matters

Improving the Quality of Care for
Children in our Communities



Quality Child Care Matters

The goal of the Quality Child Care Matters Program is to develop the infrastructure to support and guide Family Child Care providers to increase the quality of care for the children in their communities and to honor parent choice by ensuring that parents have the opportunity to utilize family child care without having to sacrifice quality.



Quality Child Care Matters Program Objectives

- Improve the quality of care for children in family child care homes
- Increase the number of family child care programs
- Increase the number of Texas Rising Star certified family child care providers
- Provide affordable, quality child care options for working parents, especially in rural areas and communities of color





Quality Matters Program Delivery Model

- Recruit and enroll family child care providers in local communities
- Provide training, coaching, and mentoring to providers
- Connect providers to local resources and services
- Assist with Texas Rising Star Program application





Quality Child Care Matters Program Modules

Child Care
Licensing

Business
Policies and
Procedures

Early
Childhood
Development

Curriculum

Learning
Environments

Texas Rising
Star



Implementation of QCCM in Texas

City	Partner	Status
Austin	United Way of Greater Austin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2-year project• Launching April 2022• Claudia Zapata, QCCM Coordinator
Corpus Christi	Texas Workforce Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jeanette Hernandez, QCCM Coordinator• 18 family childcare providers enrolled (continuing enrollment)
El Paso	Workforce Borderplex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celeste Martinez, QCCM Coordinator• Launched Fall 2021• 31 family childcare providers enrolled
San Antonio	PreK4SA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trainer of Trainer• Launched Feb. 2022• 26 family childcare providers enrolled



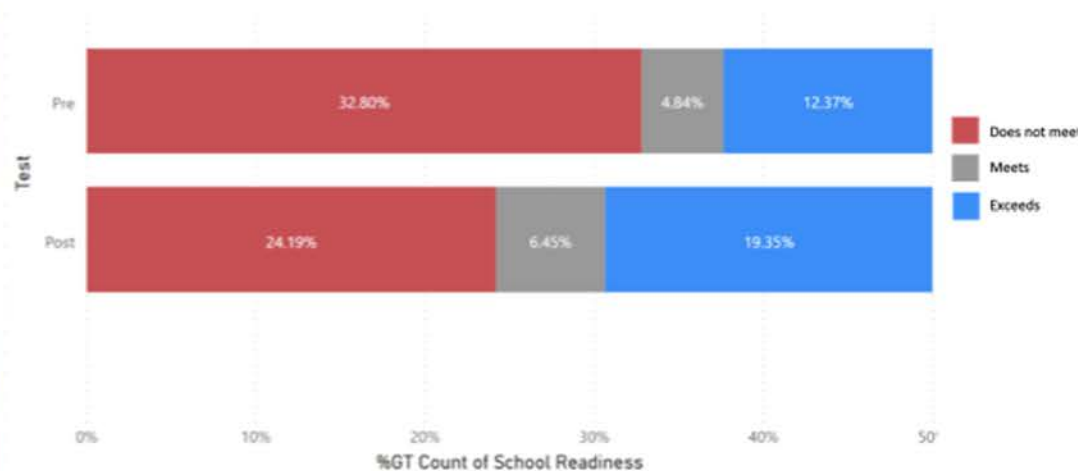
Impact of the Quality Child Care Program

- 67% increase in provider confidence in passing quality rating system after completion of QCCM
- 100% of providers indicate commitment to pursue quality certification after completion of QCCM
- 6 months after QCCM, over 20% of graduates receive Texas Rising Star certification





Impact on School Readiness Measured by Cognitive Toy Box





What's next?

- Shared Services for Family Child Care Providers
 - Access to Cognitive Toy Box at discounted rate

Want to learn more?

- Director of Provider Services, [Jocelynn Bryant-Rojas](#)
- Sr. Director of Curriculum & Implementation, [Ana Lorena Carrasco](#)





Questions?

Key Learnings with AVANCE and other FCC work

Relationships with **Child Care Networks** are important in ensuring providers can conduct assessment with fidelity

“I send reports to [the network coach] every week...I have advanced in my licensing step by step because [the network] came and helped us with a lot of material.”

- Family Child Care Provider

Example: Developmental Progress Report

Fine and Gross Motor		7/12
Gross Motor	Fine Motor	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Balance on one foot for 5 seconds each✓ Hop on one foot 5 times each✓ Toss/Bounce and catch a ball 5 times✗ Follows directions for Simon Says (Body Parts)✓ Follows directions for Simon Says (Spatial Awareness)✗ Draws a self portrait with facial features✗ Uses proper pencil grip	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Traces horizontal and vertical lines✗ Copies horizontal lines, vertical lines, and a + symbol✓ Traces lines that change direction✓ Copies curved lines✗ Prints name	

Key Learnings with AVANCE and other FCC work

One of FCCs differentiators (compared to center and school based providers) is **strong collaboration with parents**: CTB can further facilitate collaboration around school readiness at home and in education setting.

For example, FCC educators:

- Share their plans and goals with families on a weekly basis and ask them for support at home in reaching their goals.
- Involve families in each child's learning process and see parents as true partners in supporting each child's development.

Family Engagement

The image displays two views of the CTB Web Portal. On the left, a hand holds a smartphone showing the 'Family Experience' view. On the right, a desktop browser shows the 'Educator Experience' view.

Family Experience (Mobile View):

- Monday, March 16th**
- Weekly Message**
Hi class! This week I wanted to make sure that everyone has their packets and have started the patterns activity!
- Area of Success:** Alphabet (Lowercase)
Alphabet (Lowercase) is an area where Emma was successful based on an assessment taken on 3/21/20
- Area for Improvement:** Comprehension of Text in an area where Emma could use some extra practice based on an assessment taken on 3/25/20
- Recommended Activity:** Story Recall with Pictures
Once you've read a story to your child many times so that they are familiar with it, tell them it's their turn to "read" the story to you! Allow your child to flip the pages and use the pictures to tell the story. Praise them for pointing to any words as they read, and for using words such as "first" and "then."
Status: We did it! / We loved it!
- Online Activity:** Fuzzy Numbers
Help your preschooler develop early math skills with this science-based game! Fuzzy Numbers provides a fun, safe setting for children to practice foundational early math skills.
Key Concepts: 1st-Order, Problem Solving, P, A, C, S, P, S, S
Status: We played! / We loved it!
- Daily Read-Aloud:** There's a Bear in My Chair read by Krystina Humbert
Source: New York Public Library
Maimers Harbor Library Senior Children's Librarian Krystina Humbert reads.

Educator Experience (Desktop View):

- CTB Web Portal**
- Scheduled Activities**

Activity	Complete	Schedule
Story Recall With Pictures <i>Cognitive ToyBox</i>	14	Monday (3/16/20)
Fuzzy Numbers <i>Cognitive ToyBox</i>	1	Monday (3/16/20)
There's a Bear in My Chair <i>NYPL Storytime</i>	11	Monday (3/16/20)

- Family Engagement**

Student	Activities	Time Spent	Last
Amy	3	45min	4/6/20
Anna	1	13min	4/7/20
Barry	3	41min	4/6/20

CTB at Home enables better collaboration between families and teachers around school readiness

- Families see personalized recommendations (both online and offline) for their child
- CTB at Home automatically measures the amount of time that families and children engage at home on CTB activities

Key Learnings with AVANCE and other FCC work

Data from CTB can help inform networks on continued PD to best support them at the network level.



3 Recommendations for State Leaders

1. Allocate American Rescue Plan Act funds to purchase tools to support instructional quality, such as Cognitive ToyBox for FCCs



Image Source: ChildCare
Aware

3 Recommendations for State Leaders

1. Ensure that tools like Cognitive ToyBox are acceptable documentation for QRIS assessment requirements, and that network/state systems have the capability to integrate and link the assessment data to other existing data sources.



Image Source: Digital Promise: The State of Data Interoperability in Public Education

3 Recommendations for State Leaders

1. Fund Training and Technical Assistance for the professional development intermediaries/networks that work with FCC providers to help them understand the power of tools like Cognitive ToyBox to improve teaching and learning.



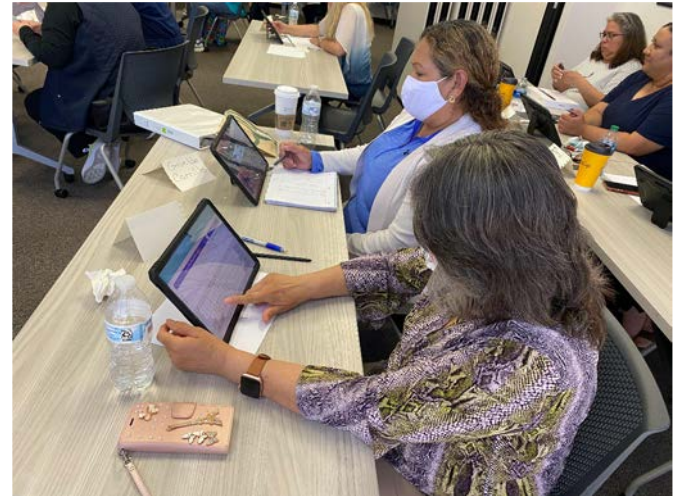
To learn more:

Case Study on Cognitive ToyBox with FCCs:

<https://www.cognitivetoybox.com/fccp---download-form.html>

3 minute video:

<https://www.cognitivetoybox.com/ctboverview.html>





Questions?



Cognitive
ToyBox

AVANCE[®]
Unlocking America's Potential

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Thank you!



Image Source: AVANCE