Planning and Implementing Rich & Inviting Learning and Development Overview

WHO?
All programs providing care and education for Oklahoma's children.

WHY?
Rich, inviting environments support children's learning and school readiness for lifelong success. They stimulate brain development, wonder, curiosity, critical thinking, and problem solving. Diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are integrated throughout rich and inviting learning environments. Engaging children and families in culturally responsive ways fosters belonging.

WHAT?
Rich and inviting learning environments include:
- materials, equipment, spaces for learning
- trained teachers
- curriculum and lesson plans
- child observation (to individualize to meet children's interests and needs)
- teacher-child interactions and relationships
- classroom cultures
- social emotional skills
- culturally responsive environments
- free play
- child-led and teacher-supported activities
- invitations to play

WHERE?
Rich and inviting learning environments include indoor and outdoor learning spaces and extending learning at home with families.

Resources:
- Child Care Technical Assistance Network, Infant/Toddler Resource Guide, *Preparing the environment,* can be accessed at: https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/infant-toddler-resource-guide/preparing-environment
- Head Start's Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center's (ECLKC) searchable website for hundreds of learning environment resources: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/search/eclkc?q=learning+environment