Lesson Planning
Policy Builder Prompts (QR 2-5)

PROMPT	WRITER'S TIPS

What is the process used for developing your lesson plans? (Required Levels 2-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts
	
	~ When/How often do you plan lessons?
	
	~ What curriculum do you use to guide your lesson planning?
	
	~ What resources do you use to plan activities that align with the children's:
	    ▪ ages
	    ▪ Interests
	    ▪ background experiences, cultures, or home languages
	    ▪ developmental levels & skills
	
	~ What resources do you use to plan activities that align with developmental domains?
	
	~ What ongoing assessment tools do you use as part of your lesson planning process?

How do you ensure that the lesson plans reflect the children's interests and skills? (Required Levels 2-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ Describe the ages of the children enrolled in your program. What types of activities and experiences do you plan for the children based on their ages? ~ Describe the developmental levels and skill levels of the children in your program. How do the children's developmental levels influence your planning? How do the children's skills levels influence your planning? ~ What recent activities have included the children's interests? How did you plan those activities? Did you plan a way to include children's interests in a curriculum or learning goal? ~ Did your observations help you identify the children's interests and help you plan an activity or experience around those interests?

MARYLAND EXCELS

PROMPT	WRITER'S TIPS
How do you make sure your lesson plan addresses the developmental needs of each child? (Required Levels 2-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ Describe different ways you individualize activities, experiences, or lessons to meet the children's needs. ~ How do you support some children while challenging others? ~ How do you individualize activities, experiences, or lessons based on the children's background experiences, cultures, or home languages?
How do activities reflect the cultures of the children in your program? How do they reflect other cultures? (Required Levels 2-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ Explain how your program ensures the culture of the children enrolled are reflected in the activities and environment. ~ Use examples to support your answer
If provided, how would you incorporate information from an IFSP or IEP into the lesson plans? (Required Levels 2-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ If a child has an IFSP or IEP that a family shared with you, how do you use that information in your planning?
How do you use observations to help you plan your lessons? (Required Levels 3-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts Describe the type of observations your program uses and how observation informs planning.
How do you use information gained from families to help plan your lessons? (Required Levels 4-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ Describe how your program gains information from families (formal conferences, daily communication, weekly contact, exchanging written communication - notes, weekly logs, email, text messages). ~ What type of information from families influences your planning (examples: background experiences, cultures, interests, activities at home, habits and preferences, and home languages)? ~ Provide specific examples that support your statement.

MARYLAND EXCELS

PROMPT	WRITER'S TIPS
How are ongoing assessments used to plan your lessons? (Required Level 5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts Describe the type of assessments your program uses and how information from assessments informs planning.

How do you ensure that the activities are domain-based and reflect the ages of children in your program? (Required Levels 3-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts
	~ What domains are part of your daily activities?
	
	DEVELOPMENTAL DOMAINS BY AGE GROUP
	Children Birth - Age 3 (Healthy Beginnings)
	    Personal and Social Development
	    Language Development
	    Cognitive Development
	    Physical Development
	
	Children Ages 3 - 8 (Maryland Early Learning Standards)
	    Social and Personal Development
	    Language and Literacy
	    Mathematical Thinking
	    Scientific Thinking
	    Social Studies
	    The Arts
	    Physical Development and Health

What are some examples of activities used in your program that address the different domains? (Required Levels 3-5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ Provide specific examples that demonstrate how your program addresses different domains. ~ Do any of your activities, experiences, or lessons include more than one domain? ~ How do you make sure children participate in activities, experiences, or lessons across all the domains?
What do you do to ensure that the activities are culturally competent? (Required Level 5)	Writer's Tips and Think Abouts ~ Provide specific examples that demonstrate how your program includes culturally competent activities. ~ Describe activities and experiences you provide that help children take pride in themselves, respect diversity in others, and develop cultural competence.

MARYLAND EXCELS