

Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards Wheel



Typical development of children from birth to kindergarten by learning area

Full Early Learning Standards available at www.papromiseforchildren.com

Creative Thinking & Expression:

Infant: * Respond to music. * Gaze at paintings, pictures or photographs. * Recognize or point to familiar objects or persons in photos or books.

Young Toddler: * Show interest in singing, moving & dancing. * Act out real behaviors during play. * Scribble.

Older Toddler: * Use instruments to create sounds. * Seek an audience for one's attention. * Use a variety of tools in art.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Use imagination to express self through music & dance. * Represent fantasy & real-life experiences through dramatic play.

Kindergarten: * Use instruments to accompany music or songs. * Discuss how art work represents an artist and his/her thoughts and emotions.

Mathematical Thinking & Expression

Infant: * Explore relationships between shapes during play. * Begin to problem solve.

Young Toddler: * Attempt counting. * Begin to predict daily routine. * Attempt problem solving.

Older Toddler: * Count to five. * Identify some numbers. * Identify groups of more or less. * Measure objects with adult assistance.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Count to twenty. * Name numbers to ten. * Sort objects by two or more characteristics. * Demonstrate awareness of length, volume, weight, time temperature & distance.

Kindergarten: * Count to 100. * Measure objects. * Order events based on time. * Answer questions based on data shown on graphs or charts.

Approaches to Learning

Infant: * Use hands, mouth & eyes to explore. * Repeat actions. * Imitate new sounds and movement.

Young Toddler: * Use the senses to explore & learn. * Imitate simple actions, gestures, sounds & words. * Complete a common task or routine with adult support.

Older Toddler: * Explore characteristics of objects, activities, & environments independently. * Complete a multi-step task with adult support.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Demonstrate an eagerness to discover a growing range of topics. * Attempt to accomplish a difficult task on own. * Try several ways to complete a task.

Kindergarten: * Explore technical materials and equipment with ease. * Create an object to serve a functional purpose.

Scientific Thinking & Technology

Infant: * Expresses sense of wonder about the natural World. * Show interest & curiosity in people.

Young Toddler: * Explore characteristics of living things. * Name some common animals. * Discover a reaction to an action.

Older Toddler: * Identify physical properties of living and non-living things. * Describe the result when two or more substances are combined. * Identify different types of Earth.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Identify plants & animals have life cycles. * Discuss observations & discoveries. * Recognize the different types of matter.

Kindergarten: * Identify different ways living things reproduce. * Identify the 3 types of matter. * Explore basic energy types & sources.

Social Studies Thinking

Infant: * Learn acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Young Toddler: * Understand one word rules such as "no" or "stop" * Express emotion related to a problem or conflict.

Older Toddler: * Follow rules with teacher support. * Identify family members. * Think about a problem and figure out a solution.

Pre-Kindergarten: * State rules & consequences. * Identify one or two solutions to a problem. * Shows interest in leadership opportunities. * Demonstrate knowledge about community workers and their roles.

Kindergarten: * Identify several American symbols. * Identify & practice using money. * Compare & contrast customs of families around the World.

Health, Wellness & Physical Development

Infant: * Develop control of head & back. * Demonstrate eye/hand coordination when eating or exploring objects.* Point to or touch basic body parts when named by adult.

Young Toddler: * Name basic body parts. * Exhibit balance & strength when moving from place to place. * Use spoon & fork for eating.

Older Toddler: * Attempt hygiene routines independently. *Combine & coordinate arm & leg movements when engaged in an activity. * Refine grasp to manipulate tools & objects.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Identify practices for good health. * Move & stop with control. * Exhibit balance while moving on large motor equipment.

Kindergarten: * Identify how specific foods keep us healthy. Perform movement skills in team or group games.

Language & Literacy Development

Infant: * Communicate with gestures, sounds or baby talk. * Babble using word-like sounds. * Connect voice to a specific person.

Young Toddler: * Understand about 200 words & use about 50 in everyday speech. * Focus attention on speaker & attempt to imitate speech. * Show a preference for favorite books.

Older Toddler: * Understand as many as 900 words and use about 300 in everyday speech. * Identify some letters in own name. * Seek books to read during free play.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Differentiate words & letters. * Recite rhymes, songs, & familiar text while tracking. * Create letter forms using various materials. * Use new vocabulary when speaking.

Kindergarten: * Practice oral reading. * Compare & contrast books on a similar topic or by the same author. * Recognize vocabulary words in print.

Social & Emotional Development

Infant: * Show interest in objects and people. * Amuse self for brief periods of time. * Express interest in activities or objects by reaching.

Young Toddler: * Show preference for specific toys or objects. * Demonstrate fear or anxiety to strangers or unfamiliar people.

Older Toddler: * Display possessiveness or jealousy toward others. Attempt to please adults. * Demonstrate joy of own completed projects to adults.

Pre-Kindergarten: * Know & state independent thoughts & feelings. * Recognize & label basic feelings. * Begin to understand the consequences of own behavior.

Kindergarten: * Perform self-care tasks independently. * Play cooperatively with 3 or 4 children for a sustained period of time.