

Alignment of Gee Whiz Education Curriculum with the Connecticut Preschool Curriculum Framework

The Gee Whiz Education curriculum is a comprehensive approach designed to help educators address the unique needs of mixed-age groups. This document details specifically how the Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators align with the standards for early childhood in the state of Connecticut.

Additional information on the Gee Whiz Education approach to learning, including the program philosophy and the evidence/research on which the program is based, can be found on our website www.geewhizeducation.com as well as in the Gee Whiz Education User's Guide.

Connecticut Preschool Curriculum Framework	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT – LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	
<p>Preschool programs will provide children with opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Communicate their experiences, ideas and feelings by speaking</i> - <i>Listen with understanding to directions, conversations and stories</i> - <i>Exhibit interest in reading</i> - <i>Use different forms of writing such as drawing, letter-like forms, invented spelling and conventional forms</i> 	<p>LD1 Understands spoken language LD2 Understands and then uses an ever-increasing vocabulary LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations LK1 Shows an interest in books and understands they are a way of sharing information LK2 Understands that language is made up of words, which can be broken down into syllables LK3 Begins to name letters and identify their sounds LK4 Understands concepts about print (e.g., reading from left to right, logos as symbols, etc.) LK5 Begins to use a variety of writing tools to use writing (invented or true) as a way to convey thoughts and ideas</p>
COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT – MATHEMATICAL/SCIENTIFIC THINKING	
<p>Preschool programs will provide children with opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Express wonder, ask questions and seek answers about the natural world</i> - <i>Recognize and solve problems through active exploration, including trial and error and interacting with peers and adults</i> - <i>Organize and express their understanding of common properties and attributes of things</i> 	<p>SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences SK2 Makes and tests predictions using simple experimentation SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration MK1 Understands that numbers tell “how many” MK2 Recognizes that numbers go in a specific order MK3 Recognizes shapes and positional concepts MK4 Creates, imitates and/or extends patterns MK5 Utilizes measurement (standard and nonstandard) to compare and contrast objects MK6 Sorts or groups objects based on common characteristics LR1 Demonstrates the ability to identify a problem and then seeks ways to solve it</p>

Full versions of the Connecticut Preschool Curriculum Framework used to create this alignment document can be found at: http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/DEPS/Early/Preschool_framework.pdf

Connecticut Preschool Curriculum Framework	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
<p>Preschool programs will provide children with opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Exhibit curiosity, creativity, self-direction and persistence in learning situations</i> - <i>Describe themselves using several basis characteristics</i> - <i>Demonstrate awareness of one's own and others' feelings</i> - <i>Participate in and exhibit self-control in group situations</i> - <i>Interact appropriately with peers and familiar adults</i> - <i>Use age-appropriate conflict-resolution strategies</i> - <i>Recognize similarities and appreciate differences in people</i> 	<p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and desire to try new things</p> <p>AL2 Displays persistence when completing tasks and is able to avoid distractions</p> <p>AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences</p> <p>SS1 Understands how families are unique and different</p> <p>SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence</p> <p>SE3 Demonstrates self-regulation by handling emotions in an appropriate way and following simple rules</p> <p>SE4 Demonstrates a range of appropriate emotions</p>
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
<p>Preschool programs will provide children with opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Engage in a wide variety of gross-motor activities that are child selected and teacher initiated</i> - <i>Use a variety of materials that promote eye-hand coordination and small-muscle development</i> - <i>Demonstrate spatial awareness in both fine- and gross-motor activities</i> - <i>Choose nutritious meals and snacks</i> - <i>Practice basic hygiene and self-help skills</i> 	<p>PD1 Understands the importance of exercise and rest</p> <p>PD2 Takes pride in caring for self (e.g., brushing teeth, dressing, eating healthy foods, etc.)</p> <p>PD3 Practices safe habits and understands safety rules</p> <p>PD4 Demonstrates gross motor skills (e.g., running, hopping, skipping, etc.)</p> <p>PD5 Demonstrates fine motor control (e.g., writing, pouring, cutting, etc.)</p>
CREATIVE EXPRESSION/ASTHETIC DEVELOPMENT	
<p>Preschool programs will provide children with opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Exhibit curiosity about and explore how materials function and affect the senses</i> - <i>Create (imagine, experiment, plan, make, evaluate, refine and present/exhibit) works that express or represent experiences, ideas, feelings and fantasy using various media</i> - <i>Represent fantasy and real-life experiences through pretend play</i> - <i>Engage in musical and creative movement activities</i> - <i>Describe or respond to their own creative work or the creative work of others</i> 	<p>SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences</p> <p>CA1 Participates in musical activities including singing and utilizing instruments</p> <p>CA2 Uses movement and dance to express ideas and emotions</p> <p>CA3 Utilizes a variety of art materials (both two- and three-dimensional) to express self</p> <p>CA4 Engages in pretend play with, or without, the use of props</p>