

Side by Side

The Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and The Beyond Centers & Circle Time Theme Series

The Beyond Centers and Circle Time (BCCT) Theme Series is based on child development theory as described in the work of Jean Piaget, Lev Vygotsky, Erik Erikson, and Anna Freud; research on play and brain development; and best practice as presented in *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth through Age 8* written by Copple and Bredekamp (2009).

This paper will use the daily schedule presented in the theme series as an outline to present the correlation between the proposed experiences and the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework.

Opening Time **Children and their families are greeted as they arrive and the children are invited to choose from a variety of play activities that require minimal adult support. The activities are developmentally appropriate and chosen to engage the interest of the children.**

I. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

A. Listening and Understanding

1. Demonstrates increasing ability to attend to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.
2. Shows progress in understanding and following simple and multiple-step directions.
3. Understands an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.
4. For non-English speaking children, progresses in listening to and understanding English

B. Speaking & Communication

1. Develops increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate information, experiences, ideas, feeling, opinion, needs, questions and for other varied purposes.
2. Progresses in abilities to initiate and respond appropriately in conversation and discussions with peers and adults.

3. Uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.
4. Progresses in clarity of pronunciation and towards speaking in sentences of increasing length and grammatical complexity.
5. For non-English speaking children, progresses in speaking English.

II. LITERACY

A. Phonological Awareness

1. Progresses in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words, games, songs, stories and poems.
2. Shows growing ability to hear and discriminate separate syllables in words.

B. Book Knowledge & Appreciation

1. Shows growing interest and involvement in listening to and discussing a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and poetry.
2. Shows growing interest in reading-related activities, such as asking to have a favorite book read; choosing to look at books; drawing pictures based on stories; asking to take books home; going to the library; and engaging in pretend-reading with other children.
3. Demonstrates progress in abilities to retell and dictate stories from books and experiences; to act out stories in dramatic play; and to predict what will happen next in a story.
4. Progresses in learning how to handle and care for books; knowing to view one page at a time in sequence from front to back; and understanding that a book has a title, author and illustrator.

C. Print Awareness & Concepts

1. Shows increasing awareness of print in classroom, home and community settings.
2. Develops growing understanding of the different functions of forms of print such as signs, letters, newspapers, lists, messages, and menus.
3. Demonstrates increasing awareness of concepts of print, such as that reading in English moves from top to bottom and from left to right, that speech can be written down, and that print conveys a message.
4. Shows progress in recognizing the association between spoken and written words by following print as it is read aloud.

5. Recognizes a word as a unit of print, or awareness that letters are grouped to form words, that words are separated by spaces.

D. Early Writing

1. Develops understanding that writing is a way of communicating for a variety of purposes.
2. Begins to represent stories and experiences through pictures, dictation, and in play.
3. Experiments with a growing variety of writing tools and materials, such as pencils, crayons, and computers.
4. Progresses from using scribbles, shapes, or pictures to represent ideas, to using letter-like symbols, to copying or writing familiar words such as their own name.

E. Alphabet Knowledge

1. Shows progress in associating the names of letters with their shapes and sounds.
2. Increases in ability to notice the beginning letters in familiar words.
3. Identifies at least 10 letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name.
4. Knows that letters of the alphabet are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named.

III. MATHEMATICS

A. Number & Operations

1. Demonstrates increasing interest and awareness of numbers and counting as a means for solving problems and determining quantity.
2. Begins to associate number concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in meaningful ways.
3. Develops increasing ability to count in sequence to 10 and beyond.
4. Begins to make use of one-to-one correspondence in counting objects and matching groups of objects.
5. Begins to use language to compare numbers of objects with terms such as more, less, greater than, fewer, equal to.
6. Develops increased abilities to combine, separate and name "how many" concrete objects.

B. Geometry & Spatial Sense

1. Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes.
2. Progresses in ability to put together and take apart shapes.
3. Begins to be able to determine whether or not two shapes are the same size and shape.
4. Shows growth in matching, sorting, putting in a series and regrouping objects according to one or two attributes such as color, shape, and size.
5. Builds an increasing understanding of directionality, order and positions of objects and words such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, inside, outside, in front and behind.

C. Patterns & Measurement

1. Enhances abilities to recognize, duplicate and extend simple patterns using a variety of materials
2. Shows increasing abilities to match, sort, put in a series, and regroup objects according to one or two attributes such as shape or size.
3. Begins to make comparisons between several objects based on a single attribute.

IV. SCIENCE

A. Scientific Skills & Methods

1. Begins to use senses and a variety of tools and simple measuring devices to gather information, investigate materials and observe processes and relationships.
2. Develops increased ability to observe and discuss common properties, differences and comparisons among objects and materials.

B. Scientific Knowledge

1. Expands knowledge of and abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.
2. Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.

V. CREATIVE ARTS

A. Music

1. Participates with increasing interest and enjoyment in a variety of music activities, including listening, singing, finger plays, games, and performances.

B. Art

1. Gains ability in using different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representation.
2. Progresses in abilities to create drawings, painting, models, and other art creations that are more detailed, creative or realistic.
3. Develops growing abilities to plan, work independently, and demonstrate care and persistence in a variety of art projects.
4. Begins to understand and share opinions about artistic products and experiences.

VI. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Self Concept

1. Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferences.
2. Develops growing capacity for independence in a range of activities, routines, and tasks.
3. Demonstrates growing confidence in a range of abilities and expresses pride in accomplishments.

B. Self Control

1. Shows progress in expressing feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, other, or property.
2. Develops growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begins to accept the consequences of their actions.
3. Demonstrates increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely, and respectfully.

C. Cooperation

1. Increases abilities to sustain interactions with peers by helping, sharing and discussion.
2. Shows increasing abilities to use compromise and discussion in working, playing and resolving conflicts with peers.

3. Develops increasing abilities to give and take in interactions; to take turns in games or using materials; and to interact without being overly submissive or directive.

D. Social Relationships

1. Demonstrates increasing comfort in talking with and accepting guidance and directions from a range of familiar adults.
2. Shows progress in developing friendships with peers.
3. Progresses in responding sympathetically to peers who are in need, upset, hurt, or angry; and in expressing empathy or caring for others.

E. Knowledge of Families & Communities

1. Develops ability to identify personal characteristics including gender, and family composition.
2. Progresses in understanding similarities and respecting differences among people, such as genders, race, special needs, culture, language, and family structures.
3. Develops growing awareness of jobs and what is required to perform them.
4. Begins to express and understand concepts and language of geography in the contexts of their classroom, home and community.

VII. APPROACHES TO LEARNING

A. Initiative & Curiosity

1. Chooses to participate in an increasing variety of tasks and activities.
2. Develops increased ability to make independent choices.
3. Approaches tasks and activities with increased flexibility, imagination and inventiveness.
4. Grows in eagerness to learn about and discuss a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks.

B. Engagement & Persistence

1. Grows in abilities to persist in and complete a variety of tasks, activities, projects and experiences.
2. Demonstrates increasing ability to set goals and develop and follow through on plans.
3. Shows growing capacity to maintain concentration over time on a task, question, set of directions or interactions, despite distractions and interruptions.

C. Reasoning & Problem Solving

1. Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.
2. Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.

VIII. PHYSICAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

A. Fine Motor Skills

1. Develops growing strength, dexterity and control needed to use tools such as scissors, paper punch, stapler, and hammer.
2. Grows in hand-eye coordination in building with blocks, putting together puzzles, reproducing shapes and patterns, stringing beads and using scissors.
3. Progresses in abilities to use writing, drawing and art tools including pencils, marker, chalk, paintbrushes, and various types of technology.

C. Health Status & Practices

1. Progress in physical growth, strength, stamina, and flexibility.
3. Shows growing independence in hygiene, nutrition and personal care when eating, dressing, washing hands, brushing teeth and toileting.
4. Builds awareness and ability to follow basic health and safety rules such as fire safety, traffic and pedestrian safety, and responding appropriately to potentially harmful objects, substances and activities.

Sharing Circle After cleaning up the play materials the children gather in a group for a discussion of the theme topic, sharing of items brought from home and a story if there is time. The story should fit the theme, supporting the concepts being presented. *A bibliography of theme books is listed in each theme and a set of books that support each theme can be purchased with the theme series. A parent letter is send home at the beginning of each theme that informs parents of the themes focus, letters, shapes, and colors to be discussed during the month.

I. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

C. Listening and Understanding

5. Demonstrates increasing ability to attend to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.
6. Shows progress in understanding and following simple and multiple-step directions.
7. Understands an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.
8. For non-English speaking children, progresses in listening to and understanding English

D. Speaking & Communication

1. Develops increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate information, experiences, ideas, feeling, opinion, needs, questions and for other varied purposes.
2. Progresses in abilities to initiate and respond appropriately in conversation and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.
4. Progresses in clarity of pronunciation and towards speaking in sentences of increasing length and grammatical complexity.
5. For non-English speaking children, progresses in speaking English.

II. LITERACY

A. Phonological Awareness

1. Shows increasing ability to discriminate and identify sounds in spoken language.
2. Shows growing awareness of beginning and ending sounds of words.
3. Progresses in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words, games, songs, stories and poems.

4. Shows growing ability to hear and discriminate separate syllables in words.
5. Associates sounds with written words, such as awareness that different words begin with the same sound.

B. Book Knowledge & Appreciation

1. Shows growing interest and involvement in listening to and discussing a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and poetry.
2. Shows growing interest in reading-related activities, such as asking to have a favorite book read; choosing to look at books; drawing pictures based on stories; asking to take books home; going to the library; and engaging in pretend-reading with other children.
3. Demonstrates progress in abilities to retell and dictate stories from books and experiences; to act out stories in dramatic play; and to predict what will happen next in a story.
4. Progresses in learning how to handle and care for books; knowing to view one page at a time in sequence from front to back; and understanding that a book has a title, author and illustrator.

C. Print Awareness & Concepts

1. Shows increasing awareness of print in classroom, home and community settings.
2. Develops growing understanding of the different functions of forms of print such as signs, letters, newspapers, lists, messages, and menus.
3. Demonstrates increasing awareness of concepts of print, such as that reading in English moves from top to bottom and from left to right, that speech can be written down, and that print conveys a message.
4. Shows progress in recognizing the association between spoken and written words by following print as it is read aloud.
5. Recognizes a word as a unit of print, or awareness that letters are grouped to form words, that words are separated by spaces.

D. Early Writing

1. Develops understanding that writing is a way of communicating for a variety of purposes.

E. Alphabet Knowledge

1. Shows progress in associating the names of letters with their shapes and sounds.
2. Increases in ability to notice the beginning letters in familiar words.
3. Identifies at least 10 letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name.
4. Knows that letters of the alphabet are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named.

III. MATHEMATICS

A. Number & Operations

1. Demonstrates increasing interest and awareness of numbers and counting as a means for solving problems and determining quantity.
2. Begins to associate number concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in meaningful ways.
3. Develops increasing ability to count in sequence to 10 and beyond.
4. Begins to make use of one-to-one correspondence in counting objects and matching groups of objects.
5. Begins to use language to compare numbers of objects with terms such as more, less, greater than, fewer, equal to.
6. Develops increased abilities to combine, separate and name "how many" concrete objects.

B. Geometry & Spatial Sense

1. Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes.

IV. SCIENCE

A. Scientific Skills & Methods

1. Begins to use senses and a variety of tools and simple measuring devices to gather information, investigate materials and observe processes and relationships.
2. Develops increased ability to observe and discuss common properties, differences and comparisons among objects and materials.
3. Begins to participate in simple investigations to test observations, discuss and draw conclusions and form generalizations.

4. Develops growing abilities to collect, describe and record information through a variety of means, including discussion, drawings, maps and charts.
5. Begins to describe and discuss predictions, explanations and generalizations based on past experiences.

B. Scientific Knowledge

1. Expands knowledge of and abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.
2. Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.
3. Develops growing awareness of ideas and language related to attributes of time and temperature.
4. Shows increased awareness and beginning understanding of changes in materials and cause-effect relationships.

V. CREATIVE ARTS

A. Music

1. Participates with increasing interest and enjoyment in a variety of music activities, including listening, singing, finger plays, games, and performances.
2. Experiments with a variety of musical instruments.

VI. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Self Concept

1. Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferences.
2. Develops growing capacity for independence in a range of activities, routines, and tasks.
3. Demonstrates growing confidence in a range of abilities and expresses pride in accomplishments.

B. Self Control

1. Shows progress in expressing feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, other, or property.
2. Develops growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begins to accept the consequences of their actions.

3. Demonstrates increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely, and respectfully.
- C. Cooperation
1. Increases abilities to sustain interactions with peers by helping, sharing and discussion.
 2. Shows increasing abilities to use compromise and discussion in working, playing and resolving conflicts with peers.
 3. Develops increasing abilities to give and take in interactions; to take turns in games or using materials; and to interact without being overly submissive or directive.
- D. Social Relationships
1. Demonstrates increasing comfort in talking with and accepting guidance and directions from a range of familiar adults.
 2. Shows progress in developing friendships with peers.
 3. Progresses in responding sympathetically to peers who are in need, upset, hurt, or angry; and in expressing empathy or caring for others.
- E. Knowledge of Families & Communities
1. Develops ability to identify personal characteristics including gender, and family composition.
 2. Progresses in understanding similarities and respecting differences among people, such as genders, race, special needs, culture, language, and family structures.
 3. Develops growing awareness of jobs and what is required to perform them.
 4. Begins to express and understand concepts and language of geography in the contexts of their classroom, home and community.

VII. APPROACHES TO LEARNING

A. Initiative & Curiosity

1. Chooses to participate in an increasing variety of tasks and activities.
2. Develops increased ability to make independent choices.
3. Approaches tasks and activities with increased flexibility, imagination and inventiveness.
4. Grows in eagerness to learn about and discuss a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks.

B. Engagement & Persistence

1. Grows in abilities to persist in and complete a variety of tasks, activities, projects and experiences.
2. Demonstrates increasing ability to set goals and develop and follow through on plans.
3. Shows growing capacity to maintain concentration over time on a task, question, set of directions or interactions, despite distractions and interruptions.

C. Reasoning & Problem Solving

1. Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.
2. Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.

VIII. PHYSICAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

C. Health Status & Practices

4. Builds awareness and ability to follow basic health and safety rules such as fire safety, traffic and pedestrian safety, and responding appropriately to potentially harmful objects, substances and activities.

Breakfast

As the children leave the morning circle they should use the bathroom and wash their hands thoroughly. When these personal hygiene activities are complete they should move to the table for breakfast. This special time should provide the children with opportunities to engage in conversation about the daily activities, the foods being served, and events that happened with the family. Watch “Food, Fun, and Family Style Meals” to see how the performance standards can be easily embedded into a well planned and served meal. Every meal served during the day should be planned around the standards list below

I. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

A. Listening and Understanding

1. Demonstrates increasing ability to attend to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.
2. Shows progress in understanding and following simple and multiple-step directions.
3. Understands an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.
4. For non-English speaking children, progresses in listening to and understanding English

B. Speaking & Communication

1. Develops increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate information, experiences, ideas, feeling, opinion, needs, questions and for other varied purposes.
2. Progresses in abilities to initiate and respond appropriately in conversation and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.
4. Progresses in clarity of pronunciation and towards speaking in sentences of increasing length and grammatical complexity.
5. For non-English speaking children, progresses in speaking English.

II. LITERACY

A. Phonological Awareness

1. Shows increasing ability to discriminate and identify sounds in spoken language.
2. Shows growing awareness of beginning and ending sounds of words.

3. Progresses in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words, games, songs, stories and poems.
4. Shows growing ability to hear and discriminate separate syllables in words.
5. Associates sounds with written words, such as awareness that different words begin with the same sound.

E. Alphabet Knowledge

1. Shows progress in associating the names of letters with their shapes and sounds.
2. Increases in ability to notice the beginning letters in familiar words.
3. Identifies at least 10 letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name.
4. Knows that letters of the alphabet are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named.

III. MATHEMATICS

A. Number & Operations

1. Demonstrates increasing interest and awareness of numbers and counting as a means for solving problems and determining quantity.
2. Begins to associate number concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in meaningful ways.
3. Develops increasing ability to count in sequence to 10 and beyond.
4. Begins to make use of one-to-one correspondence in counting objects and matching groups of objects.
5. Begins to use language to compare numbers of objects with terms such as more, less, greater than, fewer, equal to.
6. Develops increased abilities to combine, separate and name "how many" concrete objects.

B. Geometry & Spatial Sense

1. Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes.
2. Progresses in ability to put together and take apart shapes.
3. Begins to be able to determine whether or not two shapes are the same size and shape.
4. Shows growth in matching, sorting, putting in a series and regrouping objects according to one or two attributes such as color, shape, and size.

5. Builds an increasing understanding of directionality, order and positions of objects and words such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, inside, outside, in front and behind.

IV. SCIENCE

A. Scientific Skills & Methods

1. Begins to use senses and a variety of tools and simple measuring devices to gather information, investigate materials and observe processes and relationships.
2. Develops increased ability to observe and discuss common properties, differences and comparisons among objects and materials.
3. Begins to participate in simple investigations to test observations, discuss and draw conclusions and form generalizations.
5. Begins to describe and discuss predictions, explanations and generalizations based on past experiences.

B. Scientific Knowledge

1. Expands knowledge of and abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.
2. Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.
3. Develops growing awareness of ideas and language related to attributes of time and temperature.
4. Shows increased awareness and beginning understanding of changes in materials and cause-effect relationships.

VI. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Self Concept

1. Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferences.
2. Develops growing capacity for independence in a range of activities, routines, and tasks.
3. Demonstrates growing confidence in a range of abilities and expresses pride in accomplishments.

B. Self Control

1. Shows progress in expressing feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, other, or property.

2. Develops growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begins to accept the consequences of their actions.
3. Demonstrates increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely, and respectfully.

C. Cooperation

1. Increases abilities to sustain interactions with peers by helping, sharing and discussion.
2. Shows increasing abilities to use compromise and discussion in working, playing and resolving conflicts with peers.
3. Develops increasing abilities to give and take in interactions; to take turns in games or using materials; and to interact without being overly submissive or directive.

D. Social Relationships

1. Demonstrates increasing comfort in talking with and accepting guidance and directions from a range of familiar adults.
2. Shows progress in developing friendships with peers.
3. Progresses in responding sympathetically to peers who are in need, upset, hurt, or angry; and in expressing empathy or caring for others.

E. Knowledge of Families & Communities

1. Develops ability to identify personal characteristics including gender, and family composition.
2. Progresses in understanding similarities and respecting differences among people, such as genders, race, special needs, culture, language, and family structures.
3. Develops growing awareness of jobs and what is required to perform them.
4. Begins to express and understand concepts and language of geography in the contexts of their classroom, home and community.

VII. APPROACHES TO LEARNING

A. Initiative & Curiosity

1. Chooses to participate in an increasing variety of tasks and activities.
2. Develops increased ability to make independent choices.
3. Approaches tasks and activities with increased flexibility, imagination and inventiveness.

4. Grows in eagerness to learn about and discuss a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks.
- B. Engagement & Persistence
1. Grows in abilities to persist in and complete a variety of tasks, activities, projects and experiences.
 2. Demonstrates increasing ability to set goals and develop and follow through on plans.
 3. Shows growing capacity to maintain concentration over time on a task, question, set of directions or interactions, despite distractions and interruptions.
- C. Reasoning & Problem Solving
1. Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.
 2. Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.
 3. Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.

VIII. PHYSICAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

A. Fine Motor Skills

1. Develops growing strength, dexterity and control needed to use tools such as scissors, paper punch, stapler, and hammer.

C. Health Status & Practices

1. Progress in physical growth, strength, stamina, and flexibility.
3. Shows growing independence in hygiene, nutrition and personal care when eating, dressing, washing hands, brushing teeth and toileting.
4. Builds awareness and ability to follow basic health and safety rules such as fire safety, traffic and pedestrian safety, and responding appropriately to potentially harmful objects, substances and activities.

Free Play

Free play on the playground. A variety of outside developmentally appropriate free choice activities are available with an emphasis on the three kinds of play (sensorimotor, construction, and dramatic play) and motor development.

I. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

A. Listening and Understanding

1. Demonstrates increasing ability to attend to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.
2. Shows progress in understanding and following simple and multiple-step directions.
3. Understands an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.
4. For non-English speaking children, progresses in listening to and understanding English

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1. Develops increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate information, experiences, ideas, feeling, opinion, needs, questions and for other varied purposes.
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3. Uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.
4. Progresses in clarity of pronunciation and towards speaking in sentences of increasing length and grammatical complexity.
5. For non-English speaking children, progresses in speaking English.

II. LITERACY

A. Phonological Awareness

3. Progresses in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words, games, songs, stories and poems.

B. Book Knowledge & Appreciation

1. Shows growing interest and involvement in listening to and discussing a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and poetry.
2. Shows growing interest in reading-related activities, such as asking to have a favorite book read; choosing to look at books; drawing pictures based on stories; asking to take books home; going to the library; and engaging in pretend-reading with other children.

3. Demonstrates progress in abilities to retell and dictate stories from books and experiences; to act out stories in dramatic play; and to predict what will happen next in a story.
4. Progresses in learning how to handle and care for books; knowing to view one page at a time in sequence from front to back; and understanding that a book has a title, author and illustrator.

C. Print Awareness & Concepts

1. Shows increasing awareness of print in classroom, home and community settings.
2. Develops growing understanding of the different functions of forms of print such as signs, letters, newspapers, lists, messages, and menus.
3. Demonstrates increasing awareness of concepts of print, such as that reading in English moves from top to bottom and from left to right, that speech can be written down, and that print conveys a message.
4. Shows progress in recognizing the association between spoken and written words by following print as it is read aloud.
5. Recognizes a word as a unit of print, or awareness that letters are grouped to form words, that words are separated by spaces.

D. Early Writing

1. Develops understanding that writing is a way of communicating for a variety of purposes.
2. Begins to represent stories and experiences through pictures, dictation, and in play.
3. Experiments with a growing variety of writing tools and materials, such as pencils, crayons, and computers.
4. Progresses from using scribbles, shapes, or pictures to represent ideas, to using letter-like symbols, to copying or writing familiar words such as their own name.

III. MATHEMATICS

A. Number & Operations

1. Demonstrates increasing interest and awareness of numbers and counting as a means for solving problems and determining quantity.
2. Begins to associate number concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in meaningful ways.

3. Develops increasing ability to count in sequence to 10 and beyond.
4. Begins to make use of one-to-one correspondence in counting objects and matching groups of objects.
5. Begins to use language to compare numbers of objects with terms such as more, less, greater than, fewer, equal to.
6. Develops increased abilities to combine, separate and name “how many” concrete objects.

B. Geometry & Spatial Sense

1. Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes.
2. Progresses in ability to put together and take apart shapes.
3. Begins to be able to determine whether or not two shapes are the same size and shape.
4. Shows growth in matching, sorting, putting in a series and regrouping objects according to one or two attributes such as color, shape, and size.
5. Builds an increasing understanding of directionality, order and positions of objects and words such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, inside, outside, in front and behind.

IV. SCIENCE

A. Scientific Skills & Methods

1. Begins to use senses and a variety of tools and simple measuring devices to gather information, investigate materials and observe processes and relationships.
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4. Develops growing abilities to collect, describe and record information through a variety of means, including discussion, drawings, maps and charts.
5. Begins to describe and discuss predictions, explanations and generalizations based on past experiences

B. Scientific Knowledge

1. Expands knowledge of and abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.

2. Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.
3. Develops growing awareness of ideas and language related to attributes of time and temperature.
4. Shows increased awareness and beginning understanding of changes in materials and cause-effect relationships.

V. CREATIVE ARTS

A. Music

1. Participates with increasing interest and enjoyment in a variety of music activities, including listening, singing, finger plays, games, and performances.
2. Experiments with a variety of musical instruments.

B. Art

1. Gains ability in using different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representation.
2. Progresses in abilities to create drawings, painting, models, and other art creations that are more detailed, creative or realistic.
3. Develops growing abilities to plan, work independently, and demonstrate care and persistence in a variety of art projects.
4. Begins to understand and share opinions about artistic products and experiences.

C. Movement

1. Expresses through movement and dancing what is felt and heard in various musical tempos and styles.
2. Shows growth in moving in time to different patterns of beat and rhythm in music.

D. Dramatic Play

1. Participates in a variety of dramatic play activities that become more extended and complex.
2. Shows growing creativity and imagination in using materials and in assuming different roles in dramatic play situations.

VI. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Self Concept

1. Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferences.

2. Develops growing capacity for independence in a range of activities, routines, and tasks.
 3. Demonstrates growing confidence in a range of abilities and expresses pride in accomplishments.
- B. Self Control
1. Shows progress in expressing feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, other, or property.
 2. Develops growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begins to accept the consequences of their actions.
 3. Demonstrates increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely, and respectfully.
- C. Cooperation
1. Increases abilities to sustain interactions with peers by helping, sharing and discussion.
 2. Shows increasing abilities to use compromise and discussion in working, playing and resolving conflicts with peers.
 3. Develops increasing abilities to give and take in interactions; to take turns in games or using materials; and to interact without being overly submissive or directive.
- D. Social Relationships
1. Demonstrates increasing comfort in talking with and accepting guidance and directions from a range of familiar adults.
 2. Shows progress in developing friendships with peers.
 3. Progresses in responding sympathetically to peers who are in need, upset, hurt, or angry; and in expressing empathy or caring for others.
- E. Knowledge of Families & Communities
1. Develops ability to identify personal characteristics including gender, and family composition.
 2. Progresses in understanding similarities and respecting differences among people, such as genders, race, special needs, culture, language, and family structures.
 3. Develops growing awareness of jobs and what is required to perform them.
 4. Begins to express and understand concepts and language of geography in the contexts of their classroom, home and community.

VII. APPROACHES TO LEARNING

A. Initiative & Curiosity

1. Chooses to participate in an increasing variety of tasks and activities.
2. Develops increased ability to make independent choices.
3. Approaches tasks and activities with increased flexibility, imagination and inventiveness.
4. Grows in eagerness to learn about and discuss a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks.

B. Engagement & Persistence

1. Grows in abilities to persist in and complete a variety of tasks, activities, projects and experiences.
2. Demonstrates increasing ability to set goals and develop and follow through on plans.
3. Shows growing capacity to maintain concentration over time on a task, question, set of directions or interactions, despite distractions and interruptions.

C. Reasoning & Problem Solving

1. Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.
2. Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.

VIII. PHYSICAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

A. Fine Motor Skills

1. Develops growing strength, dexterity and control needed to use tools such as scissors, paper punch, stapler, and hammer.
2. Grows in hand-eye coordination in building with blocks, putting together puzzles, reproducing shapes and patterns, stringing beads and using scissors.
3. Progresses in abilities to use writing, drawing and art tools including pencils, marker, chalk, paintbrushes, and various types of technology.

B. Gross Motor Skills

1. Shows increasing levels of proficiency, control and balance in walking, climbing, running, jumping, hopping, skipping, marching and galloping.

2. Demonstrates increasing abilities to coordinate movements in throwing, catching, kicking, bouncing balls, and using the slide and swing.

C. Health Status & Practices

1. Progress in physical growth, strength, stamina, and flexibility.
2. Participates actively in games, outdoor play and other forms of exercise that enhance physical fitness.
3. Shows growing independence in hygiene, nutrition and personal care when eating, dressing, washing hands, brushing teeth and toileting.
4. Builds awareness and ability to follow basic health and safety rules such as fire safety, traffic and pedestrian safety, and responding appropriately to potentially harmful objects, substances and activities.

Center Time

The theme series suggests a Monday/Wednesday lesson plan that emphasizes fluid play, dramatic play, and a teacher directed art experience. The Tuesday/Thursday lesson plan emphasizes fluid play, dramatic play, and early literacy experiences. The Friday lesson plan is a combination of the week's successful play opportunities plus a cooking experience for ½ the group. Depending on the day and the theme every VPK standard is supported by the experiences suggested. Certain themes support specific standards and these are highlighted to emphasize their inclusion.

I. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

A. Listening and Understanding

1. Demonstrates increasing ability to attend to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.
2. Shows progress in understanding and following simple and multiple-step directions.
3. Understands an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.
4. For non-English speaking children, progresses in listening to and understanding English

B. Speaking & Communication

1. Develops increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate information, experiences, ideas, feeling, opinion, needs, questions and for other varied purposes.
2. Progresses in abilities to initiate and respond appropriately in conversation and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.
4. Progresses in clarity of pronunciation and towards speaking in sentences of increasing length and grammatical complexity.
5. For non-English speaking children, progresses in speaking English.

II. LITERACY

A. Phonological Awareness

1. Shows increasing ability to discriminate and identify sounds in spoken language.
2. Shows growing awareness of beginning and ending sounds of words.
3. Progresses in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words, games, songs, stories and poems.
4. Shows growing ability to hear and discriminate separate syllables in words.
5. Associates sounds with written words, such as awareness that different words begin with the same sound.

B. Book Knowledge & Appreciation

1. Shows growing interest and involvement in listening to and discussing a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and poetry.
2. Shows growing interest in reading-related activities, such as asking to have a favorite book read; choosing to look at books; drawing pictures based on stories; asking to take books home; going to the library; and engaging in pretend-reading with other children.
3. Demonstrates progress in abilities to retell and dictate stories from books and experiences; to act out stories in dramatic play; and to predict what will happen next in a story.
4. Progresses in learning how to handle and care for books; knowing to view one page at a time in sequence from front to back; and understanding that a book has a title, author and illustrator.

C. Print Awareness & Concepts

1. Shows increasing awareness of print in classroom, home and community settings.
2. Develops growing understanding of the different functions of forms of print such as signs, letters, newspapers, lists, messages, and menus.
3. Demonstrates increasing awareness of concepts of print, such as that reading in English moves from top to bottom and from left to right, that speech can be written down, and that print conveys a message.
4. Shows progress in recognizing the association between spoken and written words by following print as it is read aloud.
5. Recognizes a word as a unit of print, or awareness that letters are grouped to form words, that words are separated by spaces.

D. Early Writing

1. Develops understanding that writing is a way of communicating for a variety of purposes.
2. Begins to represent stories and experiences through pictures, dictation, and in play.
3. Experiments with a growing variety of writing tools and materials, such as pencils, crayons, and computers.
4. Progresses from using scribbles, shapes, or pictures to represent ideas, to using letter-like symbols, to copying or writing familiar words such as their own name.

E. Alphabet Knowledge

1. Shows progress in associating the names of letters with their shapes and sounds.
2. Increases in ability to notice the beginning letters in familiar words.
3. Identifies at least 10 letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name.
4. Knows that letters of the alphabet are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named.

III. MATHEMATICS

A. Number & Operations

1. Demonstrates increasing interest and awareness of numbers and counting as a means for solving problems and determining quantity.

2. Begins to associate number concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in meaningful ways.
3. Develops increasing ability to count in sequence to 10 and beyond.
4. Begins to make use of one-to-one correspondence in counting objects and matching groups of objects.
5. Begins to use language to compare numbers of objects with terms such as more, less, greater than, fewer, equal to.
6. Develops increased abilities to combine, separate and name “how many” concrete objects.

B. Geometry & Spatial Sense

1. Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes.
2. Progresses in ability to put together and take apart shapes.
3. Begins to be able to determine whether or not two shapes are the same size and shape.
4. Shows growth in matching, sorting, putting in a series and regrouping objects according to one or two attributes such as color, shape, and size.
5. Builds an increasing understanding of directionality, order and positions of objects and words such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, inside, outside, in front and behind.

C. Patterns & Measurement

1. Enhances abilities to recognize, duplicate and extend simple patterns using a variety of materials
2. Shows increasing abilities to match, sort, put in a series, and regroup objects according to one or two attributes such as shape or size.
3. Begins to make comparisons between several objects based on a single attribute.
4. Shows progress in using standard and non-standard measures for length and area of objects.

IV. SCIENCE

A. Scientific Skills & Methods

1. Begins to use senses and a variety of tools and simple measuring devices to gather information, investigate materials and observe processes and relationships.
2. Develops increased ability to observe and discuss common properties, differences and comparisons among objects and materials.

3. Begins to participate in simple investigations to test observations, discuss and draw conclusions and form generalizations.
4. Develops growing abilities to collect, describe and record information through a variety of means, including discussion, drawings, maps and charts.
5. Begins to describe and discuss predictions, explanations and generalizations based on past experiences.

B. Scientific Knowledge

1. Expands knowledge of and abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.
2. Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.
3. Develops growing awareness of ideas and language related to attributes of time and temperature.
4. Shows increased awareness and beginning understanding of changes in materials and cause-effect relationships.

V. CREATIVE ARTS

A. Music

1. Participates with increasing interest and enjoyment in a variety of music activities, including listening, singing, finger plays, games, and performances.
2. Experiments with a variety of musical instruments.

B. Art

1. Gains ability in using different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representation.
2. Progresses in abilities to create drawings, painting, models, and other art creations that are more detailed, creative or realistic.
3. Develops growing abilities to plan, work independently, and demonstrate care and persistence in a variety of art projects.
4. Begins to understand and share opinions about artistic products and experiences.

C. Movement

1. Expresses through movement and dancing what is felt and heard in various musical tempos and styles.

2. Shows growth in moving in time to different patterns of beat and rhythm in music.

D. Dramatic Play

1. Participates in a variety of dramatic play activities that become more extended and complex.
2. Shows growing creativity and imagination in using materials and in assuming different roles in dramatic play situations.

VI. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Self Concept

1. Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferences.
2. Develops growing capacity for independence in a range of activities, routines, and tasks.
3. Demonstrates growing confidence in a range of abilities and expresses pride in accomplishments.

B. Self Control

1. Shows progress in expressing feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, other, or property.
2. Develops growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begins to accept the consequences of their actions.
3. Demonstrates increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely, and respectfully.

C. Cooperation

1. Increases abilities to sustain interactions with peers by helping, sharing and discussion.
2. Shows increasing abilities to use compromise and discussion in working, playing and resolving conflicts with peers.
3. Develops increasing abilities to give and take in interactions; to take turns in games or using materials; and to interact without being overly submissive or directive.

D. Social Relationships

1. Demonstrates increasing comfort in talking with and accepting guidance and directions from a range of familiar adults.
2. Shows progress in developing friendships with peers.

3. Progresses in responding sympathetically to peers who are in need, upset, hurt, or angry; and in expressing empathy or caring for others.

E. Knowledge of Families & Communities

1. Develops ability to identify personal characteristics including gender, and family composition.
2. Progresses in understanding similarities and respecting differences among people, such as genders, race, special needs, culture, language, and family structures.
3. Develops growing awareness of jobs and what is required to perform them.
4. Begins to express and understand concepts and language of geography in the contexts of their classroom, home and community.

VII. APPROACHES TO LEARNING

A. Initiative & Curiosity

1. Chooses to participate in an increasing variety of tasks and activities.
2. Develops increased ability to make independent choices.
3. Approaches tasks and activities with increased flexibility, imagination and inventiveness.
4. Grows in eagerness to learn about and discuss a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks.

B. Engagement & Persistence

1. Grows in abilities to persist in and complete a variety of tasks, activities, projects and experiences.
2. Demonstrates increasing ability to set goals and develop and follow through on plans.
3. Shows growing capacity to maintain concentration over time on a task, question, set of directions or interactions, despite distractions and interruptions.

C. Reasoning & Problem Solving

1. Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.
2. Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.

VIII. PHYSICAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

A. Fine Motor Skills

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3. Progresses in abilities to use writing, drawing and art tools including pencils, marker, chalk, paintbrushes, and various types of technology.

B. Gross Motor Skills

1. Shows increasing levels of proficiency, control and balance in walking, climbing, running, jumping, hopping, skipping, marching and galloping.
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C. Health Status & Practices

1. Progress in physical growth, strength, stamina, and flexibility.
2. Participates actively in games, outdoor play and other forms of exercise that enhance physical fitness.
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Literacy Circle **The theme series suggests a circle after center time that describes experiences that are planned to focus on the standards listed in IV. Language, Communication and Emergent Literacy.**

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2. Experiments with a variety of musical instruments.

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C. Reasoning & Problem Solving

1. Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.
2. Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.
3. Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.

If the program continues through lunch, nap, and into the afternoon, outdoor games, painting, blocks, etc. that reflect the mornings experiences should be offered. Children need many opportunities to draw, cut, paint, build, and engage in dramatic play each day. The Beyond Centers and Circle Time Curriculum calls this “intensity” of experiences. In order for children to move through the developmental stages that can be observed in their play and play products they must be allowed rich play experiences that allow them to perfect their skills and knowledge. An extended day provides this time.