

Maryland Early Learning Guidelines for Children Birth to Three

Alignment with Curriculum by FunShine Online®

Ages 0 to 36 months

Healthy Beginnings: Supporting Development and Learning From Birth to Three Years of Age	FunShine Online® Learning Goals and Objectives
Personal and Social Development	Social/Emotional Development
6 to 12 Months	
A. Feelings About Self and Others	Trust, Self-Regulation, Relationships, Self-Awareness
Express comfort and discomfort, enjoyment and unhappiness.	SE11 Expresses feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures
Start to show more independence.	SE16 Shows increasing independence
Show interest in familiar adults.	SE1 Engages in behaviors that build relationships with familiar adults SE2 Responds differently to familiar and unfamiliar adults
Show interest in unfamiliar adults.	SE2 Responds differently to familiar and unfamiliar adults
Demonstrate attachment to individuals.	SE1 Engages in behaviors that build relationships with familiar adults
Show awareness of other children.	SE5 Shows interest in and awareness of other children
Calm himself.	SE15 Shows ability to cope with stress

12 to 24 Months	
A. Feelings About Self and Others, Relating to Others	Trust, Self-Regulation, Relationships, Self-Awareness, Communicating
Show self-awareness and likes and dislikes; begin to develop self-worth.	SE11 Expresses feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures SE12 Develops awareness of self as separate from others
Show more awareness of herself and her abilities.	SE12 Develops awareness of self as separate from others SE13 Shows confidence in increasing abilities
Rely on trusted adults to feel safe trying new activities.	SE13 Shows confidence in increasing abilities
Continue to need the security of a trusted adult as she explores.	SE1 Engages in behaviors that build relationships with familiar adults
Show awareness of unfamiliar adults.	SE2 Responds differently to familiar and unfamiliar adults
Continue to show caution around unfamiliar adults.	SE2 Responds differently to familiar and unfamiliar adults
Interact with other children.	SE6 Responds to and interacts with other children
Show more, but still limited self-regulation.	SE14 Begins to manage own behavior and show self-regulation
Begin to express a variety of feelings.	SE11 Expresses feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures
Ask for help, if needed, in verbal and non-verbal ways.	L3 Uses sounds, gestures, or actions to express needs and wants
Gain in self-control/regulation.	SE14 Begins to manage own behavior and show self-regulation
Know resources available in the room, and how to use some of them.	SE16 Shows increasing independence
Show increased interest and assert independence when with other children.	SE16 Shows increasing independence

At times shows awareness and concern for other children's feelings.	SE7 Begins to recognize and respond to other children's feelings and emotions
24 to 36 months	
A. Learning About Self Relating to Others, Relating to Adults, and Other Children	Trust, Self-Regulation, Relationships, Self-Awareness
Show increasing self-awareness.	SE12 Develops awareness of self as separate from others
Express feelings more freely, showing independence and competence.	SE11 Expresses feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures
Continue to need adult approval but show more independence.	SE16 Shows increasing independence
Imitate and attempt to please familiar adults.	SE10 Uses imitation or pretend play to learn new roles and relationships
Be more interested in unfamiliar adults, but still cautious.	SE2 Responds differently to familiar and unfamiliar adults
Demonstrate cautious curiosity about unfamiliar adults.	SE2 Responds differently to familiar and unfamiliar adults
Share his feelings through talking and pretend play.	SE11 Expresses feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures
Play cooperatively with other children.	SE6 Responds to and interacts with other children
Use coping skills with tasks, and interactions with peers and adults.	SE15 Shows ability to cope with stress
Share feelings through talking and pretend play.	SE11 Expresses feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures
Show increasing self-regulation.	SE14 Begins to manage own behavior and show self-regulation
Play alongside other children.	SE6 Responds to and interacts with other children
Play cooperatively with other children.	SE6 Responds to and interacts with other children

Show more awareness of the feelings of another child.	SE7 Begins to recognize and respond to other children's feelings and emotions
Begin to understand the feelings of other children.	SE7 Begins to recognize and respond to other children's feelings and emotions
Language Development	Language Development
6 to 12 months	
A. Understanding and Communicating	Listening, Communicating, Exploration, Emergent Literacy
Use various sounds and movements to communicate.	L3 Uses sounds, gestures, or actions to express needs and wants
Show more interest in speech.	L1 Listens and responds with interest to verbal and nonverbal communication of others
Recognize and react to the sounds of language.	L1 Listens and responds with interest to verbal and nonverbal communication of others C1 Pays attention to people, objects, and sounds
Recognize and react to the sounds of language; begin to understand that letters make sounds (phonological awareness).	L10 Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be "read" by others and have meaning
Respond to sounds and words heard often.	L1 Listens and responds with interest to verbal and nonverbal communication of others C1 Pays attention to people, objects, and sounds
Start to understand and use common rules of communication.	L5 Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Begin to respond to some of the vocabulary associated with picture books.	L9 Demonstrates interest and involvement with books and other print materials
Demonstrate increasing vocabulary and comprehension by using words to express herself.	L3 Uses sounds, gestures, or actions to express needs and wants
Explore writing and drawing as a way of communicating.	L12 Makes marks with writing tools

12 to 24 months	
A. Understanding and Communicating	Listening, Exploration, Emergent Literacy
Understand the meaning of many words and gestures.	L2 Begins to understand gestures, words, questions, or routines
Use an increasing number of words and put words together into phrases and simple sentences.	L5 Uses consistent sounds, signs or words for a variety of purposes
Recognize and react to the sounds of language; begin to understand that letters make sounds (phonological awareness).	L10 Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be “read” by others and have meaning
Start to understand and use common rules of speech.	L5 Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Demonstrate increasing vocabulary and comprehension by using words and phrases to express himself.	L3 Uses sounds, gestures, or actions to express needs and wants
Demonstrate vocabulary and comprehension by listening with interest and displaying understanding.	L3 Uses sounds, gestures, or actions to express needs and wants
Communicate using consistent sounds, words, and gestures.	L5 Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Explore drawing, painting and writing as a way of communicating.	L12 Makes marks with writing tools
24 to 36 months	
A. Listening, Speaking and Understanding	Listening, Communicating, Emergent Literacy, Self-Regulation
Demonstrate active listening strategies.	L1 Listens and responds with interest to verbal and nonverbal communication of others
Demonstrate active listening skills.	L1 Listens and responds with interest to verbal and nonverbal communication of others
Become aware of the sounds of spoken language; understand that that letters make sounds (phonological awareness).	L10 Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be “read” by others and have meaning

Develop phonological awareness by becoming aware of the sounds of spoken language.	L10	Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be “read” by others and have meaning
Enter into a conversation.	L6	Participates in simple two-way conversations
Use more conventions of speech as she speaks.	L5	Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Use words and some common rules of speech to express his ideas and thoughts.	L5	Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Expand her vocabulary with many more connecting and describing words.	L5	Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Have more meaningful conversations with peers and adults.	L6	Participates in simple two-way conversations
Recognize that drawings, paintings and writing are meaningful representations.	L10	Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be “read” by others and have meaning
Begin to develop writing skills.	L12	Makes marks with writing tools
Understand questions and simple directions.	SE17	Understands simple routines, rules, or limitations
Understand and respond to simple directions and requests.	SE17	Understands simple routines, rules, or limitations
Begin to develop fluency by imitative reading.	L9	Demonstrates interest and involvement with books and other print materials
Recognize that symbols have corresponding meaning.	L10	Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be “read” by others and have meaning
Develop vocabulary, language usage and some conventions of speech.	L5	Uses consistent sounds, signs, or words for a variety of purposes
Show comprehension by demonstrating understanding of text during and after reading.	L9	Demonstrates interest and involvement with books and other print materials
Develop comprehension by demonstrating understanding of text during and after reading.	L9	Demonstrates interest and involvement with books and other print materials
Use writing tools for scribbles and drawings.	L12	Makes marks with writing tools

Ask “why” and other questions frequently to keep a conversation going.	L6 Participates in simple two-way conversations
Cognitive Development	Cognitive Development
6 to 12 Months	
A. Discovering and Learning	Exploration, Memory, Listening, Communicating, Emergent Literacy, Emergent Math, Dramatic Play
Cause things to happen.	C4 Makes things happen and watches for results or repeats action
Make expected things happen.	C4 Makes things happen and watches for results or repeats action
Remember what has happened recently.	C7 Recalls and uses information in new situations
Remember what has happened recently, and find hidden objects.	C8 Searches for missing or hidden objects
Show awareness of happenings in his surroundings.	C1 Pays attention to people, objects and sounds
Look at the correct picture or object when it is named.	C6 Recognizes familiar people, places, and things L2 Begins to understand gestures, words, questions, or routines L8 Shows interest in photos, pictures, and drawings L10 Begins to recognize and understand that pictures or symbols can be “read” by others and have meaning
Explore objects in various ways.	C2 Uses senses to explore people, objects, and the environment
Imitate gestures and use objects.	C13 Uses objects in new ways or in pretend play C14 Uses imitation or pretend play to express creativity and imagination

12 to 24 Months	
A. Exploring and Learning; Mathematical, Scientific, Social Studies Exploring and Learning	Exploration, Memory, Listening, Self-Regulation, Communicating, Emergent Literacy, Emergent Math, Dramatic Play, Curiosity, Problem Solving
Use objects and toys more purposefully.	C13 Uses objects in new ways or in pretend play
Expect certain things to happen as a result of her actions.	C4 Makes things happen and watches for results or repeats action
Show an increasing ability to remember and participate in imitative play.	C14 Uses imitation or pretend play to express creativity and imagination
Improve memory for details.	C7 Recalls and uses information in new situations
Use senses to investigate the world around him, including solving problems.	C2 Uses senses to explore people, objects, and the environment
Look at the correct picture or object when it is named.	C6 Recognizes familiar people, places, and things
Seek information through observation and exploration.	C2 Uses senses to explore people, objects, and the environment
Use objects and toys more purposefully, exploring cause and effect relationships.	C13 Uses objects in new ways or in pretend play
Explore and solve problems.	AL1 Exhibits interest, curiosity, and eagerness in exploring the world. AL5 Shows imagination and creativity in solving problems
Begin to understand rules and routines.	L2 Begins to understand gestures, words, questions, or routines SE17 Understands simple routines, rules or limitations
Begin to explore concepts of number, size, and position.	C9 Shows interest in and awareness of numbers and counting during daily routines and activities. C10 Begins to notice differences in size and quantity (more, all gone, big, little, etc.)

Begin to sort objects according to one criterion.	C3 Becomes increasingly aware of colors, shapes, patterns, or pictures. C10 Begins to notice differences in size and quantity (more, all gone, big, little, etc.)
24-36 Months	
A. Exploring and Learning: Math, Science and Social Studies Concepts	Exploration, Memory, Listening, Self-Regulation, Communicating, Emergent Literacy, Emergent Math, Dramatic Play, Curiosity, Problem Solving
Use imagination, memory and reasoning to plan and make things happen.	C4 Makes things happen and watches for results or repeats action
Improve memory for details.	C7 Recalls and uses information in new situations
Think ahead and explore ideas.	AL1 Exhibits interest, curiosity, and eagerness in exploring the world. C5 Shows ability to acquire and process new information
Have beginning understanding of consequences when following routines and recreating familiar events.	SE14 Begins to manage own behavior and show self-regulation SE17 Understands simple routines, rules, or limitations
See information through observation, exploration and descriptive investigations.	C2 Uses senses to explore people, objects, and the environment
Explore new ways to do things.	C13 Uses objects in new ways or in pretend play
Explore new ways to do things, showing more independence in problem solving.	AL4 Experiments with different uses for objects AL5 Uses a variety of strategies to solve problems
Show interest in quantity and number relationships.	C9 Shows interest in and awareness of numbers and counting during daily routines and activities
Show interest in concepts, such as matching and sorting according to color, shape and size.	C3 Becomes increasingly aware of colors, shapes, patterns, or pictures C10 Begins to notice differences in size and quantity (more, all gone, big, little, etc.)

Show interest in concepts such as matching and sorting according to a single criteria.	C3 Becomes increasingly aware of colors, shapes, patterns, or pictures C10 Begins to notice differences in size and quantity (more, all gone, big, little, etc.)
Use mathematical thinking in daily situations.	C9 Shows interest in and awareness of numbers and counting during daily routines and activities C10 Begins to notice differences in size and quantity (more, all gone, big, little, etc.) C11 Explores ways objects and people move and fit in space
Physical Development	Physical Development
6 to 12 Months	
A. Coordinating Movements	Gross Motor, Fine Motor
Change the position of his body.	PH3 Develops increasing ability to change positions and move body from place to place
Change position and begin to move from place to place.	PH3 Develops increasing ability to change positions and move body from place to place
Use his hands in more coordinated movements.	PH1 Moves body, arms, and legs with coordination
Coordinate eyes and hands while exploring or holding objects.	PH7 Coordinates eye and hand movements
12 to 24 Months	
A. Coordinating Movements	Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Self-Regulation
Move constantly, showing increasing large muscle control.	PH4 Moves body with purpose to achieve a goal
Show increased balance and coordination in play activities.	PH2 Demonstrates large muscle balance, stability, control, and coordination
Use hands in various ways.	PH5 Uses hands or feet to make contact with objects or people
Have increased hand-eye coordination.	PH7 Coordinates eye and hand movements
Be able to do more things for herself.	SE16 Shows increasing independence

24 to 36 Months	
A. Coordinating and Using Large & Small Muscle Groups, Improving and Building Self-Help Skills	Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Wellness, Self-Regulation, Emergent Literacy
Use his whole body to develop spatial awareness.	PH11 Becomes more aware of own body
Move her body through space with balance and control.	PH3 Develops increasing ability to change positions and move body from place to place
Use improved hand-eye coordination to explore and manipulate objects.	PH6 Develops small muscle control and coordination PH7 Coordinates eye and hand movements
Use smaller manipulatives and finger plays to develop small muscle strength and coordination.	PH8 Controls small muscles in hands when doing simple tasks
Enjoy doing for himself whatever he thinks he can do.	SE16 Shows increasing independence
Depend on routines to practice self-help skills and feel confident.	PH14 Begins to develop self-help skills
Perform more complex movements with his arms and legs.	PH5 Uses hands or feet to make contact with objects or people PH9 Uses different actions on objects (kicks, shakes, pats, swipes)
Use riding toys easily.	PH1 Moves body, arms, and legs with coordination PH2 Demonstrates large muscle balance, stability, control and coordination PH3 Develops increasing ability to change positions and move body from place to place PH4 Moves body with purpose to achieve a goal
Explore art materials.	L12 Makes marks with writing tools PH6 Develops small muscle control and coordination PH8 Controls small muscles in hands when doing simple tasks