

Approaches to Learning and Play

Mindset: involves children's developing ability to regulate their emotions, thoughts and behavior to enable them to act in positive ways toward a goal. [3](#)

a Engagement [3.A](#)

1 34-48 months [3.A.1](#)

- 1** Eagerly chooses to be involved in a variety of tasks and activities. [3.A.1.1](#)
- 2** Has capacity to maintain involvement and concentration for a meaningful period of time. [3.A.1.2](#)

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards [3.A.2](#)

- 1** Participates with pleasure, enthusiasm and dedication in self chosen activities. [3.A.2.1](#)
- 2** Consistently remains engaged in self-directed play even with distractions, can maintain focus and return to an activity after a break. [3.A.2.2](#)

b Persistence [3.B](#)

1 34-48 months [3.B.1](#)

- 1** Engages in a variety of activities through a play period. [3.B.1.1](#)
- 2** During times of distraction, maintains concentration with increased focus. [3.B.1.2](#)
- 3** Can increasingly work through challenges and frustrations in play with adult support. [3.B.1.3](#)
- 4** Sees simple tasks through to completion. [3.B.1.4](#)
- 5** Begins to set goals, develop plans, and complete tasks. [3.B.1.5](#)

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards **3.B.2**

- 1** Purposefully chooses, engages and persists in play, experiences and projects. **3.B.2.1**
- 2** Works through challenges with increasing independence while engaged in self-selected activities. **3.B.2.2**
- 3** Demonstrates resilience and coping skills when faced with reasonable challenges, using an increased ability to regulate frustration over time. **3.B.2.3**
- 4** Chooses to leave a project and return to it later for follow through or elaboration. **3.B.2.4**
- 5** Chooses to repeat experiences to build competence and explore, change and extend ideas. **3.B.2.5**
- 6** Keeps trying and flexibly adapts strategies when encountering difficulties. **3.B.2.6**

c Initiative **3.C**

1 34-48 months **3.C.1**

- 1** Shows interest in how and why others do things. **3.C.1.1**
- 2** Assists adults with daily tasks. **3.C.1.2**
- 3** Expresses interest in a widening range of topics and ideas. **3.C.1.3**
- 4** Demonstrates ability to make independent choices. **3.C.1.4**

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards **3.C.2**

- 1** Asks to join in play already in progress. **3.C.2.1**
- 2** Tells the difference between appropriate and inappropriate risk-taking. **3.C.2.2**
- 3** Offers to help adults or peers with daily tasks. **3.C.2.3**
- 4** Independently seeks, accepts or offers help or information for further understanding. **3.C.2.4**
- 5** Can identify and seek materials, strategies and tools they need to complete activities and tasks. **3.C.2.5**
- 6** Invents projects and works on them with little assistance. **3.C.2.6**
- 7** Sets goals, develops plans, and follows through with self directed projects with increasing independence and/or collaboration. **3.C.2.7**

d Curiosity **3.D**

1 34-48 months **3.D.1**

- 1** Begins to discover and investigate ideas, task, experiences that interest and amaze them. **3.D.1.1**
- 2** Uses senses to gather information and understanding about materials and ideas. **3.D.1.2**
- 3** Asks questions “What would happen if…” **3.D.1.3**
- 4** Tries new ways to accomplish tasks. **3.D.1.4**
- 5** Describes what was learned from an activity. **3.D.1.5**
- 6** Explores a variety of materials and experiences. **3.D.1.6**

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards **3.D.2**

- 1** Discovers and investigates ideas, tasks, experiences that interest and amaze them. **3.D.2.1**
 - 2** Carries out investigations using familiar and new strategies, tools, or sources of information. **3.D.2.2**
 - 3** Approaches tasks and activities with increasing flexibility, complexity, imagination and inventiveness. **3.D.2.3**
 - 4** Chooses to take opportunities to explore a variety of materials and experiences, seeking out new challenges. **3.D.2.4**
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Executive Function 4

a Reflection 4.A

1 34-48 months **4.A.1**

- 1** Notices changes and accomplishments from experimentation and trial and error. **4.A.1.1**
- 2** Increasingly applies learning from prior experiences and understanding to new learning situations. **4.A.1.2**
- 3** Makes predictions about what will happen next. **4.A.1.3**
- 4** Explains part or all of the problem and the exploration to adults or peers. **4.A.1.4**

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards **4.A.2**

- 1** Thinks about multiple options, choices and decides if they are useful and if not, tries another. **4.A.2.1**
- 2** Applies prior experiences, senses, and knowledge to new learning situations. **4.A.2.2**
- 3** Discovers and finds patterns and relationships. **4.A.2.3**
- 4** Draws on information to be able to review and anticipate to make if-then connections and contemplate what if situations that have not actually occurred. **4.A.2.4**
- 5** Discusses or documents important aspects of an experience and identifies what was learned. **4.A.2.5**

1 34-48 months 4.B.1

b Problem Solving 4.B

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards 4.B.2

- 1 Predicts when something might be a problem or challenge. 4.B.2.1
 - 2 Recognizes that problems exist and learns how to resolve simple conflicts independently or collaboratively. 4.B.2.2
 - 3 Maintains communication and problem solving skills when finding a solution to conflicts. 4.B.2.3
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c Flexibility 4.C

1 34-48 months 4.C.1

- 1 Generates and shares ideas during social interactions and dramatic play. 4.C.1.1
- 2 Accepts more than one solution to a question, task, or problem. 4.C.1.2
- 3 Seeks guidance from adults and/or accepts suggestions to try different approaches and solutions to tasks, problems and interactions with peers. 4.C.1.3
- 4 Can adjust emotions and behavior to changes. 4.C.1.4

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards 4.C.2

- 1 Independently alters approach to tasks or problem when initial approach does not work. 4.C.2.1
 - 2 Considers, predicts and implements different approaches to carrying out a task. 4.C.2.2
 - 3 Demonstrates innovative thinking. 4.C.2.3
 - 4 Is able to manage a change in rules or accepts the ideas of peers during play. 4.C.2.4
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Recognizes when something might be a problem or challenge. 4.B.1.1

1 Recognizes when something might be a problem or challenge. 4.B.1.1

With prompting and support begins to attempt to solve a problem. 4.B.1.2

2 With prompting and support begins to attempt to solve a problem. 4.B.1.2

Begins to use appropriate communication or action when conflicts arise. 4.B.1.3

3 Begins to use appropriate communication or action when conflicts arise. 4.B.1.3

Creativity, Invention, and Imagination: involves finding new ways to express ideas, use objects, and solve problems through visual arts, movement, dance, music and dramatic play. 5

a Visual Arts 5.A

1 34-48 months 5.A.1

- 1** Uses self-selected materials to engage in art experiences. 5.A.1.1
- 2** Shares art materials and space. Begins to work collaboratively with peers on artworks. 5.A.1.2
- 3** Uses color, lines and shapes to represent and express ideas. 5.A.1.3
- 4** Uses and explores art materials to stimulate the senses. Uses sensory information to create works of art. 5.A.1.4
- 5** Explores a variety of art elements and materials to represent creative thought, life experiences and real things in the environment. 5.A.1.5
- 6** With support talks about creative process. 5.A.1.6
- 7** Begins to identify artwork to be shared with others. 5.A.1.7
- 8** With support begins to make comments or share observations of the art expression of others. 5.A.1.8
- 9** Explores multicultural art styles and materials. 5.A.1.9

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards 5.A.2

- 1** Shows interest or participates in different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representation. 5.A.2.1
- 2** Shows increasing engagement in art materials to express ideas and interests. 5.A.2.2
- 3** Works cooperatively to create drawings, paintings, sculptures, and other art projects. 5.A.2.3
- 4** Progresses in abilities to create with a variety of media that reflect more detail, uniqueness, and/or realism. 5.A.2.4
- 5** Explores and utilizes art materials appropriately. 5.A.2.5
- 6** Describes the process and style of personal artwork. 5.A.2.6
- 7** Selects pieces for display. 5.A.2.7
- 8** Listens, comments and shows appreciation for the art expression of others. 5.A.2.8
- 9** Explores diverse art forms, elements and styles for representing ideas, creative thought and to support learning in other learning domains. 5.A.2.9
- 10** Observes, discusses and may utilize multicultural art styles and materials. 5.A.2.10

b Movement and Dance 5.B

1 34-48 months **5.B.1**

- 1** Participates in a variety of rhythmic and creative movement experiences. **5.B.1.1**
- 2** Develops increasing body control, body awareness during creative movement. **5.B.1.2**
- 3** Begins to connect body movements to music, song or creative ideas. **5.B.1.3**
- 4** Begins to participate in group movement/dance. **5.B.1.4**

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards **5.B.2**

- 1** Moves in response to different styles of music. **5.B.2.1**
- 2** Uses creative movement that expresses an idea or feeling. **5.B.2.2**
- 3** Combines creative movement with sound, song/chants and/ or instruments to express ideas or retell a story. **5.B.2.3**
- 4** Engages in and collaborates during group creative movement/dance. **5.B.2.4**

c Music 5.C

1 34-48 months **5.C.1**

- 1** Claps hands to keep the beat to a song. **5.C.1.1**
- 2** Participates in slow and fast tempo as well as low and high sounds. **5.C.1.2**
- 3** Participates with simple songs that have a rhythm and pattern. **5.C.1.3**
- 4** Imitates sounds that demonstrate musical awareness. **5.C.1.4**
- 5** Experiments with a variety of musical instruments. **5.C.1.5**

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards **5.C.2**

- 1** Uses body percussion to demonstrate beat and tempo. **5.C.2.1**
- 2** Shows increasing ability to recognize tempo changes and different styles of music. **5.C.2.2**
- 3** Increasing ability to adapt to pitch and sounds. **5.C.2.3**
- 4** Sings songs with varied lyrics and patterns. **5.C.2.4**
- 5** Improvises with sound effects. **5.C.2.5**
- 6** Uses musical instruments to imitate and improvise songs, melodies, and patterns. **5.C.2.6**
- 7** Explores music and instruments from other cultures. **5.C.2.7**

d Dramatic Play and Expression 5.D

1 34-48 months 5.D.1

- 1 Begins to use inanimate objects to represent real life objects (e.g. uses banana as a phone). 5.D.1.1
- 2 Begins to role play real life experiences (e.g., pretend to listen to your heart). 5.D.1.2
- 3 Mimics movements, sounds, and expressions of real-life experiences. 5.D.1.3
- 4 Imitates repeated verses in stories. 5.D.1.4

2 46-60 months End of Preschool Standards 5.D.2

- 1 Uses inanimate objects for other than their intended purpose to create representations of real-life objects or activities. 5.D.2.1
- 2 Represents fantasy and real-life experiences through pretend play and may use props. 5.D.2.2
- 3 Uses pretend play to represent known or anticipated situations. 5.D.2.3
- 4 Creates characters through physical movement, gesture, sound, speech and facial expressions. 5.D.2.4
- 5 With prompting and support, children assume the roles of characters, using props and language to tell or retell a story. 5.D.2.5