



## Alabama's Standards *for* Early Learning and Development

# SUMMARY



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
Early Childhood  
Education

In partnership with



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# Relationships and Connections

## **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (FCE)** *Relationships to Help Me Succeed*

Describes a unique set of standards and practices that highlight the importance of families', communities' and professionals' partnership in supporting children's learning.

FCE1a	Child development and Parenting	Early learning programs support families' understanding of child development and parenting techniques.
FCE1b	Communication	Early learning programs promote respectful and reciprocal communication strategies with families.
FCE c	Home-School Connection	Early learning programs connect in-home and out-of-home experiences to optimize children's learning.
FCE1d	Family Participation	Early learning programs promote families' participation in their children's program experiences.
FCE1e	Decision-Making and Leadership	Early learning programs provide families with opportunities to contribute to their children's program operation.
FCE2	Program Climate and Environment	Early learning programs are welcoming to all children and families.
FCE3	Community Partnerships	Early learning programs collaborate with community agencies to support children's and families.

## **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (SED)** *Myself, My Feelings, My Relationships*

Describes those skills needed to understand, express and manage feelings as well as the ability to establish positive relationships with others.

### SED1: Myself

SED1a	Self-Awareness	Children will demonstrate an emerging personal identity through awareness of one's own personal characteristics, skills and abilities.
SED1b	Self-Esteem	Children will demonstrate emerging confidence in their own abilities.

### SED2: My Feelings

SED2a	Manage Feelings	Children will identify, manage, and express their feelings.
SED2b	Self-Regulation	Children will begin to self-regulate.

### SED3: My Relationships

SED3a	Relationships with Adults	Children will form relationships and interact positively with adults who consistently respond to their needs.
SED3b	Relationships with Peers	Children will develop ways to interact and build relationships with peers.

**SOCIAL STUDIES (SST)** *Learning about Myself, My Family, and My Community*

Labels the knowledge children acquire about their family, their community and their place within the world.

**SST1: Social Systems**

<b>SST1a</b>	Family Structure	Children will develop a sense of belonging to a family group, articulate family members' roles, and identify how families are alike and different.
<b>SST1b</b>	Community Belonging	Children will build a sense of belonging to a group and follow its rules.
<b>SST1c</b>	Diversity and Culture	Children will show understanding of how people and customs are alike and different.
<b>SST2: Social Studies Concepts</b>		
<b>SST2a</b>	Economics	Children will understand about supply and demand, why people work, money, and community helpers.
<b>SST2b</b>	Geography	Children will identify basic concepts of location and features in the community.
<b>SST2c</b>	History	Children will demonstrate an understanding of events and people from the past and present.

## SECTION

## 2

**Exploration and Critical Thinking: Developing STEM Skills****APPROACHES TO PLAY AND LEARNING (APL)** *Developing Skills and Attitudes for Success*

Identifies the skills and behaviors that children use for learning. Play skills, along with children's persistence, flexibility, creativity promote successful learning and interactions with others.

**APL1: Play**

<b>APL1a</b>	Imaginative Play	Children will use their imaginations to learn about the world around them.
<b>APL1b</b>	Collaborative Play	Children will learn to work and play together to achieve a common goal.

**APL2: Constructing and Gathering Knowledge**

<b>APL2a</b>	Persistence, Engagement, and Attention	Children will develop the ability to focus their attention and concentrate to complete tasks.
<b>APL2b</b>	Task Analysis	Children will identify the steps needed to achieve a goal.
<b>APL2c</b>	Reasoning and Problem Solving	Children will identify and develop strategies for solving simple problems.

**APL3: Wonderment and Curiosity**

<b>APL3a</b>	Curiosity, Invention, and Initiative	Children will show eagerness, imagination, and creativity as they try new tasks.
<b>APL 3b</b>	Risk-Taking and Flexibility	Children will demonstrate a willingness to take risks and try new things.

## SCIENCE EXPLORATION AND KNOWLEDGE (SEK) *Exploring the World Around Me*

Provides foundational information about science, engineering and technology concepts as well as the critical thinking skills that children use to learn and understand new ideas.

### SEK1: Science Concepts

SEK1a	Scientific Inquiry	Children will gain knowledge through exploration and discovery.
SEK1b	Biological Science	Children will differentiate between living and non-living things and their characteristics.
SEK1c	Physical Science	Children will demonstrate emerging understanding of matter and energy.
SEK1d	Earth and Space Science	Children will demonstrate emerging understanding of the earth and atmosphere.
SEK1e	Environment and Ecology	Children will demonstrate understanding of their impact on taking care of the world.

### SEK2: Technology

SEK2a	Use of Tools	Children will use simple and more complex tools to accomplish a task.
SEK2b	Media Literacy	Children will demonstrate understanding of the types of information they are receiving through media.
SEK2c	Digital Citizenship	Children will demonstrate safe use of technology.
SEK2d	Computational Thinking	Children will use technological skills, concepts, and behaviors to solve problems or complete projects.
SEK3	Engineering Processes	Children will use beginning design processes for problem solving.

## MATHEMATICAL THINKING (MAT) *Exploring, Processing, and Logical Reasoning*

Introduces basic mathematics skills and language that help children learn about numbers, shapes, patterns, measurement and data analysis.

### MAT1: Numbers and Quantity

MAT1a	Number Relationships	Children will understand the concept of numbers, and the relationships between numbers and quantities.
MAT1b	Counting and Number Sense	Children will connect number names to quantities.

### MAT2: Algebraic Thinking

MAT2a	Operations	Children will develop understanding of putting together or adding to and taking apart and taking from.
MAT2b	Sets	Children will classify and organize objects according to properties and attributes.
MAT2c	Patterns	Children will recognize simple patterns in daily life and play experiences.

### MAT3: Spatial Reasoning and Geometry

MAT3a	Spatial Reasoning	Children will explore and describe the spatial relationships between objects, their environment, and themselves.
MAT3b	Shapes	Children will explore, visualize, and analyze shapes and shape attributes.

### MAT4: Measurement and Data Analysis

MAT4a	Measurement and Time	Children will explore and communicate about distance, weight, length, height, and time.
MAT4b	Logical Thinking, Reasoning, and Data Analysis	Children will use logical thinking and reasoning to solve meaningful problems and inform decisions.

## Communication

### LANGUAGE AND LITERACY (LLT)

*Understanding and Expressing by Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing*

Shows children's emergent skills in the areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Children use language skills to communicate with others while they develop literacy skills to read and write.

#### LLT1: Oral Language

LLT1a	Receptive Language	Children will gain information by understanding the meaning of words and gestures.
LLT1b	Expressive Language	Children will use words and gestures to express their thoughts, feelings and needs to others.
LLT1c	Social Rules of Language	Children will use, adapt and follow the rules of language.

#### LLT2: Emergent Reading

LLT2a	Comprehension	Children will demonstrate understanding of both the written and spoken word.
LLT2b	Phonological Awareness	Children will begin to recognize and associate word with sounds in spoken language.
LLT2c	Alphabet Knowledge	Children will demonstrate an emerging understanding that letters and letter sounds represent the sounds of spoken language.
LLT2d	Print Awareness and Book Handling	Children will construct meaning and appreciation of print.
LLT3	Emergent Writing	Children will demonstrate beginning understanding of the idea that marks on paper convey a message.

### CREATIVE ARTS (CRA) *Expressing Feelings and Ideas through Art, Music, Movement and Drama*

Offers the ways in which children use creative arts to express themselves. Moving beyond talking and listening, children may use different media such as drawing or acting to express their feelings and thoughts.

CRA1	Visual Arts	Children will demonstrate an increasing understanding and enjoyment of the visual arts through exploration.
CRA2	Music	Children will demonstrate an increasing understanding and appreciation of music as a form of self-expression.
CRA3	Movement and Dance	Children will demonstrate growing interest and control in rhythmic movements.
CRA4	Drama & Acting	Children will demonstrate an increasing understanding of drama through the exploration of actions and language.

## Physical Development and Health

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH (PDH) *Growing Strong, Healthy and Resilient*

Describes the way in which children develop coordination, strength, and control of their bodies and develop the knowledge about how to stay healthy.

#### PDH1: Motor Development

<b>PDH1a</b>	Gross Motor Development	Children will demonstrate increasing body awareness and control, strength and coordination of large muscles.
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<b>PDH1b</b>	Fine Motor Development	Children will demonstrate increasing strength, control and coordination of their small muscles.
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#### PDH2: Healthy Living

<b>PDH2a</b>	Healthy Habits	Children will show increasing independence in performing self care tasks.
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<b>PDH2b</b>	Safety	Children will demonstrate increasing awareness of safe habits, safety rules and personal safety.
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