

Alignment of Gee Whiz Education Curriculum with the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards

The Gee Whiz Education curriculum is a comprehensive approach designed to help educators address the unique needs of mixed-age groups. This document details specifically how the Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators align with those required in the state of New Jersey.

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

Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Standard 0.1: Children demonstrate self-confidence.	SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feeling freely and displaying confidence
Standard 0.2: Children demonstrate self-direction.	AL1 Shows interest in many topics and a desire to try new things AL2 Displays persistence when completing tasks and is able to avoid distractions
Standard 0.3: Children identify and express feelings.	SE3 Demonstrates self-regulation by handling emotions in an appropriate way and following simple rules SE4 Demonstrates a range of appropriate emotions
Standard 0.4: Children exhibit positive interactions with other children and adults	LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children
Standard 0.5: Children exhibit pro-social behaviors.	SE2 Demonstrates positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences

A full version of the New Jersey standards used to create this alignment document can be found at:
<https://www.nj.gov/education/earlychildhood/preschool/docs/PreschoolTeachingandLearningStandards.pdf>

Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	
Standard 1.1: Children express themselves through and develop an appreciation of creative movement and dance.	CA2 Uses movement and dance to express ideas and emotions
Standard 1.2: Children express themselves through and develop an appreciation of music.	CA1 Participates in musical activities including singing and utilizing instruments
Standard 1.3: Children express themselves through and develop an appreciation of dramatic play and storytelling.	CA4 Engages in pretend play with, or without, the use of props
Standard 1.4: Children express themselves through and develop an appreciation of the visual arts (e.g., painting, sculpting, and drawing).	CA3 Utilizes a variety of art materials (both two and three-dimensional) to express self
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	
Standard 2.1: Children develop self-help and personal hygiene skills. Standard 2.2: Children begin to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to make nutritious food choices.	PD1 Understands the importance of exercise and rest PD2 Takes pride in caring for self (e.g., brushing teeth, dressing, eating healthy foods, etc.)
Standard 2.3: Children begin to develop an awareness of potential hazards in their environment.	PD3 Practices safe habits and understands basic safety rules
Standard 2.4: Children develop competence and confidence in activities that require gross- and fine-motor skills.	PD4 Demonstrates gross motor skills (e.g., running, hopping, skipping, etc.) PD5 Demonstrates fine motor control (e.g., writing, pouring, cutting, etc.)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	
LITERATURE Key Ideas and Details Craft and Structure Integration of Knowledge and Ideas Range and Level of Complexity INFORMATIONAL TEXT Key Idea and Details Craft and Structure Integration of Knowledge and Ideas Range and Level of Complexity RI.PK.1 through RI.PK.10	LK1 Shows an interest in books and understands stories are a way of sharing information (this indicator applies to both fiction and non-fiction materials)
READING: FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS Print Concepts Phonological Awareness Phonics and Word Recognition Fluency RF.PK.1 through RF.PK.4	LK2 Understands that language is made up of words, which can be broken down into syllables LK3 Begins to name letters and identify their sounds LK4 Understands concepts about print (e.g., reading from left to right, logos as symbols, etc.)

Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (CON'T)	
<p>WRITING Text Types and Purposes Production and Distribution of Writing Research to Build Knowledge Range of Writing W.PK.1 through W.PK.6</p>	<p>LK5 Begins to use a variety of writing tools to use writing (invented and true) as a way to convey thoughts and ideas</p>
<p>SPEAKING AND LISTENING Comprehension and Collaboration Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas SL.PK.1 through SL.PK.6</p> <p>LANGUAGE Conventions of Standard English Knowledge of Language Vocabulary Acquisition and Use LK.PK.1 through LK.PK.6</p>	<p>LD1 Understands spoken language LD2 Understands and then uses and ever-increasing vocabulary LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants and needs LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</p>
APPROACHES TO LEARNING	
<p>Standard 9.1 Children demonstrate initiative, engagement and persistence. Standard 9.2 Children show creativity and imagination Standard 9.3 Children identify and solve problems. Standard 9.4 Children apply what they have learned to new situations.</p>	<p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and a desire to try new things AL2 Displays persistence when completing tasks and is able to avoid distractions AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences LR1 Demonstrates the ability to identify a problem and then seeks ways to solve it LR2 Understands that symbols or objects can be used to represent different things</p>
MATHEMATICS	
<p>Standard 4.1: Children begin to demonstrate an understanding of number and counting</p>	<p>MK1 Understands that numbers tell “how many” MK2 Recognizes that numbers go in a specific order</p>
<p>Standard 4.2: Children demonstrate an initial understanding of numerical operations</p>	<p>MK1 Understands that numbers tell “how many” MK2 Recognizes that numbers go in a specific order</p>
<p>Standard 4.3: Children begin to conceptualize measurable attributes of objects</p>	<p>MK5 Utilizes measurement (standard and nonstandard) to compare and contrast objects (includes graphing)</p>
<p>Standard 4.4: Children develop spatial and geometric sense</p>	<p>MK3 Recognizes shapes and positional concepts MK6 Sorts and groups objects based on common characteristics</p>

SCIENCE	
Standard 5.1: Children develop inquiry skills.	SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences
Standard 5.2: Children observe and investigate matter and energy. Standard 5.3: Children observe and investigate living things. Standard 5.4: Children observe and investigate the Earth. Standard 5.5 Children gain experience in using technology*	SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration
SOCIAL STUDIES, FAMILY, AND LIFE SKILLS	
Standard 6.1: Children identify unique characteristics of themselves, their families, and others.	SS1 Understands how families are unique and different
Standard 6.2: Children become contributing members of the classroom community.	SS2 Develops a basic understanding of community, including common jobs SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children
Standard 6.3: Children demonstrate knowledge of neighborhood and community.	SS2 Develops a basic understanding of community, including common jobs
Standard 6.4: Children demonstrate awareness of the cultures within their classroom and community.	SS1 Understands how families are unique and different SS4 Develops a baseline understanding of how the past affects us and our community
WORLD LANGUAGES	
Standard 7.1: Children know that people use different languages (including sign language) to communicate and will express simple greetings, words, and phrases in a language other than their own.	SS1 Understands how families are unique and different LD1 Understands spoken language LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs
TECHNOLOGY	
Standard 8.1: Navigate simple on screen menus. Standard 8.2: Uses electronic devices independently. Standard 8.3: Begin to use electronic devices to communicate Standard 8.4: Use common technology vocabulary. Standard 8.5: Begin to use electronic devices to gain information	Please see note below regarding technology. In addition, providers are encouraged to use cellphones (with children) to record information in a digital format. Please see lesson plans for specific examples.

**Note: Technology is utilized in a meaningful way in the Gee Whiz curriculum. When needed, to help children build background knowledge, lesson plans direct the provider to helpful internet resources. The purpose of this approach is to help children learn how they can use technology to locate information.*