

# Alignment of Gee Whiz Education Curriculum with the Virginia Milestones for Child Development (2008)

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 the standards for early childhood in the state of Virginia.

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](http://www.geewhizeducation.com) as well as in the Gee Whiz Education User's Guide.

Virginia Milestones for Child Development	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>LANGUAGE AND LITERACY</b>	
Strand 1: Listening and Speaking Strand 2: Phonological Awareness and Alphabetic Knowledge Strand 3: Print Awareness and Concepts Strand 4: Comprehension Strand 5: Early Writing	LD1 Understands spoken language LD2 Understands and then uses an ever-increasing vocabulary LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations LK1 Shows an interest in books and understands they are a way of sharing information 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.) LK5 Begins to use a variety of writing tools to use writing (invented or true) as a way to convey thoughts and ideas
<b>FINE ARTS</b>	
Strand 1: Dance Arts Strand 2: Music Strand 3: Theatre Arts Strand 4: Visual Arts	CA1 Participates in musical activities including singing and utilizing instruments CA2 Uses movement and dance to express ideas and emotions CA3 Utilizes a variety of art materials (both two and three-dimensional) to express self CA4 Engages in pretend play, with or without, the use of props

Full versions of the Virginia Milestones for Child Development used to create this alignment document can be found at:

<http://www.earlychildhood.virginia.gov/documents/milestones.pdf>

Virginia Milestones for Child Development	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>COGNITION AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE</b>	
<p>Strand 1: Learning About Mathematical Concepts            Sub-Strand A: Numbers and Operations            Sub-Strand B: Measurement            Sub-Strand C: Patterns and Relationships            Sub-Strand D: Shapes            Sub-Strand E: Spatial Sense            Sub-Strand F: Data Collection and Analysis            Sub-Strand G: Time and Sequence</p>	<p>MK1 Understands that numbers tell “how many”            MK2 Recognizes that numbers go in a specific order            MK3 Recognizes shapes and positional concepts            MK4 Creates, imitates and/or extends patterns            MK5 Utilizes measurement (standard and nonstandard) to compare and contrast objects            MK6 Sorts or groups objects based on common characteristics            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>
<p>Strand 2: Learning About the World            Sub-Strand A: Scientific Knowledge            Sub-Strand B: Scientific Inquiry and Exploration</p>	<p>SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences            SK2 Makes and tests predictions using simple experimentation            SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration</p>
<p>Strand 3: Learning About Families and Communities            Sub-Strand A: History            Sub-Strand B: Geography            Sub-Strand C: Economics            Sub-Strand D: Families and Communities</p>	<p>SS1 Understands how families are unique and different            SS2 Develops a basic understanding of community, including common jobs            SS3 Recognizes the importance of caring for the environment            SS4 Develops a baseline understanding of how the past affects us and our community</p>
<b>APPROACHES TO LEARNING</b>	
<p>Strand 1: Persistence            Strand 2: Curiosity and Initiative            Strand 3: Creativity and Inventiveness            Strand 4: Reasoning &amp; Problem-Solving</p>	<p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and 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>

Virginia Milestones for Child Development	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH</b>	
<p>Strand 1: Gross Motor Development</p> <p>Strand 2: Fine Motor Development</p> <p>Strand 3: Health and Well-Being</p>	<p>PD1 Understands the importance of exercise and rest</p> <p>PD2 Takes pride in caring for self (e.g., brushing teeth, dressing, eating healthy foods, etc.)</p> <p>PD3 Practices safe habits and understands safety rules</p> <p>PD4 Demonstrates gross motor skills (e.g., running, hopping, skipping, etc.)</p> <p>PD5 Demonstrates fine motor control (e.g., writing, pouring, cutting, etc.)</p>
<b>SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<p>Strand 1: Relationships with Others</p> <p>Strand 2: Learning About Self (Self-Perceptions)</p> <p>Strand 3: Expression of Feelings and Self-Regulation</p>	<p>SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children</p> <p>SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence</p> <p>SE3 Demonstrates self-regulation by handling emotions in an appropriate way and following simple rules</p> <p>SE4 Demonstrates a range of appropriate emotions</p> <p>AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences</p> <p>LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</p>