

# Alignment of Gee Whiz Education Curriculum with the Michigan’s Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Infant and Toddler Programs

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 developmental standards required in the state of Michigan for children (infants/toddlers).

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.

Michigan Early Childhood Standards (Infant/Toddler)	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>WELL-BEING</b>	
<p>Goal 1: Infants and toddlers experience environments where their physical health is promoted.</p>	<p>PD1 Understands the importance of exercise &amp; rest            PD2 Takes pride in caring for self (e.g., brushing teeth, dressing, eating healthy foods, etc.)            PD3 Practices safe habits and understands basic safety rules            PD4 Demonstrates gross motor skills            PD5 Demonstrates fine motor skills</p>
<p>Goal 2: Infants and toddlers experience environments where their social and emotional well-being is nurtured.</p>	<p>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 feelings freely and displaying confidence            SE3 Demonstrates self-regulation by handling emotions in an appropriate way and following simple rules            SE4 Demonstrates a range of emotions            AL2 Displays persistence when completing tasks and is able to avoid distractions            LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants and needs            LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</p>
<p>Goal 3: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they are kept safe from harm</p>	<p>PD3 Practices safe habits and understands basic safety rules            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 feelings freely and displaying confidence</p>

Full versions of the Michigan standards used to create this alignment document can be found at: [https://www.michigan.gov/mileap/-/media/Project/Websites/mileap/Documents/Early-Childhood-Education/gsrp/standards/ECSQ\\_IT\\_approved\\_422341\\_7.pdf?rev=94991865519f4c2093d3f3be3583da45a&hash=99160C23AE93F8FC83220D9E55B28100](https://www.michigan.gov/mileap/-/media/Project/Websites/mileap/Documents/Early-Childhood-Education/gsrp/standards/ECSQ_IT_approved_422341_7.pdf?rev=94991865519f4c2093d3f3be3583da45a&hash=99160C23AE93F8FC83220D9E55B28100)

Michigan Early Childhood Standards (Infant/Toddler)	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>BELONGING</b>	
<p>Goal 1: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they know they belong and have a place.</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>LD1 Understands spoken language</p> <p>LD2 Understands and then uses an ever-increasing vocabulary</p> <p>LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants and needs</p> <p>LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</p>
<p>Goal 2: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they are comfortable with routines, schedules, and activities.</p>	<p>SS1 Understands how families are unique and different</p> <p>SS2 Develops a basic understanding of community, including common jobs</p> <p>SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children</p> <p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and a desire to try new things</p>
<p>Goal 3: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they increasingly understand the nature and boundaries of acceptable behavior.</p>	<p>LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs</p> <p>LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</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>Goal 4: Infants and toddlers experience environments where positive connections among their families, the program, and the children are affirmed.</p>	<p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and a desire to try new things</p> <p>SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children</p>
<b>EXPLORATION</b>	
<p>Goal 1: Infants and toddlers experience environments where the importance of spontaneous play is recognized and play is valued as meaningful learning.</p>	<p>SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences</p> <p>SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration</p> <p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and a desire to try new things</p> <p>CA4 Engages in pretend play with, or without, the use of props</p>
<p>Goal 2: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they gain confidence in and greater control of their bodies.</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>

Michigan Early Learning Standards (Infant/Toddler)	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>EXPLORATION (CON'T)</b>	
<p>Goal 3: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they learn strategies for active exploration, thinking, and reasoning.</p>	<p>SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences</p> <p>SK2 Makes and test predictions using simple experimentation</p> <p>SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration</p> <p>LR1 Demonstrates the ability to identify a problem and then seeks ways to solve it</p> <p>LR2 Understands that symbols or objects can be used to represent different things</p>
<p>Goal 4: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they develop a growing sense of social relationships, the natural environment, and the physical world.</p>	<p>SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences</p> <p>SK2 Makes and test predictions using simple experimentation</p> <p>SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration</p> <p>SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children</p> <p>LD1 Understands spoken language</p> <p>LD2 Understands and then uses an ever-increasing vocabulary</p> <p>LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs</p> <p>LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</p>
<p>Goal 5: Infants and toddlers experience environments where their interests and initiative provide direction for learning opportunities and for the practice and mastery of developing skills.</p>	<p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and desire to try new things</p> <p>SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence</p>
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	
<p>Goal 1: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they develop attitudes and skills to communicate successfully with others.</p>	<p>LD1 Understands spoken language</p> <p>LD2 Understands and then uses an ever-increasing vocabulary</p> <p>LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs</p> <p>LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations</p>
<p>Goal 2: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they have opportunities to communicate through the use of symbols/pictures, signs, and stories.</p>	<p>LK1 Shows an interest in books and understands they are a way of sharing information</p> <p>LK2 Understands that language is made up of words, which can be broken down into syllables</p> <p>LK4 Understands concepts about print</p> <p>MK1 Understands that numbers tell “how many”</p>

Michigan Early Childhood Standards (Infants/Toddlers)	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
<b>COMMUNICATION (CON'T)</b>	
<p>Goal 3: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they discover and develop different ways to be creative and expressive about their feelings and thoughts.</p>	<p>CA1 Participates in musical activities including singing and utilizing instruments</p> <p>CA2 Uses movement and dance to express ideas and emotions</p> <p>CA3 Utilizes a variety of art materials (both two- and three-dimensional) to express self</p> <p>CA4 Engages in pretend play with, or without, the use of props</p>
<b>CONTRIBUTION</b>	
<p>Goal 1: Infants and toddlers experience environments where the opportunities for learning are equitable, irrespective of gender, ability, age, home language, ethnicity, or background.</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 emotions</p> <p>AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences</p>
<p>Goal 2: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they are affirmed as individuals.</p>	<p>SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence</p> <p>LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants and needs</p> <p>AL1 Shows interest in many topics and a desire to try new things</p>
<p>Goal 3: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they are encouraged to interact and learn with and alongside others.</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 emotions</p> <p>AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences</p>
<p>Goal 4: Infants and toddlers experience environments where they and their families are empowered to make contributions within the program and as members of their communities.</p>	<p>SS1 Understands how families are unique and different</p> <p>SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence</p> <p>LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants, and needs</p>