

GETTING STARTED

With Your **experience** **preschool** Curriculum

WELCOME

What's
in the
bus box?

Circle Time &
classroom displays







Welcome!

The following pages will introduce you to the Experience Preschool Curriculum system. If you have any questions, please call us at 231-276-6302.

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What's inside the box?

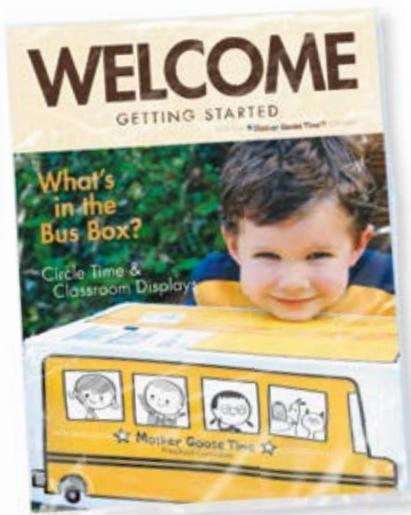
Your first Experience Preschool box contains different types of bags with materials to help you teach:

Daily Discovery Bags (20 total)

Getting Started Bundle

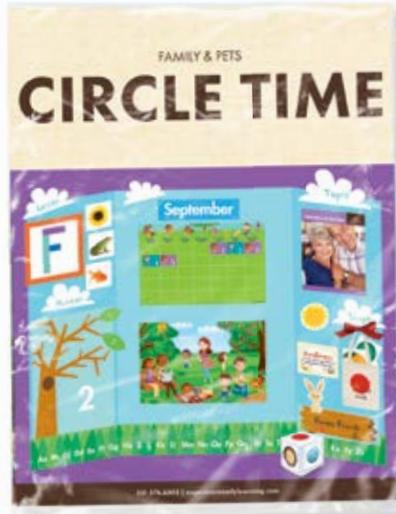
Circle Time Bag

Teacher Tool Bag



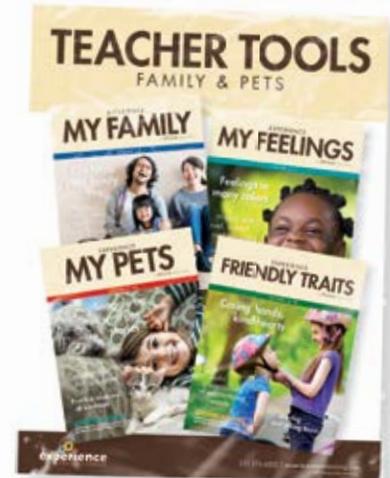
Getting Started Bundle

Read this Getting Started booklet for a step-by-step guide on how to use the curriculum and set up your learning space. Included are complementary Circle Time Display pieces and tools to be used throughout your experience.



Circle Time Bag

In the Circle Time Bag, you will find manipulatives and other hands-on tools that can be used all month long to explore each thematic study's featured shape, color, numbers and letters.



Teacher Tool Bag

Your monthly reference and lesson planning materials are in the Teacher Tool Bag. Inside the bag, you will find the Teacher Guide, Skills Chart, Theme Web, Activity Calendar and Gathering List.

Daily Discovery Bags

Each Curriculum Kit includes 20 Daily Discovery Bags. Daily Discovery Bags are filled with the art supplies, games, storybooks, photos, recipes and science materials that you will use with the daily recommended activities in your Teacher Guide. The materials are conveniently packaged and prepped by day.

WEEK 1



WEEK 2



WEEK 3



WEEK 4



How do I set up Circle Time and classroom displays?

Set up your Circle Time Display* and collect new pieces to add to it each month.

Letter

Number

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5		1	2	3	

Topic

Grandma & Grandpa week 1 LESSON 5

Shape

Kindness
We can encourage others by putting their feelings first.

circle

Forest Friends

Xx Yy Zz

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff

I'm a Little Helper
Ideas for Teaching Responsibility

Dancing with My Family
DANCE 'n BEATS

o Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt

CIRCLE TIME DISPLAY

Letter

Number

Topic

Cloud Labels

Tape the Letter Cloud in the sky to display the featured letter and phonic photos. Attach the Number Cloud above the Number Tree. Use the Topic Cloud to label the Daily Conversation Poster.



Number Tree

Plant your Tree Poster above the alphabet grass. Adhere your own clothespins to the branch. Each month features two new numbers. Hang the cardboard numbers (included in your monthly kit) from the clothespins.

Alphabet Strip

Cut the grass strips in half and then fringe cut along the top of the paper. If your display area is larger than the alphabet strip, use the extra green paper to extend the width of your grass. Tape to secure.



Calendar Month Labels

Place the appropriate label above your monthly calendar. Calendars and daily pattern cards can be found in your monthly Circle Time Bag.

Shape Sack

Integrate a new Shape Sack into your lessons each month. Use it to help children identify the shape and color for the month.



Forest Friends

Reinforce character traits with Forest Friends, who always offer a gentle lesson and fun adventure. Story lines about patience, resourcefulness, honesty and more are provided each month.

Circle Time Music

Play the "Circle Time Song" every morning to invite children to join you on the rug. Sing songs all day as transitions. (Available in Member Resources.)



Weather Sign and Display Pieces

Children change the weather pieces in the sky to reflect the day's weather.

Pocket Cube

Use the Pocket Cube with the provided Cube Cards (or other pictures to create your own game).



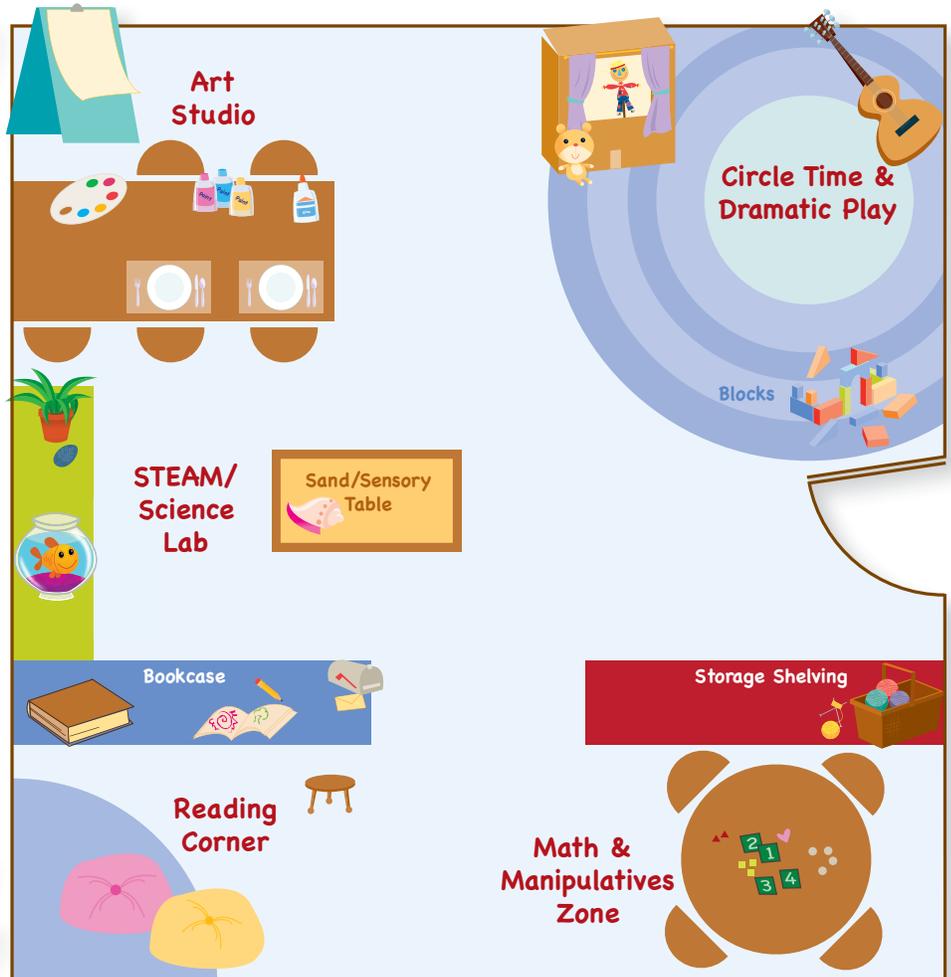
Calendar

Each month, receive a new calendar with day pieces that create a pattern. Put up one day piece each morning.

Room Set-Up

This room layout is only one suggested arrangement. Given your unique space, consider organizing your room layout to best fit the needs and traffic patterns of your children. Place louder, more active learning areas together. On the opposite side of the room, set up the quieter play or reading areas. Large group or circle time space can be an extension of larger activity areas, such as dramatic play or block areas. Remember to decorate walls or hang children's artwork at a child's eye level. By designing spaces for a child's height, interests and activity levels, you communicate to the children that they belong.

Active
(Louder)
WET



Passive
(Quieter)
DRY

What's in the Teacher Tool Bag?

This bag includes the following items every month:

- Teacher Guides
- Theme Web
- Supplied Core Tools & Gathering List
- Weekly Activity Skills Charts



The weekly **Teacher Guides** are your day-by-day lesson plan books, featuring over 100 theme-based discussion and activity ideas for each month. You receive one 4-week set in each monthly kit.

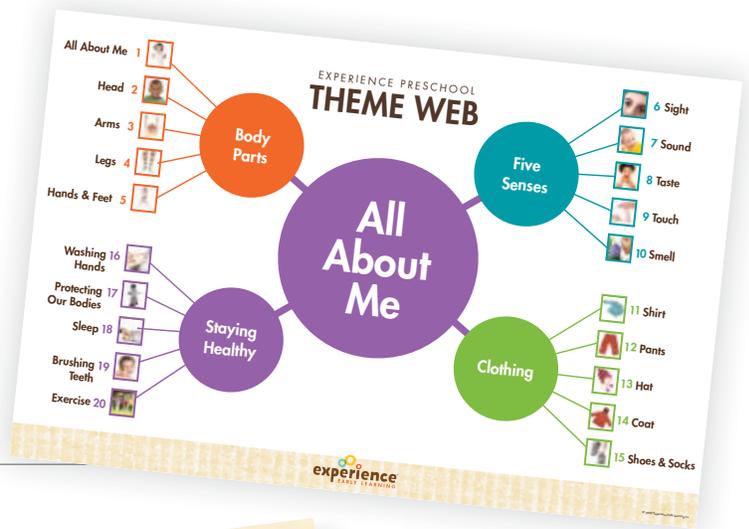
Inside the Teacher Guide, there are **daily lesson plans** featuring Circle Time, Small Group, Table Top, Storytime, Creative Corner and ideas for open-ended STEAM stations. The consistent layout for every lesson plan will help you quickly find the information you need.



At the front of each Teacher Guide is a **quick peek** overview of the upcoming games, materials and activities in math, literacy, music, art and STEAM.



The **Theme Web** helps you, your children and their parents see how the month's theme is organized. The monthly theme is in the middle circle. The weekly "big ideas" are in the four surrounding circles. The Daily Discovery topics branch out from the weekly "big idea" circles. If desired, add more investigation topics according to the interests of your children.



The **Supplied Core Tools** sheet displays convenient charts to help you find the games, tools or projects packed in the Daily Discovery Bags. This is a highlighted list—look inside your kit to find much, much more.



The **Gathering List** is a convenient indicator of supplies that we recommend you gather. Most required supplies are provided in the Daily Discovery Bags, but a few items (such as blankets or baskets, and STEAM Supplies) are not.



The **Weekly Activity Skill Charts** are printed posters to hang on your wall. These are your one-week lesson plans at a glance. They tell you:

- The type of activity
- The title of activity
- The skills children learn while participating in the activity
- Which skills to assess (see ★)

Steam Stations

Also inside each Teacher Guide are five suggested **STEAM station** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) ideas that you can explore with your children. Use materials you have around your home or center. Hang a "Big Question" prompt and Inspiration Photos (available online in Member Resources or for purchase in our online store) to enhance your STEAM station set-up.

What's in the Daily Discovery Bags?

Explore a digital music library

Each thematic study also includes access to an online music collection that helps reinforce concepts and introduces a new music genre with unique rhythm patterns and instruments.

Letter and phonic concepts

See, touch and hear letters. This collection helps children identify letters and sight words of the month. Play literacy games and even make play dough letters.



Daily Conversation Posters

Hang daily posters where children and parents can see the topic of the day.



Math manipulatives

Count, sort and problem-solve with included Counting Cards and Math Story Cards.



Logic games

Games, puzzles and manipulatives are included monthly to encourage problem-solving, cooperation and spatial awareness.



Daily Discovery Bags include a diverse set of teaching materials that invite children to play, sing, dance, create and share.

We have packaged the materials according to the lesson in which you will introduce them. Therefore, all you need to do each morning is grab a bag, open your Teacher Guide and be ready to explore learning with your children.

We have designed the Core Tools to be used in many different ways to support sensory experiences that build language, math, science, art, physical and social-emotional skills. Each month, you will receive the following theme-connected sets of tools:

Write, cut and color

Scribbling, drawing and making continuous marks are the early stages of writing. Children have many opportunities to build emergent writing skills with the My Little Journal, Postcard and monthly games.



Visit the Member Resources page on our website for daily coloring printables!

Friendship builders

Children learn to take turns, help out and share while participating in friendship games.



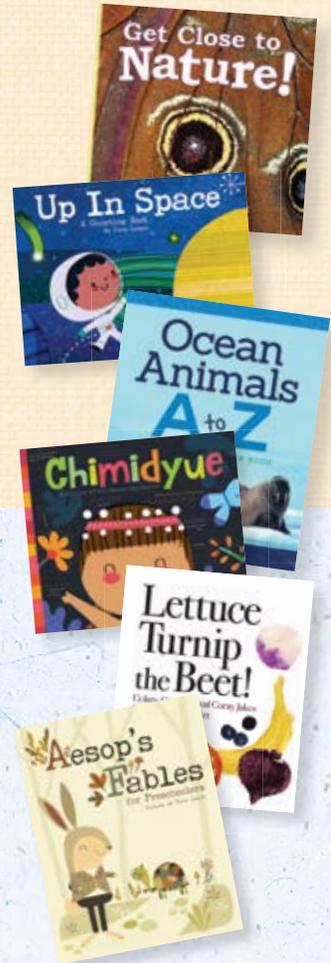
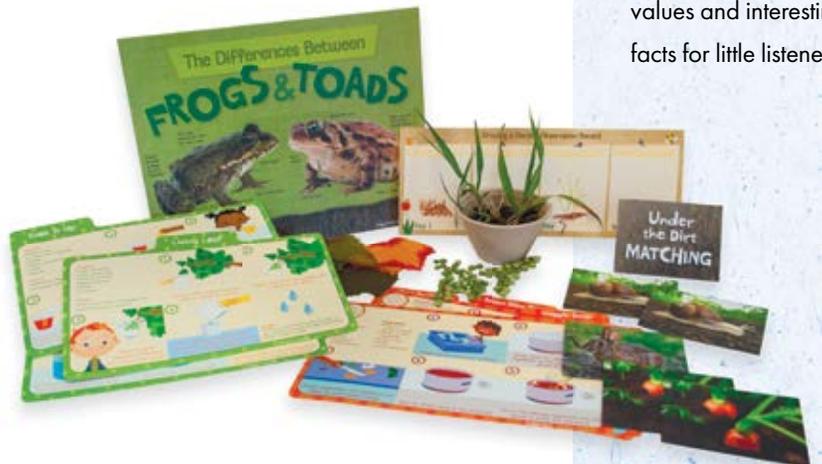
Storytelling and books

The book of the month comes with a Storytelling Scene and Pieces.



STEAM projects and ideas

Children participate in daily science, technology, engineering, art and math projects.

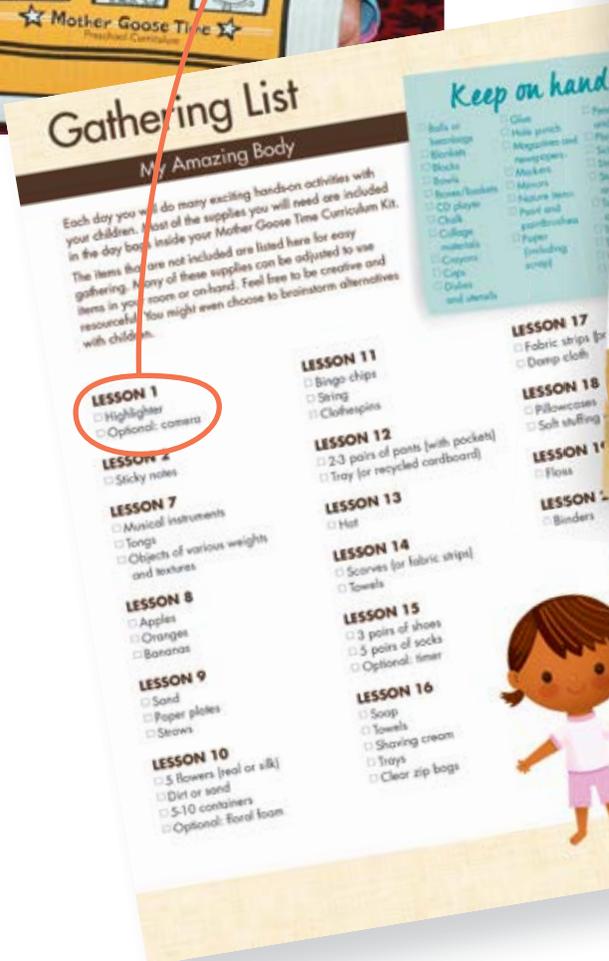


Build a book library

Each thematic study features an exclusive storybook to help educators build a high-quality library. Books include a variety of fiction and nonfiction stories representing cultural diversity, good values and interesting facts for little listeners.

1, 2, 3, Teach!

Now that you understand what is in your box and how the materials are packaged and labeled, you're ready to put it all together. It's Experience Preschool!



It's easy!
 Just open your Teacher Guide to the lesson. Match the lesson number to the Daily Discovery Bag number. Gather any extra supplies, and you're ready to teach.



About Me

week 1
LESSON 1



SMALL GROUP MATH Measure Me

SUPPLIES
YOUR SUPPLIES
1. Blocks
2. Optional:
-scissors

Discuss and Explore
• Invite children to play with blocks and explore different ways to stack them.
• As children play, ask them to predict how many blocks tall they are.
• Use comparative vocabulary, such as "taller than" and "shorter than."

Play Together

- Invite one child to lie on the floor.
- Encourage the other children to help you line up blocks and measure the child.
- Count the blocks (e.g. "Jimmy is 7 blocks tall").
- **Simplify:** Use masking tape to make a line the same length as the child. Place blocks on the line.
- **Challenge:** Explore measuring other objects in the room. Compare lengths.

OBserve: Did the child use the blocks to measure? What challenges did the children navigate when measuring?

STORY CORNER



I Like Me!

By Nancy Carlson
Illustrated by
Suzanne Lanza

- Before reading, invite each child to say something they like to do. Write their ideas on a large piece of paper.
- Ask children to predict what the character in the story might like to do. Show the story and read a few pages in the book to support the discussion.
- Read the story and compare what the children and main character like to do.

Closing Time

Reflection

- Invite children to gather near the display of self-portraits and take turns talking about each drawing. Invite each child to share what he liked doing today.
- Celebrate each child's uniqueness, along with how we are all similar.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

I'm Special

- Play "I'm Special," track 1 on the Head to Toe CD.
- Call out different body parts during the song. Invite children to move only that body part as they move to the music.
- Encourage leadership by inviting a child to roll up a body part for others to move.

"I love how everything is compiled together for me for the entire month. I can spend more time doing the other things in life that need my attention as well!" BECKY SMITH, MI

What's an example routine for the day?

A consistent routine comforts children and helps them find rhythm in the day.

A Word About Daily Routines

A daily routine will create an environment in which children can experience a variety of planned and unplanned (yet intentional) activities. Children thrive under a balance of active and quiet times. Offer children a variety of learning experiences that include individual, small and large group settings. Within each of these settings, invite children to determine how long you explore each activity and in what ways the activity evolves.

hours of intended instruction each day.

We suggest extensions and activities to carry you through free play and extended day schedules. Our recommended schedule is for a full day, but please adapt as necessary to fit your time and children.

Experience Preschool activities offer approximately three

Go
Outdoors



Rest



Sing
and Dance



FULL-DAY SCHEDULE

Arrival - 8:30 am	Meet and greet Welcome each child. Encourage free exploration of activity areas.
8:30 - 9 am	Circle Time Children sit in a large group and discuss the questions of the day. Children explore the weather and calendar then participate in a Community Challenge.
9 - 10 am	Free play and centers Children explore the activity areas and build with blocks, make art, play dress-up or choose books to explore.
10 - 10:15 am	Snack Children participate in snack prep, handwashing, serving and clean-up.
10:15 - 11:30 am	Small group and centers While a few children participate in the activities from the Teacher Guide with you, others play freely in the activity areas while waiting for their turn.
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Outside play Children participate in active play outdoors.
12:30 - 1 pm	Lunch Children participate in food preparation, handwashing, serving and clean-up. Family style meals are a great way to expose children to social, mathematic and language skills.
1 - 3 pm	Rest time Provide quiet activities, such as soothing music, low lights, books or individual toys that create a restful ambiance.
3 - 3:15 pm	Snack Children participate in snack prep, handwashing, serving and clean-up.
3:15 - 3:45 pm	Story time Explore books, letters, rhymes and storytelling. Use your own books or the included books in your Experience Preschool Curriculum.
3:45 - 4:30 pm	Outside play Children participate in outdoor activities and experience nature in play. Bring "indoor" materials outside to blend the indoor/ outdoor experience.
4:30 - 5 pm	Music closing time Children participate in the closing song and reflect on the day's activities.



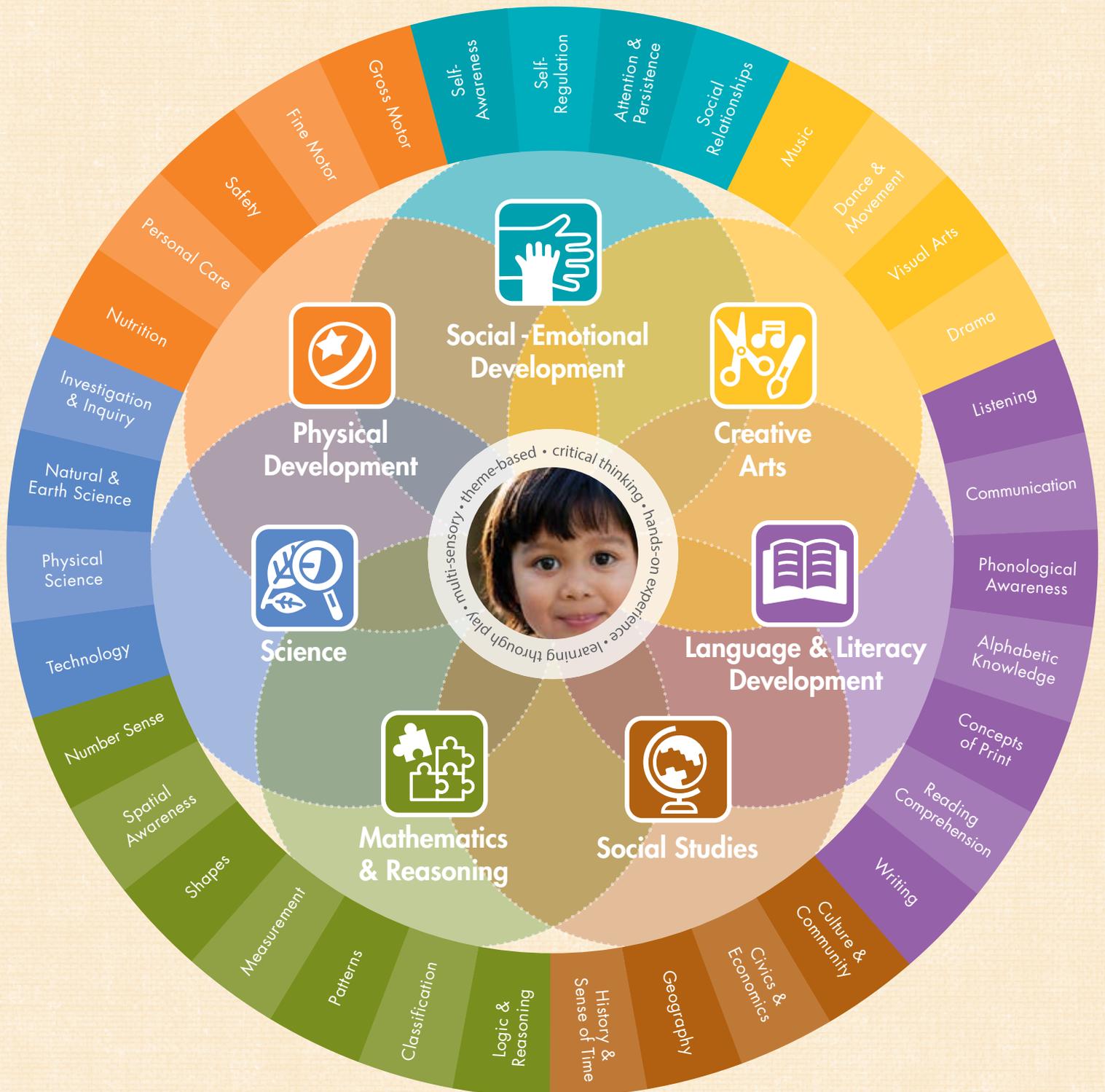
Designed to be taught in a classroom or under a tree. Create a schedule that works for you and your children.

HALF-DAY SCHEDULE

Arrival - 8:30 am	Meet and greet
8:30 - 8:45 am	Circle Time
8:45 - 9:45 am	Free play + STEAM Stations
9:45 - 10 am	Snack
10 - 11 am	Small group + table top + choice time
11 - 11:30 am	Outside play
11:30 - 11:45 am	Music closing time

What do children learn?

Experience Preschool nurtures the child's social-emotional, physical, language and cognitive development. The child naturally learns 35 foundational skills as he plays, sings, creates and shares.



How do I assess and document learning?

1. Observe skills as they naturally occur

Look for an activity with a star. Observe the child's use of the skill as he naturally participates in the game or project.



2. Record observations

If you follow the star system, after three months, you will have an assessment rating with supporting child work samples for all skill goals.



★ 3. Save work samples

Each day, children play and create new projects included in the Experience Preschool Curriculum. Save child work or take photos as evidence of the child's skill level. Put the skill label on the back of child's work to connect the recorded skill rating to the child's work.

Download and print labels from the Experience Preschool website under Member Resources.



4. Reflect on learning

Invite children to decorate their own binder or box to store their work samples and learning memories. Printable binder covers are available on our website under Member Resources. Reflect on the child's learning and consider ways to adapt future lesson plans.



Quick Tips

How do I know...?

How do I know if the child is using the skill?

To help you observe and document, we have embedded assessment prompts at the bottom of many activities. These correspond to the benchmarks indicated on the Developmental Continuum chart listed in the back of each Teacher Guide.



TABLE TOP MATH

Tangram Body

NR 3 Shapes | ID 1 Self-Awareness

SUPPLIES

- Tangrams
- Shape Design Mats

YOUR SUPPLIES

- Playdough



Set Up

- Place the Shape Design Mats, playdough and tangrams on the table.

Independent Play

- Invite children to freely play and build designs with the tangrams.
- If desired, they can recreate the tangram shape design pictures.
- Extend the experience by demonstrating how to make shape imprints by pressing the tangrams into playdough.

OBSERVE: Does the child use the tangrams to recreate the puzzle pictures?

How do I know a child's skill level?

To help you determine a child's skill level, we have written activities within the Teacher Guides to correspond to the benchmark level 5 on the continuum chart.

- Benchmark 2** Assessed activity requires simplification for the child to complete it.
- Benchmark 3** The child completes the assessed activity with help.
- Benchmark 4** The child completes the assessed activity on his own.
- Benchmark 5** The child completes the assessed activity with ease and extends it.

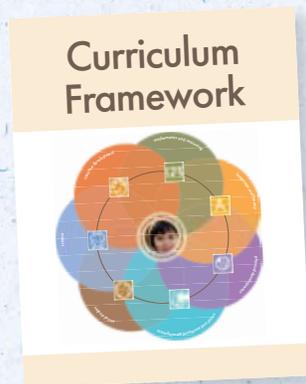
Membership with Perks!

Member Resources

Log into your account online to access more assessment tools and support materials.



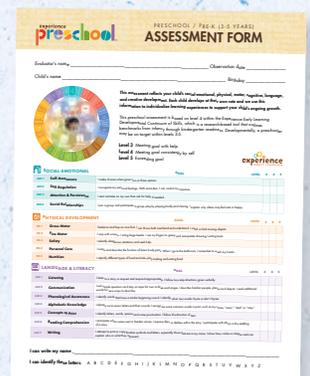
Research Foundation



Curriculum Framework



Scaffold learning tips for each assessed activity



Child Progress Monitoring form

Make the most of your curriculum

Experience Preschool offers a range of training and professional development opportunities, giving you the tools to learn, do and share.

START with Success

Live trainings give you the tools to maximize the use of your curriculum. To learn more, visit us online in the help center.

On-demand Professional Development

Maximize the use of your Experience Preschool Curriculum. Resources are available online, so you can watch videos whenever it's convenient for you. Visit Member Resources on our website (www.experiencecurriculum.com) to access free trainings.

FOUNDATION 1

Lesson Planning

- Dig in to the Teacher Guide
- Establish roles and routines for smoother days
- Understand each of the core tools
- Stay organized with your materials



<https://bit.ly/2R7Ny2j>

FOUNDATION 2

Skills and Assessment

- Identify the 35 Developmental Skills
- Observe and document growth
- Create a Child Portfolio



<https://bit.ly/3k6jOz1>

Join a Group

As a member of the Experience Early Learning community, you have exclusive access to our professional learning circles. Join a small group of your peers to share ideas and innovate creative solutions.

Groups are forming now.



- 1** Log in to Facebook and search for private groups:
Mothergoosetime > Homeschoolers
ExperienceCurriculum > PreschoolTeachers
- 2** Share photos, ask questions, give ideas and join discussions.
- 3** These small groups are made of educators just like you sharing ideas and creative solutions. Stay connected all year and build a stronger community of support around early childhood education.

Customize your curriculum!

Add-ons make Experience Preschool uniquely yours

Enhance your monthly Curriculum Kit with theme-connected, supplemental resources that match the goals of your program and the developmental needs of your children.



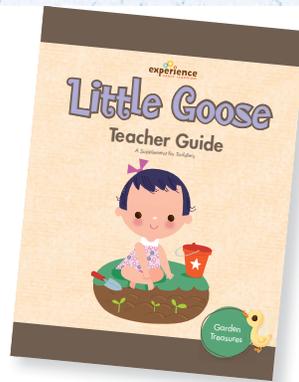
0 - 18 MONTHS

EXPERIENCE BABY

A relationship-based curriculum providing experiences to support learning and development.

Teacher Pack \$49⁹⁹ + shipping

Child Pack \$9⁴⁰ + shipping



18 MONTHS - 2½ YEARS

LITTLE GOOSE

Little Goose is a Teacher Guide supplement and includes

Tray Play ideas and activity adaptations for toddlers.

Monthly Supplement \$21⁴⁰**



AGES 4-6 YEARS

MORE MATH AND MORE LITERACY

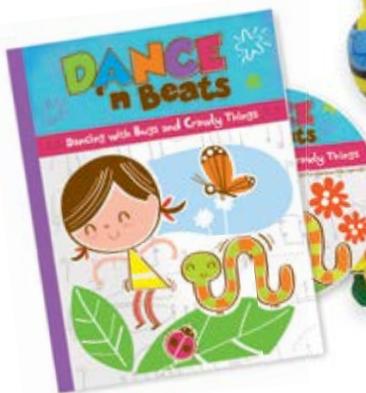
Challenge your advanced, older learners with daily activities that reinforce kindergarten-ready math and literacy skills.

Two books for only \$8⁹⁰*

EXPERIENCE TOY BOX

Themed toy collections connect play and learning.

Toys, Activities & Tote \$196⁹⁹ + shipping



DANCE 'N BEATS

The dance DVD and activity book connect with the Experience Preschool thematic CD.

DVD & Guidebook \$23²⁰*



EXPERIENCE GOD

Daily devotional with weekly Christian crafts.

Teacher Pack \$21⁴⁰*

Child Craft Pack \$7⁴⁷*

*Shipping rates applied when purchased without curriculum.

** Little Goose is a supplement and must be ordered with Experience Preschool Curriculum Kit. Pricing subject to change.



Quick checklists

Planning and preparing for the year, month, week, day and every activity.

YEAR

- Set up the **Circle Time** display.
- Distribute the **Family Fliers** (download then email or print for parents).
- Create a binder for each child's **Learning Portfolio**.
- Join one of our **private Facebook groups**.



MONTH

- Read and display the **Theme Web**.
- Gather storytime books from your local library (see the "Quick Peek" pages at the front of each Teacher Guide).
- Distribute the **Family Newsletter** (in Daily Discovery Bag 1 or online).
- Participate in **professional development trainings**.



WEEK

- Read about the week's **Theme** and learn background information to share with children.
- Review the weekly **Learning Objectives and Overview**.
- Make notes for any extra activities or outings you want to do.



DAY

- Read the daily **Lesson Plan** (in the Teacher Guide).
- Collect supplies from the **Gathering List** (and provided supplies in the Daily Discovery Bag).
- Display the **Conversation Poster** (from each Daily Discovery Bag) for parents and children to see when they arrive.



ACTIVITY

- **Discuss:** Make notes of child quotes.
- **Explore:** Observe and write anecdotes.
- **Play:** Follow the child's lead and adapt or extend the experience.
- **Assess:** Record the child's skill level and save work in the Child Portfolio.



Celebrate!

You nurtured a child's heart & mind for life-long learning.

