

GETTING STARTED

With Your  Curriculum

What's in the bus box?

Learn how to use
your curriculum

Classroom setup ideas

 **brightwheel**

Experience Preschool
is now available digitally
in brightwheel!

 **Experience**
CURRICULUM





Welcome!

The following pages will introduce you to the Experience Preschool Curriculum system. If you have any questions, please contact us.

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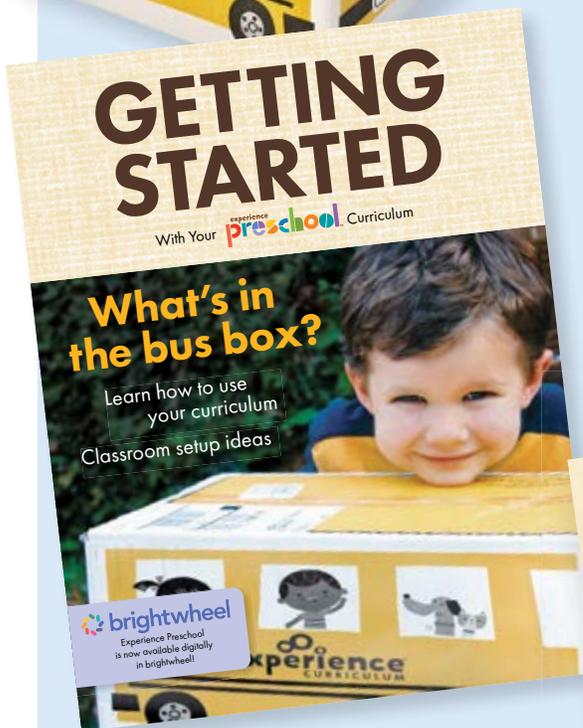
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What's inside the box?

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

- Getting Started Bundle
- Circle Time Bag
- Teacher Tool Bag
- Daily Discovery Bags (20 total)



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 and materials that you will use with the daily recommended activities in your Teacher Guide. The materials are conveniently packaged and prepped by day.

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.

WEATHER STATION (Welcome Kit)

CALENDAR & PIECES (Circle Time Bag)

CONVERSATION POSTER (Daily Discovery Bag)

SHAPE & COLOR CARD (Circle Time Bag)

Letter

Number

Feelings Check-In

Shape & Color

Forest Friends

Alphabet Strip

Letter Card & Word Strips (Circle Time Bag)

Number Card (Circle Time Bag)

Feelings Check-In Pockets (Welcome Kit)

Theme Poster (Circle Time Bag)

Forest Friends Trait (Circle Time Bag)

Circle Time Setup

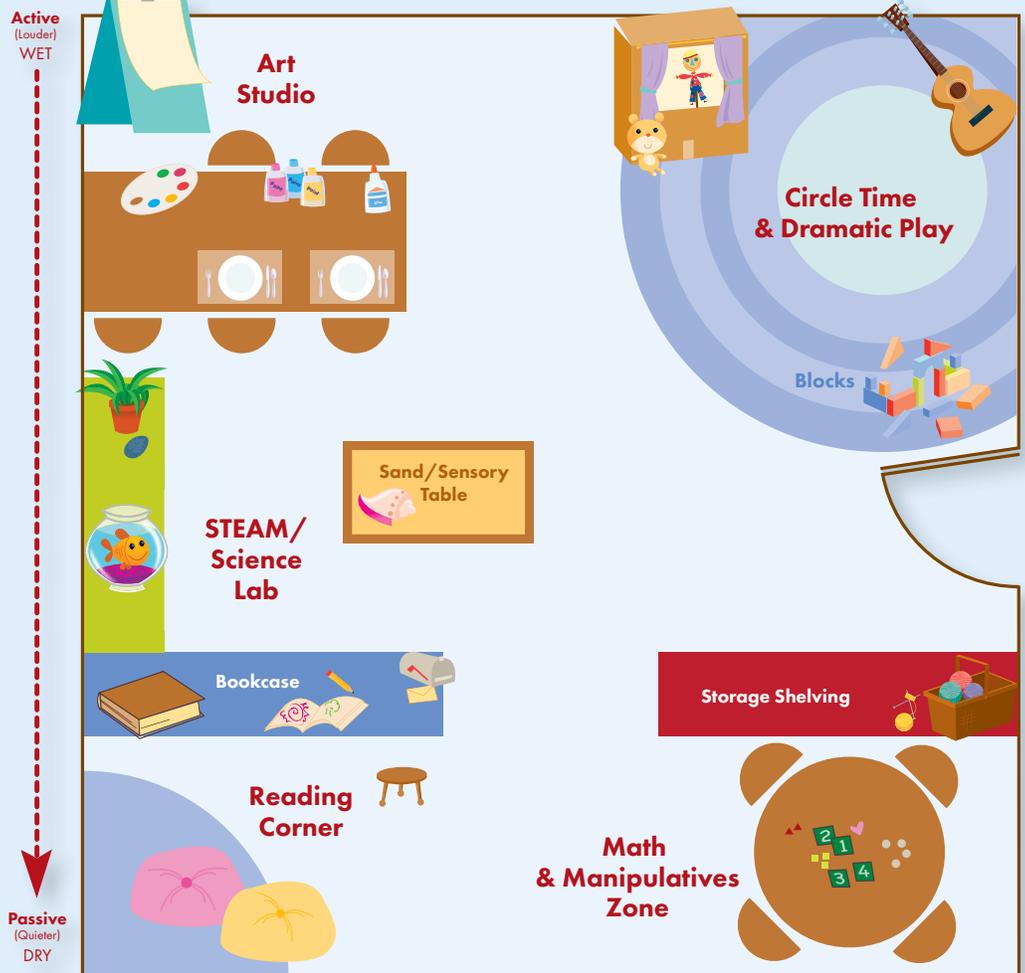
Your Welcome Kit and Circle Time bags contain everything you need to set up a Circle Time display and update it monthly. Some pieces, such as the Alphabet Strip and Weather Station, will remain for the year, while others, like the Calendar and Theme Posters, will change monthly. Letter Cards and Conversation Posters will be changed throughout the month as the curriculum requires. Please see the example/sample display.

In addition to your display pieces, your Circle Time Bag will contain tools that will be used throughout the month for various activities. You may choose to display some of these pieces when not in use.



Setting Up Your Learning Space

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.



To help you designate areas in your learning space for specific purposes, we've provided a variety of Station Signs in your Welcome Kit.

What's in the Teacher Tool Bag?

This bag includes the following items every month:

- Teacher Guides
- Theme Web
- Weekly Activity Skills Charts
- Gathering List
- Tracks & Lyrics



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.

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 each month through literacy games and sensory play.



Daily Conversation Posters

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



Math manipulatives

Count, sort and problem-solve with included Counting Cards and Math Story Cards. Make patterns, designs and shapes with monthly Manipulatives.



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.



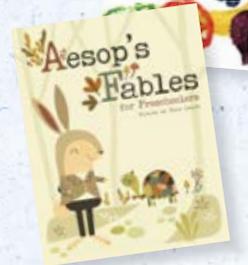
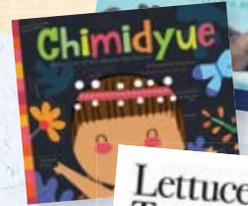
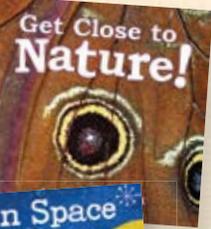
Storytelling and books

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.

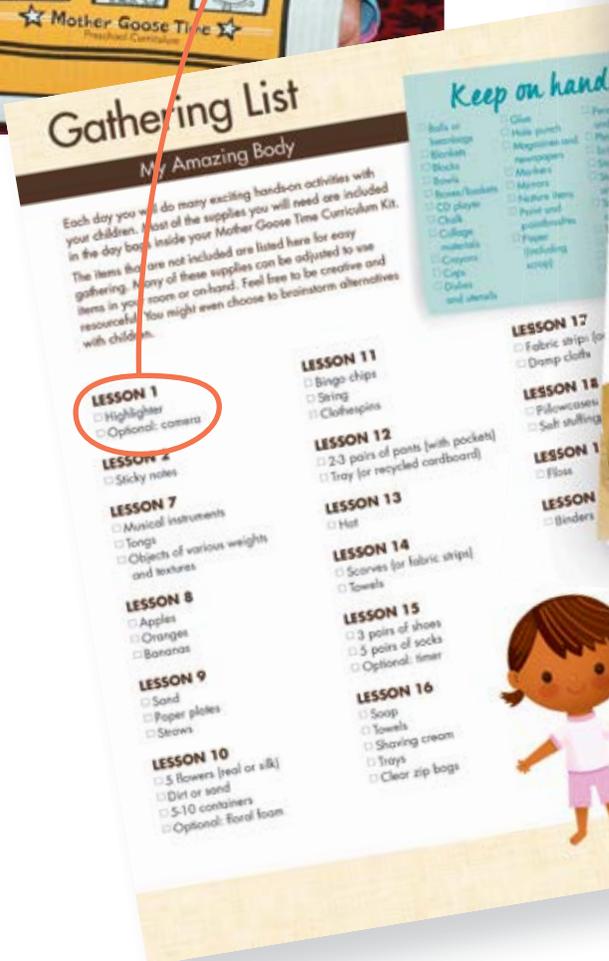


Build a book library

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 time to 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.

All About Me

week 1
LESSON 1



MY AMAZING BODY LESSON 1

Measure Me
REQUIREMENT 1.1.1 | STANDARD C.1.1.1.2 | 2010A H.1.1.1.1.1

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.
- The 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").
- **Strategy:** 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.

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

STORY CORNER

I Like Me!
By Nancy Carlson
MUSIC CD CONNECTION 1.1.1.1.1 | 2010A H.1.1.1.1.1

- 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 page and a few pages in the book to support the discussion.
- Read the story and compare what the children and main character like to do.

STEAM STATION DRAMATIC PLAY

TABLE TOP LITERACY

My Name
REQUIREMENT 1.1.1.1.1 | 2010A H.1.1.1.1.1

SUPPLIES FOR EACH CHILD

- Naming

YOUR SUPPLIES

- Highlighter
- Crayons
- Paper

Set Up

- Use a highlighter to write each child's name on a nametag.
- Set out crayons and extra paper on a table or tray.

Independent Play

- Invite children to trace as desired over the letters on the nametags with crayons.
- Encourage children to explore writing more letters or letter-like symbols on the extra paper.

CONNECTION: Observe the child's grip, ability to control the movements of the crayon, and how many (if any) letters the child can write independently.

Closing Time

Reflection

- Invite children to gather near the display of all 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
MUSIC CONNECTION 1.1.1.1.1 | 2010A H.1.1.1.1.1

- Play "I'm Special," back 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 having a child to call out 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?

Experience Preschool is flexible to meet the needs of your program. Create a schedule that works for you.



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.

Experience Preschool activities offer approximately three 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.

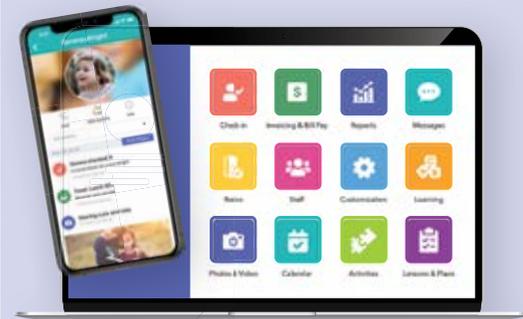


FULL-DAY SCHEDULE

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.



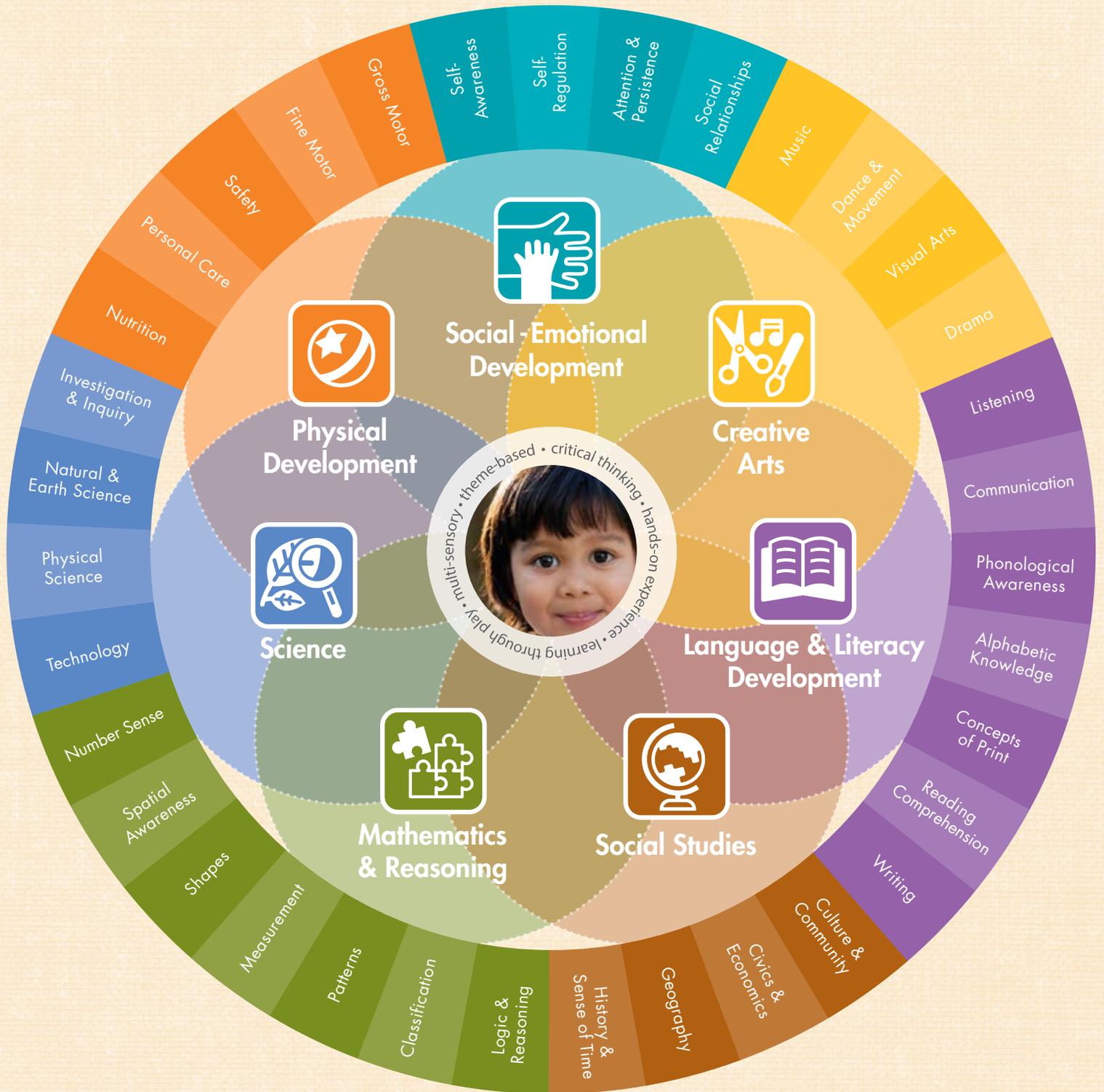
With Experience Preschool in brightwheel you can easily design your day to fit your needs. Each activity will be available to drag and drop to the day or time you'd like to complete it. Then, easily share the day's plan with families to increase engagement.



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 they play, sing, create and share.

Learning Assessment Basics

Experience Preschool uses a skill-based assessment system to identify learning goals and objectives.

The Teacher Guides indicate these skills under each activity title. You can also find these listed by day in the Weekly Activity Skill Charts. You'll notice that some activities have stars next to them. These will be explained on the next pages.

How do I assess learning?

Look at each activity's skills. Observe the child's use of the skills as they naturally participate. Some activities highlight specific skills to assess for the month. These are marked with a star ★ (see next page for more detail).

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

We have embedded observation prompts at the bottom of most daily activities. These correspond to each activity's highlighted skills.

I've observed. Now what?

Record your observations via our Star Assessment system (see the next page). You may also choose to keep additional records for your reference and development.



Assess this skill

TABLE TOP MATH

Tangram Body

MR 3 Shapes

SUPPLIES

- Tangrams*

YOUR SUPPLIES

- Playdough

Set Up

- Place the 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: Observe how the child uses the materials. Does the child use the tangrams to recreate the puzzle pictures or fit them onto self-made playdough imprints?

Use this observation prompt to observe the child working



Use brightwheel to record daily observations, share pre-populated activity notes with families, track development and create summary reports of a child's developmental benchmarks.

Star Assessment Basics

Our Star Assessment system focuses on specific activities to ensure that every three months, children are being assessed for each skill in our 35-skill system. We provide monthly tools to assess and highlight these starred activities.

★ Every daily lesson plan features at least one starred activity. Look for them in your Teacher Guides and the Weekly Activity Skill Charts. Observe the child participating in these particular activities, then record your findings in the monthly observation tools described below.

The Developmental Continuum of Skills: This chart helps you determine each child's numbered level in each activity's skills. You can find an abridged version of this chart in the back of each Teacher Guide. Find the skill you're examining and relate your observations to a description in the chart. For example, for the Tangram Body activity on the previous page, let's say the child you're observing is able to identify four to six basic geometric shapes while they work. According to the chart, that would put them at Benchmark 4.

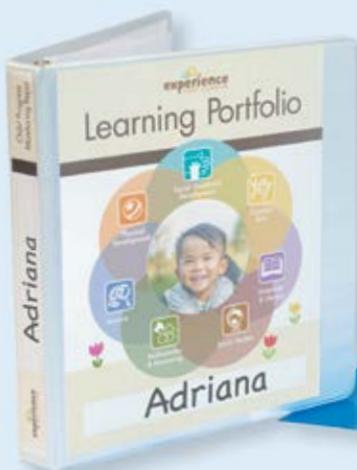
The Observation & Documentation Planning Calendar and Group Observation Form: This is a calendar and form for your reference as you work through the month's starred activities with your children. In addition to skill level, we've included a key for more nuanced assessment, where you can indicate whether the child's skill is emerging or they're meeting it on their own.

The Individual Assessment Chart: In addition to providing assessment tools for your reference, we also provide individual monthly assessment forms for each child's caregiver(s). This is a form that goes home and gives families a peek into what you're working on. It also provides space for future learning goals and notes.



Building a Child's Learning Portfolio

In addition to assessment forms, we provide tools to build a learning portfolio of each child's educational journey throughout the year. Download and print the Learning Portfolio cover and pages from the Experience Preschool website under Member Resources. 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. Children can decorate their own binders or printable binder covers are available on our website under Member Resources. We also provide a monthly Portfolio Memory Page for children to reflect on each month's experiences.



Membership comes with Perks!

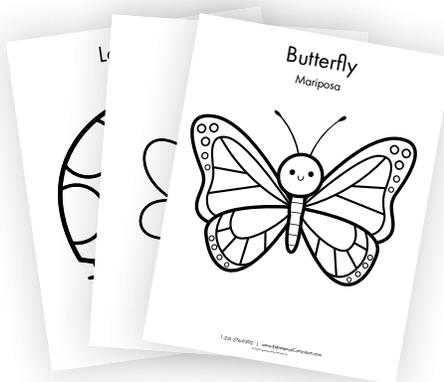
With your purchase of any Experience Preschool curriculum theme, you also receive exclusive member access to many online resources that extend your thematic study and new tools that will help you market, manage and grow your childcare business. You can also find printable versions of many materials provided, in case you need more! Just click on the **Member Resources** tab on our home page to get started!



Inside each Teacher Guide are five suggested **STEAM Stations** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math). Explore these with your children using materials around your learning space by gathering the supplies listed in the overview booklet, then hanging a "Big Question" discussion prompt and Inspiration Photos related to the activity. High-quality STEAM materials are also available for purchase online.



Monthly **Assessment Activities** sheets provide scaffolded setup and assessment ideas for each starred activity.



Bonus **Coloring Sheets** are provided for each themed day. Use them in your learning space or send them home to extend the fun!



Recommended Book Lists are a comprehensive list of each day's recommended book.

Use our **Master Label Set** to label items around your learning space that get regular use. If you don't see what you need in the provided list, we've included a page of blanks for you to use at your discretion.



Make the most of your curriculum!

We offer a range of training and professional development opportunities, giving you the tools to learn, do and share.



Connect with fellow educators!

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 on Facebook. These small groups are made up 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.

To get started, search Experience Curriculum on Facebook.



Training & Professional Development

Blog

Inspired Learning Blog supports educators with tangible resources, classroom support and educational articles on research-based best practices. Find the Inspired Learning Blog at blog.experienceearlylearning.com

On-demand trainings

Our training platform offers free foundation courses for Experience Preschool, Toddler, and Baby curricula; as well as many courses on teaching strategies, parent communication, safety routines and other topics. Some courses are available in Spanish.

Weekly live trainings

We're excited to offer weekly live trainings that include a certificate for 1 credit hour of continuing ed, subject to approval in your state.

Professional development

We also offer live, custom-tailored onsite or virtual workshops and technical assistance at your chosen location. We work with you to determine the session or sessions that best support your program goals. A variety of workshop options can be personalized to your needs.

To learn more about training options, please contact our Support Team via email or live chat on our website!

Make Experience Preschool uniquely yours

Enhance your monthly Preschool Curriculum with theme-connected, supplemental resources that match your program goals 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 \$51⁴⁹ + shipping

Child Pack \$9⁶⁸ + shipping

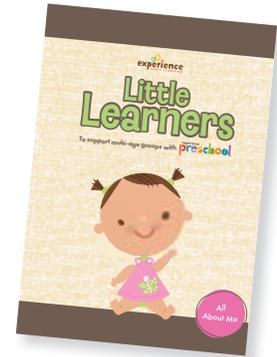


18 MONTHS - 3 YEARS

EXPERIENCE TODDLER

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

Starting at \$109⁹⁹



18 MONTHS - 2½ YEARS

LITTLE LEARNERS

Little Learners is a toddler supplement to the Preschool curriculum and includes Tray Play ideas and activity adaptations for younger learners in multi-age group settings.

Monthly Supplement \$22⁰⁴**



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.

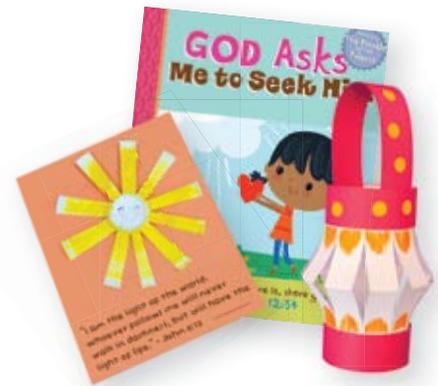
Two books for only \$9¹⁷*



DANCE 'N BEATS

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

DVD & Guidebook \$23⁹⁰*



EXPERIENCE GOD

Daily Christian devotional with weekly crafts.

Teacher Pack \$22⁰⁴*

Child Craft Pack \$7⁶⁹*



EXPERIENCE TOY BOX

Themed toy collections connect play and learning.

Toys & Activities \$202⁹⁰ + shipping

Order online at
ExperienceCurriculum.com

*Shipping rates applied when purchased without curriculum.

**Little Learners 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.

Keep on hand:

- Balls or beanbags
- Blankets
- Blocks
- Books
- Bowls
- Boxes/baskets
- Camera
- CD player
- Chalk
- Collage materials
- Crayons
- Cups
- Dishes and utensils
- Glue
- Hole punch
- Magazines and newspapers
- Markers
- Mirrors
- Nature items
- Paint and paintbrushes
- Paper (including scrap)
- Pencils (colored and writing)
- Playdough
- Scissors
- Spoons
- Stapler
- Sticky notes
- Stuffed animals and toys
- Tape (clear and masking)
- Tote bag
- Towels
- Trays
- Tubs/buckets
- Water
- Yarn/string

YEAR

- Set up the **Circle Time display**.
- Distribute the **Family Fliers** (in Member Resources).
- Create a binder for each child's **Learning Portfolio**.
- Join our **private Facebook group**.
- Gather **on-hand supplies**.



MONTH

- Read and display the **Theme Web** and **Weekly Activity Skill Charts**.
- Gather storytime books from your local library (consult the Quick Peek section of your Teacher Guide or the Recommended Book List in Member Resources).
- Distribute the **Family Newsletter** (in Daily Discovery Bag Lesson 1 or in Member Resources).
- Participate in **professional development trainings**.



WEEK

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



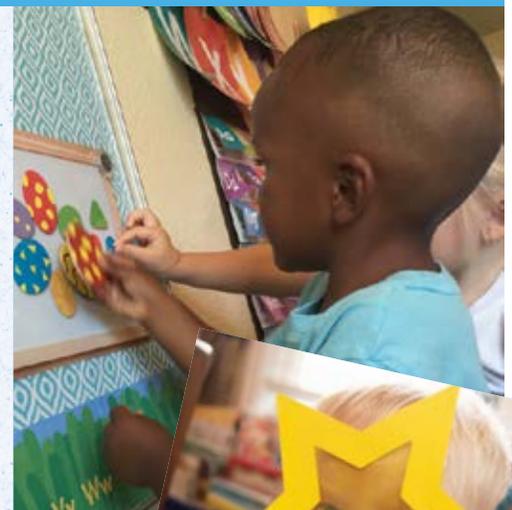
DAY

- 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 families 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.



Celebrate!

You nurtured a child's heart & mind and set them up for life-long learning.



