

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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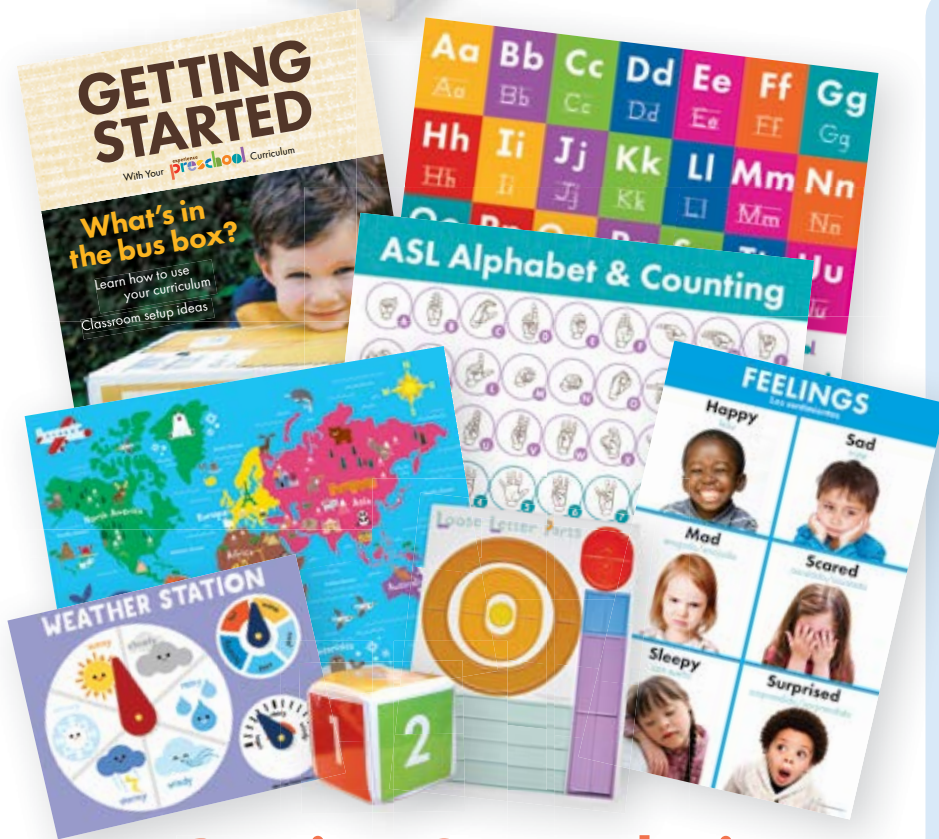
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What's inside the box?

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

Getting Started Kit
Circle Time Materials
Lesson Pack Bundle
Lesson & Weekly Supply Bags



Getting Started Kit

Your Getting Started Kit contains resources and materials to help you set up your learning space and Circle Time display before your first day of teaching.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Getting Started Guide
Developmental Continuum
of Skills Poster
Circle Time Displays & Posters
Weather Station
Title Cards
Monthly Calendar Labels
Feelings Pockets
Alphabet Strip
Loose Letter Parts
Alphabet Cards & Number Cards
Pocket Cube
Songs & Transitions
Daily Routines
Station Signs
Calming Corner Supplies
I'm a Little Helper Resource
Sign Language Poster
World Map Poster
Alphabet Poster
Shape & Color Poster
Feelings Poster



What's in the Lesson Packs Bundle?

The Lesson Packs Bundle comes in each themed box.

It is clearly labeled in orange packs ready to go.

Inside, you'll find three types of packs that work together to support a full month of teaching: Weekly Lesson Materials, Teacher Tools Pack and Circle Time Materials.

Weekly Lesson Materials

Each Pack includes five lessons, clearly labeled so you can find them easily.

The white sticker on each pack tells you how many children's materials are included that match your subscription.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Daily Conversation Poster
- A Family Newsletter per child (Week 1)
- My Creative Mind Daily Notes (1 per child)
- Games
- Posters
- Nametags
- Math & Literacy Materials
- Cube Cards
- My Little Journals
- I Can Read Books
- Portfolio Memory Page
- Forest Friends: Draw & Dictate
- Postcards
- & More!



What's in the Teacher Tool Pack?

This pack includes the following items every month:

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

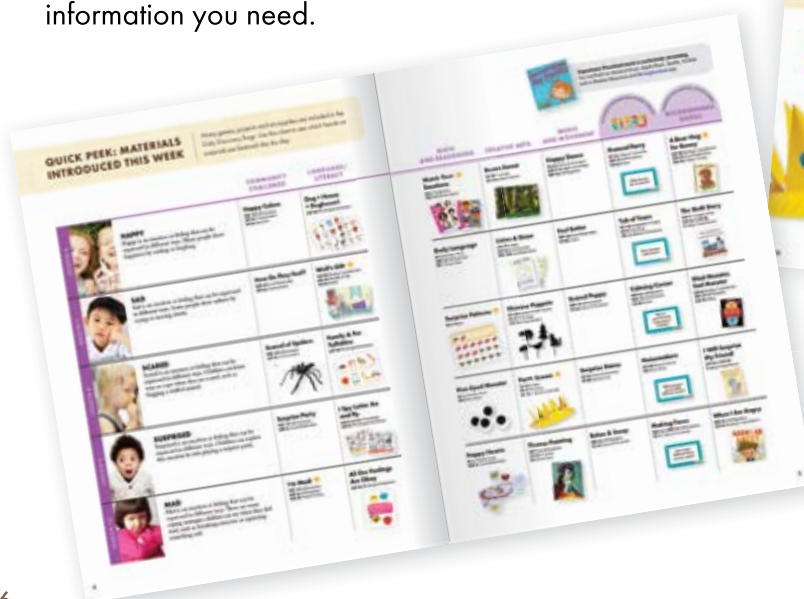


Open this first!
 It contains your planning and reference materials for the entire month.

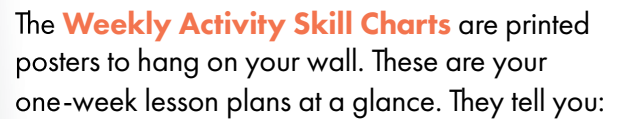


The weekly **Teacher Guides** are your day-by-day lesson plan books, featuring over 100 theme-based discussion and activity ideas for each month. You receive one 4-week set in each monthly kit.

Inside the Teacher Guide, there are **daily lesson plans** featuring Circle Time, Small Group, Table Top, Storytime, Creative Corner, Closing Time 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.



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What's in the Lesson Packs and Supply Bags?

Explore a digital music library

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



Language & Literacy foundational skills

Phonological awareness, phonics and language comprehension activities and games that engage children in play-based exploration paired with explicit instruction.



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.



Materials come in daily and weekly Supply Bags. Lesson Packs and Supply Bags include a diverse set of teaching materials that invite children to play, sing, dance, create and share. We have designed the materials 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.



Friendship builders

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

A Forest Friend book and materials are provided each month to support social-emotional development by exploring character traits, building relationships and practicing guided problem-solving through storytelling and play.



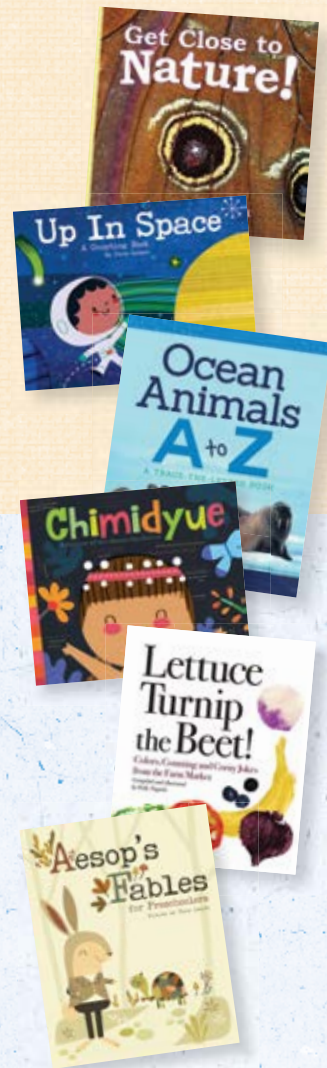
Storytelling and books

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



STEAM projects and ideas

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



Build a book library

Each thematic study features exclusive books to help educators build a high-quality library. Books include a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts that offer relatable themes, rich and varied vocabulary, engaging storytelling and interesting facts for young 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!

Open your Teacher Guide to the lesson. Match the lesson number to the Lesson Pack and Supply Bag numbers. Gather any extra supplies, and you're ready to teach.

Surprised

week 2
LESSON 9

SHALL GROUP MATH
Five-Eyed Monster
M.1a Number Sense: MD.2 Fine Motor

SUPPLIES
☐ Wiggle Eyes
☐ Number Cards 1-6
☐ Pocket Cube*

YOUR SUPPLIES
☐ Playdough
☐ Scissors

Discuss and Explore

- How many eyes do you have? Help the children count one number to one eye. What if you saw a monster with five eyes? How would you feel?
- Explain that the children will play a number game to add eyes to their monsters.

Play Together

- Place the cards in the cube. Invite a child to roll the cube and identify the number. If needed, identify the number for them.
- Invite the children to put that many wiggle eyes on their playdough monster. Repeat.
- Simplefy:** Lay out five wiggle eyes. Invite the children to match their wiggle eyes one-to-one.
- Challenge:** Invite the children to count wiggle eyes using higher number cards.

OBSERVE: Does the child count up to five wiggle eyes?

TABLE TOP LITERACY
I Spy Aa and Pp
LSD 4 Reading Knowledge: LBS 3c Phonological Awareness

SUPPLIES FOR EACH CHILD
☐ I Spy Coloring sheet
Aa, Pp
☐ I Spy Glasses
Aa, Pp

YOUR SUPPLIES
☐ Crayons

Set Up

- Set out the I Spy Coloring sheets, the I Spy Glasses and crayons.

Independent Play

- Show the children the I Spy Coloring: Aa side. Say the letter A and the /a/ sound. Provide an example of a word that begins with the letter Aa.
- Encourage the children to find and color pictures that begin with the /a/ sound. Invite them to find the upper- and lowercase letter Aa.
- Repeat for the letter Pp.

OBSERVE: Does the child identify the upper- and lowercase Aa and Pp and say the sound? Do they say or find words that start with /a/ and /p/?

Closing Time

REFLECTION
LSD 3a Communication: LBS 3d Self-awareness

- Who would you want to surprise? How would you do it?

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT
Surprise Dance
LSD 3a Communication: MD 4b Physical Literacy

- Play "Surprised (Instrumental)," track 5 on the Dancing with My Family album.
- Invite the children to listen and dance quietly to the beat of the calm music. Encourage them to pop up with surprise and dance with energy to the excited music.
- Have different body parts. Explore moving just that part in different ways and with different energy levels.



"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

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
(Getting Started Kit)

CALENDAR & PIECES
(Circle Time Bag)

CONVERSATION POSTER
(Lesson Pack)

SHAPE & COLOR CARD
(Circle Time Bag)



LETTER CARDS
(Circle Time Bag)

NUMBER CARDS
(Circle Time Bag)

ALPHABET STRIP
(Getting Started Kit)

FEELINGS CHECK-IN POCKETS
(Getting Started Kit)

THEME POSTER
(Circle Time Bag)

FOREST FRIENDS TRAIT
(Circle Time Bag)

What materials are included for Circle Time?

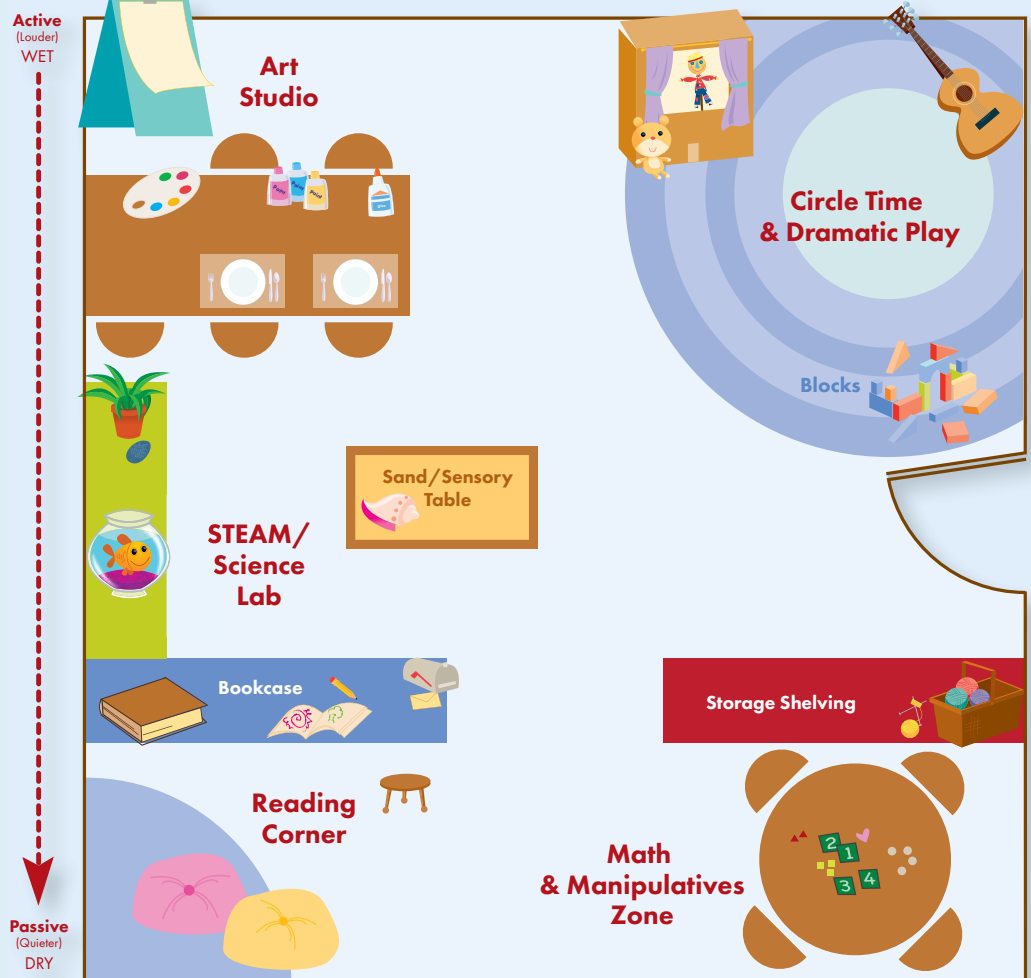
Your Getting Started Kit and Circle Time bags contain everything you need to set up a Circle Time display and update it monthly. Some pieces, such as the Alphabet Strip and Weather Station, will remain for the year, while others, like the Calendar and Theme Posters, will change monthly. Letter Cards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

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.

Our recommended schedule is for a full day, but please adapt as necessary to fit your time and children.

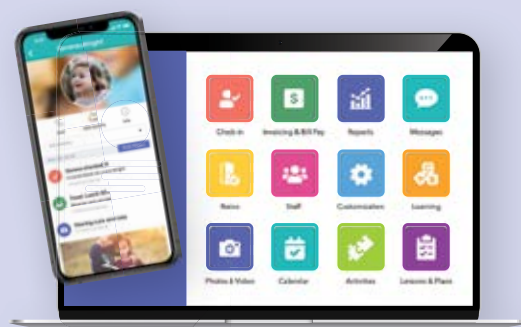


FULL-DAY SCHEDULE

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 participate in Alphabet Adventure to learn letter names and sounds through daily chants, poems or activities, 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	Storytime Explore books, letters, rhymes and storytelling. Use your own books or the included books in your Experience Preschool Curriculum. Storybook Connections engage children with a themed book across multiple reads to build vocabulary, reinforce print concepts, strengthen comprehension and encourage movement and story retelling.
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 is available to drag and drop to the day or time you'd like to complete it. 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 each child's development based on up-to-date research. The child naturally learns 36 foundational skills as they play, sing, create and share.

Experience Assessment Guidance

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

All activities within our curriculum focus on specific skills that children are developing during early childhood. To support observing and documenting these skills, each activity lists the corresponding sub-skills. You'll notice that some activities have a star ★ next to them, indicating that the activity will be assessed.

Experience Assessment uses a star system to highlight specific activities throughout the month. These starred activities ensure that across a three-month period, children are being assessed for each of the 73 sub-skills across 36 skills. Every daily lesson plan features one starred activity. Additionally, there will be a monthly starred STEAM activity and Storytime Connection, as well as one or two general skills to observe throughout each week. Look for the stars in your Teacher Guides. Use the Weekly Assessment Plans in the back of the teacher guide to plan your observations.

How do I assess learning?

Look at each activity's sub-skills. Observe the child's use of the sub-skills as they naturally participate in the activity. Refer to the Developmental Continuum of Skills and observation guidance pages in the Experience Assessment User Guide to determine how much a child has progressed on the target sub-skills.

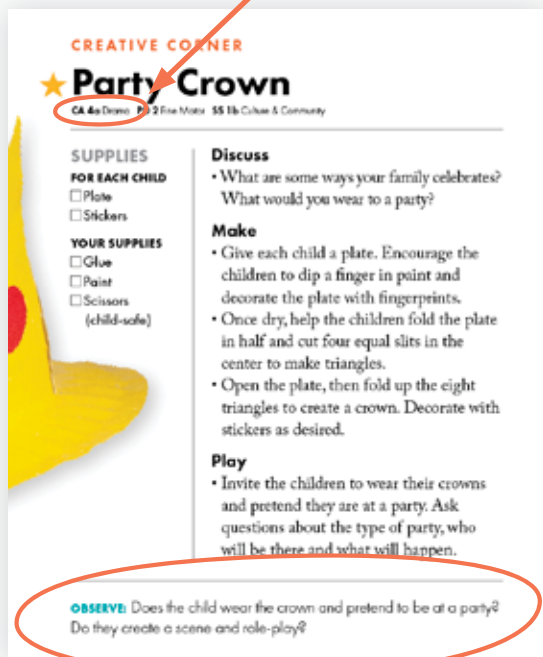
How do I know if the child is demonstrating the skill?

Our Experience Assessment User Guide provides support with observing every level of each sub-skill. Additionally, most daily activities include observation prompts that correspond to the activity's highlighted sub-skills. To assign a benchmark, all pieces of the benchmark must be observed.

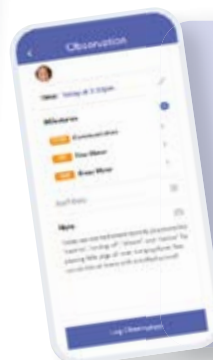
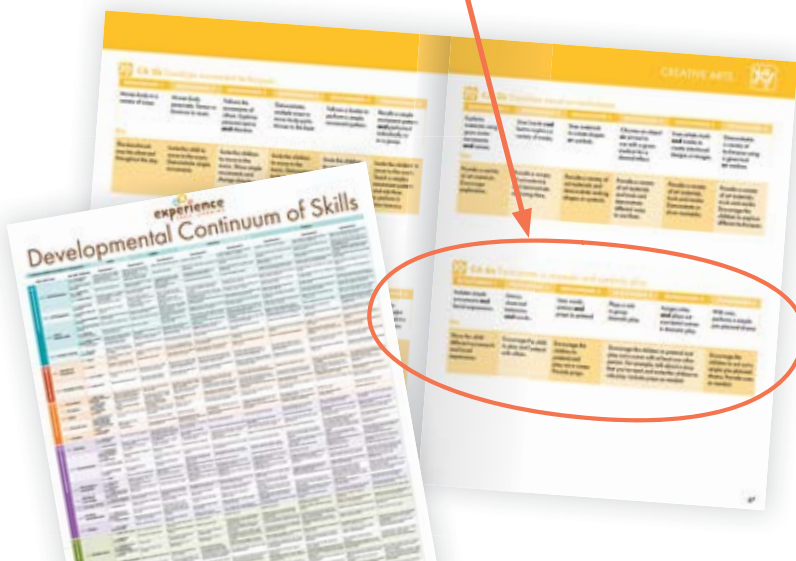
I've observed. Now what?

Record your findings from the observations. There is space for recording observations on the Individual Observation Form and Group Observation Form that can be found in Member Resources.

Assess this skill



Use this observation prompt to observe the child, then analyze your observations.



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.

Experience Assessment Materials



Experience Assessment focuses on specific activities to ensure that every three months, children are being assessed for each skill in our system. We provide these tools to support assessment.

Experience Assessment User Guide

This guide includes instructions on how to assign benchmarks and guidance for observing each sub-skill. The observation guidance pages are used for support in collecting assessment data during observations. Each page provides the benchmarks for a given sub-skill, as well as guidance on how to observe for each benchmark.

The Experience Developmental Continuum of Skills

This continuum is based on research and outlines the progression of developmental milestones and skills that children typically achieve from birth through early primary grades. The Developmental Continuum of skills is broken down into eight domains, which contain 36 skills further divided into 73 sub-skills. When observing, find the sub-skill you're examining and relate your observations to a benchmark description in the chart.

Group Observation Form

Supports recording observations by sub-skill. May be used in a group setting.

Individual Observation Form

Supports recording observations for each child individually. All domains and sub-skills are represented.

Child Progress Report

Supports sharing observations with families for each domain of learning.

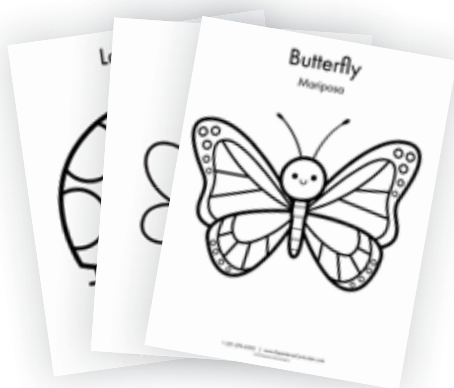
Membership comes with Perks!

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! Visit us online for additional materials through **Member Resources**.



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. Gather the supplies listed in the overview booklet, then hang a "Big Question" discussion prompt and Inspiration Photos related to the activity. High-quality, pre-printed STEAM materials are also available for purchase.



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.



Spanish Teacher Guides to support bilingual instruction.

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!

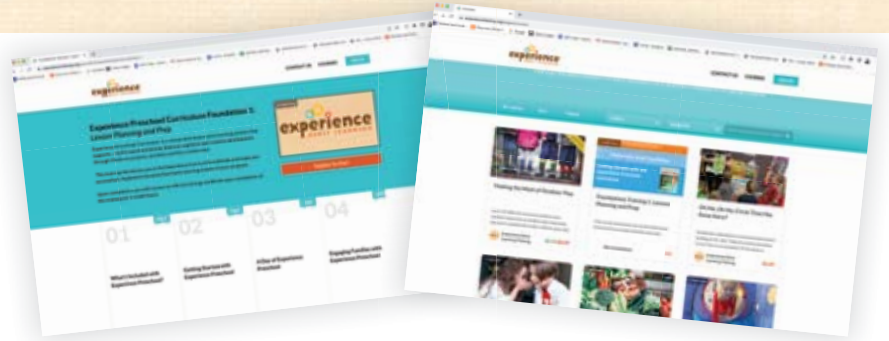
We offer a range of training and professional development opportunities, giving you the tools to learn, do and share.



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

Getting Started Webinar

A 30-minute webinar session to help you start with Experience Preschool curriculum. We'll provide the support you need to effectively use the curriculum from day one.

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.

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.



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.



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.



SPANISH LITERACY KIT

A bilingual supplement to support literacy instruction in Spanish. Includes a guide, Spanish books and instructional materials aligned to the Science of Reading.



DANCE 'N BEATS

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



EXPERIENCE GOD

Daily Christian devotional with weekly crafts.

EXPERIENCE TOY BOX

Themed toy collections connect play and learning.



Have questions? Get in touch with us!
ExperienceCurriculum.com

Quick checklists

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

Keep on hand:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Bags | ☐ Containers | ☐ Playdough |
| ☐ Balls | ☐ Crayons | ☐ Sand |
| ☐ Beanbags | ☐ Cups | ☐ Scissors (child-safe and teacher) |
| ☐ Bins/buckets | ☐ Glue (white glue and glue sticks) | ☐ Spoons |
| ☐ Blanket/sheet/towel | ☐ Hole punch | ☐ Spray bottles |
| ☐ Blocks | ☐ Magazines and newspapers | ☐ Stapler |
| ☐ Books | ☐ Markers | ☐ Sticky notes |
| ☐ Bowls | ☐ Mirrors | ☐ Stuffed animals |
| ☐ Boxes/baskets | ☐ Nature items | ☐ Tape (clear and masking) |
| ☐ Chalk | ☐ Paint (tempera and watercolor) | ☐ Tote bag |
| ☐ Colored and regular pencils | ☐ Paintbrushes | ☐ Trays |
| ☐ Construction paper (multi-color) | ☐ Paper (including scrap) | ☐ Yarn/string/ribbon |

YEAR

- ☐ Set up the **Circle Time display**.
- ☐ Distribute the **Family Fliers** (in Member Resources).
- ☐ 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 Lesson 1 Pack or in Member Resources).
- ☐ Participate in **Curriculum implementation/foundations training**.



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 Lesson Pack and Supply Bags).
- Display the **Conversation Poster** (from Lesson Pack) 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 to be used for future goals and family communication.



Celebrate!

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



