

## Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards

### Overview

Standards and benchmarks reflect the knowledge and skills that a child on a developmental progression should know and be able to do at the end of an age-related timeframe. In 2017, the Office of Early Learning convened a group of national and state early learning content experts to review current standards and recommend revisions to ensure that standards are rich, interactive and lead to better preparation for children based on current research to support high-quality standards. [The Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards – Birth to Kindergarten \(2017\)](#) were adopted by the State Board of Education in December, 2017.

### Standard Domains

The standards address the following eight early learning and developmental domains reflecting a child's expected age-appropriate progress:



**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT** (general health and development of physical skills involving large and small muscles)



**APPROACHES TO LEARNING** (attitudes, behaviors and learning styles)



**SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (the ability to establish and maintain positive relationships with others)



**LANGUAGE & LITERACY** (the ability to understand words, learn to talk and learn about books and reading)



**MATHEMATICAL THINKING** (the ability to think about relationships between objects, numbers, shapes, sizes, weights and other concepts)



**SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY** (the ability to explore the environment using the five senses, connecting what is observed to science concepts and asking questions)

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**SOCIAL STUDIES** (the ability to learn about people and the community)



**CREATIVE EXPRESSION THROUGH THE ARTS** (the ability to engage in dance, song, music, dramatic play and art to express ideas and feelings)

The Standards are intended to be used by early childhood education programs serving children birth to kindergarten entry to understand how children develop and learn, and use this information to guide multiple components of high-quality early care and education. Information to support implementation of the Standards is available in the [Educator's Guide to Understanding the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards: Birth to Kindergarten](#).