# Approaches to Play and Learning (APL)

## 0-12 Months

| Strand: Initiative and Exploration | |
|---|---|
| **Standard APL1: The child will demonstrate initiative and self-direction.** | |
| **APL1.0a** | Exhibits interest in people and things in their surroundings. |
| **APL1.0b** | Occasionally demonstrates desire to complete simple tasks by self. |
| **APL1.0c** | Selects an item of interest by pointing and/or reaching for object. |
| **Standard APL2: The child will demonstrate interest and curiosity.** | |
| **APL2.0a** | Shows eagerness and delight in self, others, and surroundings. |
| **APL2.0b** | Shows curiosity/interest in their surroundings. |
| **APL2.0c** | Explores objects with their senses. |
| **Strand: Attentiveness and Persistence** | |
| **Standard APL3: The child will sustain attention to a specific activity and demonstrate persistence.** | |
| **APL3.0a** | Expresses interest in a caregiver's face or in an object. |
| **APL3.0b** | Explores a person or object for a brief period of time. |
| **APL3.0c** | Continues to express distress when needs are not met. |
| **APL3.0d** | Attempts to repeat actions to make something happen again. |
| **Strand: Play** | |
| **Standard APL4: The child will engage in imaginative play.** | |
| **APL4.0a** | Manipulates objects and imitates actions observed. |
| **Standard APL5: The child will demonstrate a cooperative and flexible approach to play and learning.** | |
| **APL5.0a** | Engages in solitary play around other children. |

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# 12-24 Months

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| **Strand: Initiative and Exploration** | |
| **Standard APL1: The child will demonstrate initiative and self-direction.** | |
| **APL1.1a** | Uses senses to learn and explore their environment. |
| **APL1.1b** | Demonstrates desire to complete more complex tasks by self. |
| **APL1.1c** | Selects book or toy from several options. |
| **Standard APL2: The child will demonstrate interest and curiosity.** | |
| **APL2.1a** | Shows interest in what others are doing. |
| **APL2.1b** | Begins to show curiosity/interest in new objects, experiences, and people. |
| **APL2.1c** | Explores and manipulates familiar objects in the environment. |
| **Strand: Attentiveness and Persistence** | |
| **Standard APL3: The child will sustain attention to a specific activity and demonstrate persistence.** | |
| **APL3.1a** | Engages and persists with an activity, toy, or object. |
| **APL3.1b** | Demonstrates focus on a task or activity for a brief period of time. |
| **APL3.1c** | Tries a variety of approaches to getting what they want. |
| **APL3.1d** | Attempts to repeat interesting actions repeatedly to gain skills and confidence. |
| **Strand: Play** | |
| **Standard APL4: The child will engage in imaginative play.** | |
| **APL4.1a** | Uses objects for a real or imagined purpose. |
| **Standard APL5: The child will demonstrate a cooperative and flexible approach to play and learning.** | |
| **APL5.1a** | Plays independently with some interaction with other children. |

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# 24-36 Months

| Strand: Initiative and Exploration | |
|---|---|
| **Standard APL1: The child will demonstrate initiative and self-direction.** | |
| **APL1.2a** | Tries inventive or new ways of using materials or completing tasks. |
| **APL1.2b** | Expresses desire to complete tasks by self. |
| **APL1.2c** | Independently selects materials and utilizes those materials. |
| **Standard APL2: The child will demonstrate interest and curiosity.** | |
| **APL2.2a** | Seeks information from others. |
| **APL2.2b** | Communicates curiosity by asking questions about familiar people, experiences, and objects. |
| **APL2.2c** | Explores materials alone and with others through purposeful and creative play. |
| **Strand: Attentiveness and Persistence** | |
| **Standard APL3: The child will sustain attention to a specific activity and demonstrate persistence.** | |
| **APL3.2a** | Engages in teacher-directed activity for short periods of time. |
| **APL3.2b** | Demonstrates focus on a teacher-directed activity for a short period of time. |
| **APL3.2c** | Shows persistence in activities of interest despite interruptions. |
| **APL3.2d** | Repeats successful actions and experiences. |
| **Strand: Play** | |
| **Standard APL4: The child will engage in imaginative play.** | |
| **APL4.2a** | Substitutes one object for another in pretend play or pretends with objects that may or may not be present. |
| **Standard APL5: The child will demonstrate a cooperative and flexible approach to play and learning.** | |
| **APL5.2a** | Participates in play and learning activities with a small group of children for short periods of time. |
| **APL5.2b** | Helps and shares in a social setting with adult guidance. |
| **APL5.2c** | Shows creativity, inventiveness, and flexibility in their play with adult guidance. |
| **APL5.2d** | Tests objects to determine their purpose often using pushing, pulling, or lifting to explore. |

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# 36-48 Months

| Strand: Initiative and Exploration | |
|---|---|
| **Standard APL1: The child will demonstrate initiative and self-direction.** | |
| **APL1.3a** | Initiates new tasks independently. |
| **APL1.3b** | Makes choices and completes some independent activities. |
| **APL1.3c** | Makes plans and follows through on intentions. |
| **Standard APL2: The child will demonstrate interest and curiosity.** | |
| **APL2.3a** | Demonstrates an increased interest in participating in both familiar and new experiences. |
| **APL2.3b** | Communicates curiosity by asking questions about unfamiliar people, experiences, and objects. |
| **APL2.3c** | Explores materials alone and with others through creative play. |
| **Strand: Attentiveness and Persistence** | |
| **Standard APL3: The child will sustain attention to a specific activity and demonstrate persistence.** | |
| **APL3.3a** | Engages in an activity for short periods of time to achieve a goal. |
| **APL3.3b** | Shows interest in completing activities independently. |
| **APL3.3c** | Begins to work cooperatively with others to achieve a goal or accomplish a task. |
| **APL3.3d** | Keeps working on activity even after setbacks. |
| **Strand: Play** | |
| **Standard APL4: The child will engage in imaginative play.** | |
| **APL4.3a** | Uses imagination to create a variety of ideas, role-plays, and fantasy situations. |
| **Standard APL5: The child will demonstrate a cooperative and flexible approach to play and learning.** | |
| **APL5.3a** | Occasionally joins in cooperative play and learning in a group setting. |
| **APL5.3b** | Plans, initiates and completes cooperative activities with adult guidance. |
| **APL5.3c** | Finds a creative, inventive way of doing a familiar task or solving a problem with adult guidance. |
| **APL5.3d** | Takes things apart and attempts to put them back together. |
| **APL5.3e** | Demonstrates emerging flexibility during play and activities. |

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# 48-60 Months

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|---|---|
| **Strand: Initiative and Exploration** | |
| **Standard APL1: The child will demonstrate initiative and self-direction.** | |
| **APL1.4a** | Takes initiative to learn new concepts and try new experiences - Initiates and completes new tasks independently. |
| **APL1.4b** | Independently selects and carries out activities. |
| **APL1.4c** | Sets goals and develops and follows through on plans. |
| **Standard APL2: The child will demonstrate interest and curiosity.** | |
| **APL2.4a** | Demonstrates eagerness to learn about and discuss new topics, ideas, and tasks. |
| **APL2.4b** | Communicates curiosity and seeks to learn new information. |
| **APL2.4c** | Experiments to increase understanding about unfamiliar objects in the environment. |
| **Strand: Attentiveness and Persistence** | |
| **Standard APL3: The child will sustain attention to a specific activity and demonstrate persistence.** | |
| **APL3.4a** | Engages in independent activities and continues tasks over a period of time. |
| **APL3.4b** | Practices skills that have been accomplished to improve and gain confidence. |
| **APL3.4c** | Works cooperatively with others to achieve a goal or accomplish a task. |
| **APL3.4d** | Persists in trying to complete a task after repeated attempts. |
| **Strand: Play** | |
| **Standard APL4: The child will engage in imaginative play.** | |
| **APL4.4a** | Engages in elaborate and sustained imagined play, and can distinguish between real life and fantasy. |
| **Standard APL5: The child will demonstrate a cooperative and flexible approach to play and learning.** | |
| **APL5.4a** | Willingly joins in sustained cooperative play and learning with others to complete a task. |
| **APL5.4b** | Demonstrates flexibility in taking on various roles in a group setting. |
| **APL5.4c** | Demonstrates inventiveness, imagination, and creativity to solve a problem. |
| **APL5.4d** | Takes things apart and invents new structures using the parts. |
| **APL5.4e** | Considers a variety of possible solutions and exhibits flexibility if an alternative approach is suggested by a peer or adult. |
| **APL5.4f** | Recovers quickly from setbacks and differences in opinion in a group setting. |

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