



GELDS

The Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning



I.
GELDS
Background

Why Early Learning Standards?

- The first years of life are *critical* for later outcomes.
- By defining the desired content and outcomes of young children's education, early learning standards can lead to *greater opportunities* for positive development and learning in these early years.
- They build *discussion* and *consensus* between stakeholder groups (teachers, families, child-advocacy groups, policy-makers, etc.)
 - They create statewide *consistency* about important educational outcomes and opportunities.



Background

- Georgia began revising the state's early learning standards in 2010.
- The revision stemmed from a need for **higher-quality** standards for children birth through 5 and a need for better alignment with the Kindergarten standards.
- Top researchers in early childhood education conducted an alignment study that examined **content, rigor, and age-appropriateness.**



Background

Researchers conducted a series of analyses on the following documents:

- Georgia's Pre-K Content Standards
- Georgia Early Learning Standards (GELS) for birth through age three
- CCGPS/GPS for Kindergarten-3rd Grade
 - Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework (HSCDELFF)
 - Work Sampling System (WSS)

They examined content, rigor, balance, horizontal alignment, and vertical alignment.





II.
GELDS
Structure and
Language

The GELDS have **FIVE** domains of learning

**PHYSICAL
DEVELOPMENT
AND MOTOR
SKILLS**
PDM



**SOCIAL AND
EMOTIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**
SED



**APPROACHES
TO PLAY AND
LEARNING**
APL



**COMMUNICATION,
LANGUAGE AND
LITERACY**
CLL



**COGNITIVE
DEVELOPMENT
AND GENERAL
KNOWLEDGE**
CD



Each domain is organized into strands, standards,
and age-appropriate indicators

GELDS: Structure and Alignment

Learning Domain:
Cognitive Development: Mathematics
(Strand 2 – Measurement and Comparison)

Standard: CD-MA4 - The child will sort, seriate, classify, and create patterns.

Age-Appropriate Indicators

Common Core
Georgia
Performance
Standard

CD-MA4.0b
Explores objects with different characteristics.

0-12 months

CD-MA4.1b
Differentiates between two objects with different characteristics with adult guidance.

12-24 months

CD-MA4.2b
Matches objects with similar attributes or characteristics.

24-36 months

CD-MA4.3b
Sorts objects by one attribute such as color, shape or size.

36-48 months

CD-MA4.4b
Sorts and classifies objects using one or more attributes (color, shape, size) or relationships (animals on a farm or zoo).

48-60 months

MCCK.MD.3
Classify objects into given categories; count the numbers of objects in each category and sort the categories by count.

Kindergarten

GELDS: Structure and Alignment

Communication, Language, and Literacy
(Strand 1 – Receptive Language)

Standard: CLL1 - The child will listen to conversations and demonstrate comprehension.

Age-Appropriate Indicators

CLL1.0c
Responds to repeated words and phrases.

0-12 months

CLL1.1c
Responds to adult questions with answers.

12-24 months

CLL1.2c
Responds to questions with appropriate answers.

24-36 months

CLL1.3c
Responds to more complex questions with appropriate answers.

36-48 months

CLL1.4c
Extends/expands thoughts or ideas expressed.

48-60 months

Common Core Georgia Performance Standard

ELACCKSL2
Confirms understanding of written texts read aloud or information presented orally or through media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.

Kindergarten



V.
Professional
Development
and Resources



Welcome to The Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)



Georgia has a long history as a leader in promoting early learning and development outcomes for children. Over the last decade, Georgia has worked to extend the standards down to birth and to align them to the K-12 system. This year, Georgia introduced its latest set of high-quality, research-based early learning standards for children birth to age five called the **Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)**. The GELDS are the result of a two-year alignment study and revision project that began in 2010. The purpose of the GELDS is to promote quality learning experiences for children and address the question, "What should children from birth to age five know and be able to do?" They are a set of appropriate, attainable standards for Georgia's youngest learners and are designed to be flexible enough to support children's individual rates of development, approaches to learning, and cultural context.

Resources on website:

- Searchable database of all standards
- Indicators with rationales and examples of learning in action
- Video clips
- Training webinars
- Printable lesson plan templates
- Digital version of GELDS Resource Guide

Find GELDS on Social Media

GELDS on

<http://www.pinterest.com/brightfromstart>



GELDS on

<http://www.youtube.com/GeorgiaELDS>





IV.
Family
Engagement
and GELDS

Why do families need to
be involved in their
child's learning and
development?



Family Engagement and the GELDS

- When children's progress can be tied to classroom activities and home activities, development and learning are strongly reinforced
- Discussing changes in a child's readiness skills can open a dialogue about the child's strengths and any areas of potential concern for families or teachers.
 - Families and teachers must work in partnership to ensure that children continue to receive appropriate instruction and related experiences to further their development.



Backpack Standards (Rising K)

- **Peek in backpacks and see what standards could occur using these materials:**
 - foam letters
 - color links
 - sensory numbers
 - crayons

Choose one material and allow children to play with the material and discover a number of standards taking place.

Backpack Standards (Rising Pre-K)

- **Peek in backpacks and see what standards could occur using these materials:**
 - rubber ball
 - crayons
 - nursery rhyme book
 - letter picture cards

Choose one material and allow children to play with the material and discover a number of standards taking place.

gelds.dec.state.ga.us