

The SC Early Learning Standards provide a framework for parents and educators to understand the skills children need to have when they reach school so that they may be ready to thrive. The standards are grouped across six domains of development:

- Approaches to Play and Learning (APL)
- Emotional and Social Development (ESD)
- Health and Physical Development (HPD)
- Language Development and Communication (LDC)
- Mathematical Thinking and Expression (MTE)
- Cognitive Development (CD)

Each month, we choose one standard and give it special attention throughout our programs, incorporating age-appropriate learning materials and activities into our work.

JANUARY | Children communicate thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly. *(Learning to Communicate, LDC-4)*

FEBRUARY | Children respond to and use a growing vocabulary. *(Learning to Communicate, LDC-7)*

MARCH | Children form relationships and interact positively with familiar adults who are consistent and responsive to their needs. *(Developing a Sense of Self with Others, ESD-3)*

APRIL | Children form relationships and interact positively with other children. *(Developing a Sense of Self with Others, ESD-4)*

MAY | Children recall information and use it for addressing new situations and problems. *(Construction of Knowledge: Thinking and Reasoning, CD-2)*

JUNE | Children use mathematical thinking to solve everyday problems in their environment. *(Mathematical Thinking and Reasoning, MTE-6)*

JULY | Children show curiosity and express interest in the world around them. *(Curiosity, Information-Seeking, and Eagerness, APL-1)*

AUGUST | Children demonstrate creativity, imagination, and inventiveness. *(Play and Imagination, APL-4)*

SEPTEMBER | Children develop the large muscle control and abilities needed to move through and explore their environment. *(Motor Development, HPD-4)*

OCTOBER | Children develop book knowledge and print awareness. *(Foundations for Reading, LDC-9)*

NOVEMBER | Children develop healthy eating habits. *(Physical Health and Growth, HPD-1)*

DECEMBER | Children develop interest in books and motivation to read. *(Foundations for Reading, LDC-8)*

Learn more about how you can help nurture children so they are ready to thrive in school:

richlandfirststeps.org