Alignment of Gee Whiz Education Curriculum with the District of Columbia Early Learning Standards

The Gee Whiz Education curriculum is a comprehensive approach designed to help educators address the unique needs of mixed-age groups. This document details specifically how the Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators align with the standards for early childhood in the District of Columbia.

Additional information on the Gee Whiz Education approach to learning, including the program philosophy and the evidence/research on which the program is based, can be found on our website www.geewhizeducation.com as well as in the Gee Whiz Education User's Guide.

District of Columbia Early Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE	
Demonstrates understanding of spoken language Uses language to express self Uses conventional grammar and syntax Uses conventional conversational and other social communication skills	LD1 Understands spoken language LD2 Understands and then uses an ever-increasing vocabulary LD3 Uses language to express ideas, wants and needs LD4 Increasingly engages adults and other children in conversations
LITERACY	
Demonstrates understanding of print concepts Demonstrates comprehension of printed materials read aloud Hears and discriminates the sounds of English and/or home languages Writes letters and words Understands the purpose of writing and drawing	LK1 Shows an interest in books and understands they are a way of sharing information LK2 Understands that language is made up of words, which can be broken down into syllables LK3 Begins to name letters and identify their sounds LK4 Understands concepts about print (e.g., reading from left to right, logos as symbols, etc.) engages adults and other children in conversations

Full versions of the District of Columbia Early Learning Standards used to create this alignment document can be found at:
https://osse.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/osse/publication/attachments/2019%20District%20of%20Columbia%20Early%20Learning%20Standards.%203.17.20.pdf

District of Columbia Early Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
MATHEMATICS	
Matches, groups and classifies objects Demonstrates knowledge of numbers and counting Demonstrates knowledge of volume, height, weight and length Identifies and labels shapes Demonstrates understanding of positional words	MK1 Understands that numbers tell "how many" MK2 Recognizes that numbers go in a specific order MK3 Recognizes shapes and positional concepts MK4 Creates, imitates and/or extends patterns MK5 Utilizes measurement (standard and nonstandard) to compare and contrast objects (includes graphing) MK6 Sorts and groups objects based on common characteristics
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Expresses a variety of feelings and learns to manage them Recognizes the feelings and rights of others and responds appropriately Manages own behavior Develops positive relationships with adults Engages and plays with peers Resolves conflicts with others	SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence SE3 Demonstrates self-regulation by handling emotions in an appropriate way and following simple rules SE4 Demonstrates a range of appropriate emotions
PHYSICAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT	
Demonstrates strength and coordination of large muscles Demonstrates strength and coordination of small muscles Demonstrates behaviors that promote health and safety Demonstrates competent eating behaviors through the maintenance of positive eating attitudes, optimal food acceptance skills, self-regulation of food intake, mindful food choices and positive body image	PD1 Understands the importance of exercise and rest PD2 Takes pride in caring for self (e.g., brushing teeth, dressing, eating healthy foods, etc.) PD3 Practices safe habits and understands basic safety rules PD4 Demonstrates gross motor skills (e.g., running, hopping, skipping, etc.) PD5 Demonstrates fine motor control (e.g., writing, pouring, cutting, etc.)

District of Columbia Early Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
APPROACHES TO LEARNING/LOGIC AND REASONING	
Attends and engages with curiosity Shows persistence Approaches tasks flexibly Uses symbols and takes on pretend jobs	AL1 Shows an interest in many topics and desire to try new things AL2 Displays persistence when completing tasks and is able to avoid distractions AL3 Engages in cooperative group experiences LR1 Demonstrates the ability to identify a problem and then seeks ways to solve it LR2 Understands that symbols or objects can be used to represent different things
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING	
Investigates living things Investigates physical objects Investigates characteristics of Earth and space Investigates engineering	SK1 Utilizes observation and other senses to explore and gather information about objects and experiences SK2 Makes and tests predictions using simple experimentation SK3 Gathers information about the natural world through hands-on exploration LR1 Demonstrates the ability to identify a problem and then seeks ways to solve it LR2 Understands that symbols or objects can be used to represent different things *For specific science topics covered, please see our detailed yearly outline.*
THE ARTS	
Engages in music and movement activities Engages in drama activities Explores the visual arts	CA1 Participates in musical activities including singing and utilizing instruments CA2 Uses movement and dance to express ideas and emotions CA3 Utilizes a variety of art materials (both two and three-dimensional) to express self CA4 Engages in pretend play with, or without, the use of props

District of Columbia Early Learning Standards	Gee Whiz Education Learning Indicators
SOCIAL STUDIES	
Demonstrates an understanding of self, family and a diverse community Demonstrates an understanding of the relationship between people and the environments in which they live Demonstrates an understanding of time as it relates to self, family and community	SE1 Demonstrates a secure relationship with caregivers or other adults as well as positive interactions with other children SE2 Demonstrates a positive self-concept by sharing preferences, expressing feelings freely and displaying confidence SE3 Demonstrates self-regulation by handling emotions in an appropriate way and following simple rules SS1 Understands how families are unique and different SS2 Develops a basic understanding of community, including common jobs SS3 Recognizes the importance of caring for the environment SS4 Develops a baseline understanding of how the past affects us and our community *For specific social studies topics covered, please see our detailed yearly outline.*

IMPORTANT NOTES: Please see our detailed yearly outline for specific concepts covered during the year. You can find this information our website.

Dual Language Learners (and ELL) gain important language skills through the flexible design of the curriculum. The use of songs, rhymes, games and hands-on experiences enables providers to introduce DLL children to new vocabulary in an appropriate, interactive way. We also provide suggestions for working with these children in the lesson plans.

Our innovative Individualization Web which accompanies the curriculum helps providers adapt it to incorporate the individual interests, and needs, of the children. To learn more about this component, please see our User's Guide which is available on our website. In addition, the first bullet point of every experience included in the curriculum along with our Developmental Area Picture Codes helps providers understand the "why" behind each activity. The details on the experience explain the "how" and the "what."

www.geewhizeducation.com