

Bear River Early Head Start
Home Based School Readiness Goals
2023-2024

Language, Communication and Literacy

Children will demonstrate growth in language, communication and literacy development, including the acquisition of English by dual language learners through the use of the CAR strategy, PLA, and the Big 5 for All. Print and language rich activities will take place in the home and at socializations

For young infants to toddlers, this includes attending and responding to communication from others, communicating needs and wants, using non-verbal language, using increasing number of words, handling books and recognizing pictures.

For 3 year olds, this includes understanding and following conversational rules, expresses self, uses a wide variety of words, identifying letters, asks and answers questions, and writes using increasingly sophisticated marks.

Implementation

- Staff and parents will receive ongoing training on language, communication and literacy development for young children 0-3. Research based strategies will be reviewed and shared with all program families. Staff will also be trained on the PLA and The Big 5 for all.
- Language, communication and literacy activities will be fully implemented during socialization groups and home visits on an ongoing basis, with opportunities to use writing materials.
- Lesson plans of home visits and group socializations will document activities planned for language and literacy enhancement. Staff will use open ended questions to encourage verbal expression from children. New vocabulary words will be focused on each week for the older children.
- Dual language learners will be supported to maintain the home language while acquiring new skills in English.
- All staff will have access to literacy materials to be shared with families including children's songs, finger plays, nursery rhymes, etc. in the language appropriate for the child.

Outcomes

- All homebased children and families will receive opportunities for language and literacy development through home visits and group socializations.
- All home based families will become acquainted with the CAR strategy, and will be encouraged to utilize the strategy when conversing with their children. Parents of older children will incorporate new vocabulary words and encourage feedback loops that become progressively longer and deeper.

Measures

- All home visits and socialization groups will plan activities that promote language and literacy development, individualizing according to the needs of each child.

Documentation

- Socialization lesson plans, Home Visit lesson plans, staff training sheets, child outcomes

Approaches to Learning

Children will show increasing skills in cognitive engagement, focus, curiosity and persistence.

For infants to toddlers, this includes child managing feelings and actions with adult support, maintaining focus and attention, showing interest and curiosity about objects, materials and people.

For 3 year olds, this includes child managing emotions, following rules and routines, controlling impulses, maintaining focus and attention with minimal adult support, persisting in tasks and using imagination in play and interactions with others.

Implementation

- Staff will be provided training on scaffolding and extending play themes to encourage curiosity, persistence and cooperation with children
- Staff will coach parents and facilitate learning interactions at home visits and group socializations to deepen the child's engagement in the learning process.

Outcomes

- Levels of child engagement/persistence in learning activities will deepen
- Knowledge base of parents and staff will increase through training and coaching

Measures

- Staff and parent knowledge will increase on planning for each child's learning experiences
- Each lesson plan will be individualized by staff with parent input to best meet the needs of each child's approach to learning.

Documentation

- Training documentation, lesson plans, socialization lesson plans, child assessment/outcomes

Social and Emotional Development

Children will demonstrate the ability to recognize and practice self-regulation skills and develop positive peer relationships

For young infants to toddlers, this includes child using adults as a resource to meet needs, showing interest and interacting with others, imitating, expressing emotions, awareness of self, and showing confidence in own abilities.

For 3 year olds, this includes engaging in relationships and interactions with others, engaging in cooperative play with other children, using basic problem-solving skills, expressing care and concern for others, and manages emotions with increasing independence.

Implementation

- Staff will provide a safe and nurturing environment during group socializations for children to practice new skills; staff will educate and support parents in positive parenting practices.
- With staff support, parents of older children will take the lead in teaching appropriate self-help lessons during home visits
- All staff will provide parent education on positive parenting and selective reinforcement for guiding their child
- Provide mental health observations and resources as indicated
- Staff will trained on Trauma Informed Care and response and share information with parents, as applicable.

Outcomes

- Increased parental confidence in guiding children in developing their self-regulation skills

- Children will demonstrate progress across social/emotional indicator skills according to age

Measures

- Lesson plans will include guidance from mental health behavior plans and will include mini lessons from curriculum according to the child's age and area of interest.
- Children will meet age appropriate indicator skills under Social/Emotional Development

Documentation

- Lesson plans and observations, socialization lesson plans and observations, parent surveys, observation, mental health notes, parenting education, child outcomes

Cognition

(Including Mathematics Development and Scientific Reasoning)

Children will increase in their skills of sorting, classification, and experimentation with various materials (0-3 years), and numbers, counting, patterns, and measuring (3 years)

For infants and toddlers this includes exploring people and objects, using memory, using a variety of strategies in solving problems, matching and sorting of objects, and using pretend play to increase understanding.

For 3 year olds, this includes knowledge of number names and count sequencing, comparing, understanding simple patterns, measuring objects, identifying and describing shapes, categorizes, and gathers information to make predictions.

Implementation

- Staff will receive specific trainings on pre-math skills and activities
- Staff and parents will be provided resources and activity ideas through curriculum activities

Outcomes

- Staff and parents will increase their knowledge of math skills and how they relate to school readiness

Measures

- Activities in pre-math and pre-math principles will be incorporated into home visits/socialization plans
- Children's progress in pre-math skills will be tracked through ongoing assessment

Documentation

- Sign-in sheet, home visit/socialization lesson plans, assessment and outcome forms, child assessment/outcomes

Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

Provide increased opportunities for children to demonstrate skills in their physical development and increasing control of their motor development.

For young infants to toddlers, this includes using perceptual information in directing own actions, using large muscles for movement, coordinating hand and eye movements, reaching and grasping to use tools, using safety behaviors with support from adults and engaging in health eating habits.

For 3 year olds, this includes demonstrating control and coordination of large muscles and small muscles, takes care of personal hygiene and self-care skills, develops skills to promote healthy food choices and eating habits, and demonstrates knowledge of safety practices.

Implementation

- Increase the quantity of time spent in gross motor activities during home visits and group socializations
- Provide education on benefits of healthy physical activity to families, including healthy nutrition and keeping safe.

Outcomes

- Increase access to physical health information
- Deepen staff and parent knowledge of prevention of obesity and other physical ailments from sedentary lifestyles.

- Increased knowledge for general community on the importance of physical health and activity for young children.
- Increase knowledge of safety practices and routines.

Measures

- Home visit and socialization activities will provide information and hands on experiences with physical movement and gross motor play and interactions.
- Home visits will include providing information to parents on safety, self-care, healthy nutrition and eating habits.

Documentation

- Lesson Plans, socialization lesson plans, handouts, health flyers, child assessments/outcomes