

Tools of the Mind

PreK Curriculum, 7th Edition

Alignment with the Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards



Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
Language Arts	
Goal 1: Demonstrate increasing competence in oral communication (listening and speak	king).
Learning Standard 1.A: Demonstrate understanding through age-appropriate response	es.
1.A.ECa Follow simple one-, two- and three-step directions.	 Daily Schedule Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Do What I Do, Fingerplays & Chants, Freeze Game, Mouse Trap, Mr. Wolf, Pattern Movement Make-Believe Play
1.A.ECb Respond appropriately to questions from others.	 Share the News All Story Labs Buddy Reading Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block
1.A.ECc Provide comments relevant to the context.	 Share the News All Story Labs Buddy Reading Make-Believe Play Planning Science Eyes Make-Believe Play Block
1.A.ECd Identify emotions from facial expressions and body language.	 Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Story Lab- Character Empathy, Connections
Learning Standard 1.B: Communicate effectively using language appropriate to the sit	
1.B.ECa Use language for a variety of purposes. 1.B.ECb With teacher assistance, participate in collaborative conversations with diverse	 Make-Believe Play Block Share the News All Story Labs Buddy Reading Science Eyes Share the News
partners (e.g., peers and adults in both small and large groups) about age-appropriate topics and texts.	 Snare the News Buddy Reading All Story Labs Science Eyes Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Block All Small Group Math/Science Activities
1.B.ECc Continue a conversation through two or more exchanges.	Share the News Make-Believe Play Block

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1.B.ECd Engage in agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening, making eye contact, taking turns speaking).	 Share the News Buddy Reading Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block All Story Labs
Learning Standard 1.C: Use language to convey information and ideas.	
1.C.ECa Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with teacher assistance, provide additional detail.	 Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Block All Story Labs Science Eyes Share the News
Learning Standard 1.D: Speak using conventions of standard English.	
1.D.ECa With teacher assistance, use complete sentences in speaking with peers and adults in individual and group situations.	 Share the News All Story Labs Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Science Eyes
1.D.ECb Speak using age-appropriate conventions of Standard English grammar and usage.	 Share the News Make-Believe Play Block Individual Scaffolded Writing- Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions Buddy Reading
1.D.ECc Understand and use question words in speaking.	 Buddy Reading All Story Labs Share the News Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 1.E: Use increasingly complex phrases, sentences, and vocabulary.	
1.E.ECa With teacher assistance, begin to use increasingly complex sentences.	 Share the News Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Individual Scaffolded Writing- Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions, Venger Drawing
1.E.ECb Exhibit curiosity and interest in learning new words heard in conversations and books.	Fingerplays, Chants & SongsCommunity-Building Activities



	Share the News
	Buddy Reading
	Story Lab- Vocabulary
	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Make-Believe Play Practice
1.E.ECc With teacher assistance, use new words acquired through conversations and book-	Buddy Reading
sharing experiences.	Make-Believe Play Block
	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Science Eyes
	Share the News
	I Have—Who Has-Vocabulary
1.E.ECd With teacher assistance, explore word relationships to understand the concepts	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
represented by common categories of words (e.g., food, clothing, vehicles).	Story Lab- Vocabulary, Connections, Learning Facts
1.E.ECe With teacher assistance, use adjectives to describe people, places, and things.	Science Eyes
12220 This course appear to the desired proper, places, and amings.	Story Lab-Vocabulary, Character Empathy, Connections
	Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story
	Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions
	• Share the News
	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Make-Believe Play Block
Goal 2: Demonstrate understanding and enjoyment of literature.	• Wake-Delieve Flay Block
Learning Standard 2.A: Demonstrate interest in stories and books.	
2.A.ECa Engage in book-sharing experience with purpose and understanding.	Buddy Reading
	All Story Labs
	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Make-Believe Play Block
2.A.ECb Look at books independently, pretending to read.	Buddy Reading
	Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 2.B: Recognize key ideas and details in stories.	
2.B.ECa With teacher assistance, ask and answer questions about books read aloud.	All Story Labs
1,111	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Buddy Reading
2.B.ECb With teacher assistance, retell familiar stories with three or more key events.	Buddy Reading Buddy Reading
2.2.2.2.3 With toucher assistance, reten familiar stories with three of more key events.	Story Lab-Story Grammar
	Make-Believe Play Block
2.B.ECc With teacher assistance, identify main character(s) of the story.	Story Lab- Story Grammar, Character Empathy
Learning Standard 2.C: Recognize concepts of books.	Story Date Story Grammar, Character Empathy
Dearning Standard 2.0. Recognize concepts of books.	
2.C.ECa Interact with a variety of types of texts (e.g., storybooks, poems, rhymes, songs).	Buddy Reading
	All Story Labs



	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Fingerplays, Chants & Songs
2.C.ECb Identify the front and back covers of books and display the correct orientation of	Buddy Reading
books and page-turning skills.	Make-Believe Play Block
2.C.ECc With teacher assistance, describe the role of an author and illustrator.	All Story Labs
Learning Standard 2.D: Establish personal connections with books.	
2.D.ECa With teacher assistance, discuss illustrations in books and make personal	Story Lab-Connections
connections to the pictures and story.	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
2.D.ECb With teacher assistance, compare and contrast two stories relating to the same topic.	Story Lab-Connections
Goal 3: Demonstrate interest in and understanding of informational text.	
Learning Standard 3.A: Recognize key ideas and details in nonfiction text.	
3.A.ECa With teacher assistance, ask and answer questions about details in a nonfiction	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
book.	Story Lab-Vocabulary, Learning Facts
3.A.ECb With teacher assistance, retell detail(s) about main topic in a nonfiction book.	Story Lab- Learning Facts
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
Learning Standard 3.B: Recognize key ideas and details in stories.	
3.B.ECa With teacher assistance, identify basic similarities and differences in pictures and	Story Lab-Connections
information found in two texts on the same topic.	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
Goal 4: Demonstrate increasing awareness of and competence in emergent reading skills	and abilities.
Learning Standard 4.A: Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic feat	tures of print.
4.A.ECa Recognize the differences between print and pictures.	Buddy Reading
	All Story Labs
	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
4.A.ECb Begin to follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page.	Buddy Reading
	Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story
	Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions
	Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar
	Fingerplay, Write Along
4.A.ECc Recognize the one-to-one relationship between spoken and written words.	Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story
	Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions
	Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 1. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 1. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 1. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 1. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 1. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 1. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 2. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 2. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 3. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 3. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fig. 3. Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Writing- Writ
	Fingerplay, Write Along
	Mystery Literacy Activities - Mystery Question, Mystery Letter, Mystery Diversity World Williams W. M.
A A ECd. Understand that would are consusted by a consist.	Mystery Rhyme, Mystery Word
4.A.ECd Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.	Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab. Lagrange Factor Science From Story Lab. Enterging.
	Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions



	Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along
	Mystery Question
4.A.ECe Recognize that letters are grouped to form words	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along Mystery Letter, Mystery Word
4.A.ECf Differentiate letters from numerals	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along Mystery Activities- Mystery Letter, Mystery Numeral
Learning Standard 4.B: Demonstrate an emerging knowledge and understanding of the	e alphabet
4.B.ECa With teacher assistance, recite the alphabet.	Fingerplays, Chants & Songs
4.B.ECb Recognize and name some upper/lowercase letters of the alphabet, especially those in own name.	 I Have-Who Has Letters Mystery Letter Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along
4.B.ECc With teacher assistance, match some upper/lowercase letters of the alphabet.	I Have—Who Has Letters
4.B.ECd With teacher assistance, begin to form some letters of the alphabet, especially those in own name.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Write Along Graphics Practice
Learning Standard 4.C: Demonstrate an emerging understanding of spoken words, sy	llables, and sounds (phonemes).
4.C.ECa Recognize that sentences are made up of separate words.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along
4.C.ECb With teacher assistance, recognize and match words that rhyme.	 Rhyming Game Mystery Rhyme Fingerplays, Chants & Songs
4.C.ECc Demonstrate ability to segment and blend syllables into words (e.g., "trac/tor, tractor").	Fingerplays, Chants & Songs
4.C.ECd With teacher assistance, isolate and pronounce the initial sounds in words.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar



	Fingerplay, Write Along • Take Away Sounds
	Elkonin I & II
4.C.ECe With teacher assistance, blend sounds (phonemes) in one-syllable words (e.g., $/c//a//t/=cat$).	 Elkonin I & II Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along Take Away Sounds
4.C.ECf With teacher assistance, begin to segment sounds (phonemes) in one-syllable words (e.g., cat = $/c//a//t/$).	 Elkonin I & II Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along Finger Play, Write Along Take Away Sounds
4.C.ECg With teacher assistance, begin to manipulate sounds (phonemes) in words (e.g., changing cat to hat to mat).	 Take Away Sounds Rhyming Game
Learning Standard 4.D: Demonstrate emergent phonics and word-analysis skills.	
4.D.ECa Recognize own name and common signs and labels in the environment.	 Mystery Math and Mystery Literacy Activities Community Building Activities Make-Believe Play Block
4.D.ECb With teacher assistance, demonstrate understanding of the one-to-one correspondence of letters and sounds.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along I Have—Who Has Sounds
4.D.ECc With teacher assistance, begin to use knowledge of letters and sounds to spell words phonetically.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along
Goal 5: Demonstrate increasing awareness of and competence in emergent writing skills	and abilities.
Learning Standard 5.A: Demonstrate growing interest and abilities in writing.	
5.A.ECa Experiment with writing tools and materials.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along Fingerplay Make-Believe Play Block
5.A.ECb Use scribbles, letterlike forms, or letters/words to represent written language.	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar



5.A.ECc With teacher assistance, write own first name using appropriate upper/lowercase letters.	 Fingerplay, Write Along Make-Believe Play Block Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar
Learning Standard 5 P. Usa writing to represent ideas and information	Fingerplay, Write Along • Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 5.B: Use writing to represent ideas and information.	
5.B.ECa With teacher assistance, use a combinations of drawing, dictation, or writing to	Make-Believe Play Planning
express an opinion about a book or topic.	Make-Believe Play Block
5.B.ECb With teacher assistance, use a combinations of drawing, dictation, or writing to	Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary
compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.	Science Eyes- Journals
5.B.ECc With teacher assistance, use a combinations of drawing, dictation, or writing to	Make-Believe Play Planning
narrate a single event and provide a reaction to what happened.	Story Lab- Extensions
Learning Standard 5.C: Use writing to research and share knowledge.	
5.C.ECa Participate in group projects or units of study designed to learn about a topic of	Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses
interest.	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Make-Believe Play Prop Making
5.C.ECb With teacher assistance, recall factual information and share that information	Story Lab- Learning Facts
through drawing, dictation, or writing.	Science Eyes- Journals
	Make-Believe Play Planning

Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
Mathematics	
Goal 6: Demonstrate and apply a knowledge and sense of numbers, including numeration and operations.	
Learning Standard 6.A: Demonstrate beginning understanding of numbers, number names, and numerals.	
6.A.ECa Count with understanding and recognize "how many" in small sets up to 5.	Making Collections
	Numerals Game
	Mystery Numeral
	Number Line Hopscotch
	Tallying
6.A.ECb Use subitizing (the rapid and accurate judgment of how many items there are	Mystery Numeral
without counting) to identify the number of objects in sets of 4 or less.	Freeze on the Number
	Making Collections
6.A.ECc Understand and appropriately use informal or everyday terms that mean zero, such	Timeline Calendar
as "none" or "nothing".	Attribute Game
	Making Collection with Categories



6.A.ECd Connect numbers to quantities they represent using physical models and informal	Numerals Game	
representations.	Tallying	
6.A.ECe Differentiate numerals from letters and recognize some single-digit written	I Have Who Has Numbers	
numerals.	Numerals Game	
	Make-Believe Play	
6.A.ECf Verbally recite numbers from 1 to 10.	I Have Who Has Numbers	
	Timeline Calendar	
6.A.ECg Be able to say the number after another in the series up to 9 when given a "running	Timeline Calendar	
start," as in "What comes after one, two, three, four?"	Make-Believe Play	
Learning Standard 6.B: Add and subtract to create new numbers and begin to construct	t sets.	
6.B.ECa Recognize that numbers (or sets of objects) can be combined or separated to make	Remember and Replicate	
another number.	Math Memory	
	Mystery Numeral Two Card	
6.B.ECb Show understanding of how to count out and construct sets of objects of a given	Making Collections	
number up to 5.	Tallying	
	Numerals Game	
6.B.ECc Identify the new number created when small sets (up to 5) are combined or	Math Memory	
separated.	Mystery Numeral Two Card	
6.B.ECd Informally solve simple mathematical problems presented in a meaningful context.	Math Memory	
	Make-Believe Play Block	
	Mystery Numeral Two Card	
6.B.ECe Fairly share a set of up to 10 items between two children.	Making Collections	
	Numerals Game	
Learning Standard 6.C: Begin to make reasonable estimates of numbers.		
6.C.ECa Estimate number of objects in a small set.	Weather Graphing	
	• Tallying	
Learning Standard 6.D: Compare quantities using appropriate vocabulary terms.		
6.D.ECa Compare two collections to see if they are equal or determine which is more, using	Attribute Game	
a procedure of the child's choice.	Making Collections	
a procedure of the office of the office of	Numerals Game	
6.D.ECb Describe comparisons with appropriate vocabulary, such as "more", "less",	Timeline Calendar	
"greater than", "fewer", "equal to", or "same as".	Weather Graphing	
Brance , terror , equal to , or summe us .	Attribute Game	
Goal 7: Explore measurement of objects and quantities.	Transace Game	
Learning Standard 7.A: Measure objects and quantities using direct comparison methods and nonstandard units.		
7.A.ECa Compare, order, and describe objects according to a single attribute.	Attribute Game	
7.A.ECb Use nonstandard units to measure attributes such as length and capacity.	Science Eyes- Experiments	



	Make-Believe Play Block
7.A.ECc Use vocabulary that describes and compares length, height, weight, capacity, and	Science Eyes
size.	Attribute Game
	Story Lab-Vocabulary
	Make-Believe Play Block
7.A.ECd Begin to construct a sense of time through participation in daily activities.	Daily Schedule
	Timeline Calendar
Learning Standard 7.B: Begin to make estimates of measurements.	
7.B.ECa Practice estimating in everyday play and everyday measurement problems.	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 7.C: Explore tools used for measurement.	
7.C.ECa With teacher assistance, explore use of measuring tools that use standard units to	Make-Believe Play Practice
measure objects and quantities that are meaningful to the child.	Make-Believe Play Block
7.C.ECb Know that different attributes, such as length, weight, and time, are measure using	Timeline Calendar
different kinds of units, such as feet, pounds, and seconds.	Daily Schedule
united and all unites, but it is reet, pounded, unite becomes.	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Make-Believe Play Block
	Science Eyes
	• Science Eyes
Goal 8: Identify and describe common attributes, patterns, and relationships in objects.	
Learning Standard 8.A: Explore objects and patterns.	
8.A.ECa Sort, order, compare, and describe objects according to characteristics or	Attribute Game
attribute(s).	
8.A.ECb Recognize, duplicate, extend, and create simple patterns in various formats.	Pattern Movement
	Mystery Pattern
Learning Standard 8.B: Describe and document patterns using symbols.	
8.B.ECa With adult assistance, represent a simple repeating pattern by verbally describing it	Pattern Movement
or by modeling it with objects or actions.	Mystery Pattern
Goal 9: Explore concepts of geometry and spatial relations.	
Learning Standard 9.A: Recognize, name, and match common shapes.	
9.A.ECa Recognize and name common two- and three-dimensional shapes and describe	I Have—Who Has Shapes
some of their attributes (e.g., number of sides, straight or curved lines).	Mystery Shape
or are and announce (v.g., number or states, sharper or var vea miles).	Attribute Game
O A ECh. Controllections of two and those discounted by the control of the contro	Venger Drawing April 40 Communication
9.A.ECb Sort collections of two- and three-dimensional shapes by type (e.g., triangles,	Attribute Game
rectangles, circles, cubes, spheres, pyramids).	. O. I.I
9.A.ECc Identify and name some of the faces (flat sides) of common three-dimensional	Story Lab-Learning Facts
shapes using two-dimensional shape names.	

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9.A.ECd Combine two-dimensional shapes to create new shapes.	Mystery ShapeVenger Collage
0. A. E.Co. Think shout/imaging how altering the quotiel enjoyet from a facther will show a	5 5
9.A.ECe Think about/imagine how altering the spatial orientation of a shape will change how it looks (e.g., turning it upside down).	• Venger Drawing
now it looks (e.g., turning it upside down).	• Venger Collage
	Mystery Shape
Learning Standard 9.B: Demonstrate an understanding of location and ordinal position	n, using appropriate vocabulary.
9.B.ECa Show understanding of location and ordinal position	Remember and Replicate
	Timeline Calendar
	Math Memory
9.B.ECb Use appropriate vocabulary for identifying location and ordinal position.	Remember and Replicate
	Timeline Calendar
	Math Memory
Goal 10: Begin to make predictions and collect data information.	
Learning Standard 10.A: Generate questions and processes for answering them.	
10.A.ECa With teacher assistance, come up with meaningful questions that can be answered	Science Eyes
through gathering information.	Science Eyes- Experiments
10.A.ECb Gather data about themselves and their surroundings to answer meaningful	• Tallying
questions.	• Science Eyes- Experiments
Learning Standard 10.B: Organize and describe data and information.	Stant Life Emperation
10.B.ECa Organize, represent, and analyze information using concrete objects, pictures, and	Weather Graphing
graphs, with teacher support.	• Tallying
	Attribute Game
	Make-Believe Play Block
10.B.ECb Make predictions about the outcome prior to collecting information, with teacher	Weather Graphing
support and multiple experiences over time.	Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals
Learning Standard 10.C: Determine, describe, and apply the probabilities of events.	Science Lyes Experiments, Journals
10 P.E.Co. Describe likelihood of ayants with appropriate yearshylery good as "nessible"	• Malas Daliana Dian Daildina Daglamana d Vinandada
10.B.ECa Describe likelihood of events with appropriate vocabulary, such as "possible", "impossible", "always", and "never".	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
impossible, always, and nevel.	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Make-Believe Play Block
	Weather Graphing



Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
Science	
Goal 11: Demonstrate curiosity about the world and begin to use the practices of science and engineering to answer questions and solve problems.	
Learning Standard 11.A: Develop beginning skills in the use of science and engineering drawing conclusions.	g practices, such as observing, asking questions, solving problems, and
11.A.ECa Express wonder and curiosity about their world by asking questions, solving problems, and designing things.	 Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Block Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses Story Lab- Learning Facts Puzzles, Manipulatives, & Blocks
11.A.ECb Develop and use models to represent their ideas, observations, and explanations through approaches such as drawing, building, or modeling with clay.	 Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Block Story Lab-Learning Facts Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses Puzzles, Manipulatives, & Blocks
11.A.ECc Plan and carry out simple investigations.	Science Eyes- Experiments
11.A.ECd Collect, describe, compare, and record information from observations and investigations.	Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses
11.A.ECe Use mathematical and computational thinking. 11.A.ECf Make meaning from experience and information by describing, talking, and	 Math Memory Mystery Numeral Two Card Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses
thinking about what happened during an investigation.	Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses
11.A.ECfg Generate explanations and communicate ideas and/or conclusions about their investigations.	Science Eyes- Experiments, Journals, Senses
Goal 12: Explore concepts and information about the physical, earth, and life sciences.	
Learning Standard 12.A: Understand that living things grow and change.	
12.A.ECa Observe, investigate, describe, and categorize living things.	Science Eyes Science Experiments, Journals
12.A.ECb Show an awareness of changes that occur in oneself and the environment.	 Story Lab- Learning Facts, Connections Timeline Calendar Weather Graphing
Learning Standard 12.B: Understand that living things rely on the environment and/or others to live and grow.	
12.B.ECa Describe and compare basic needs of living things.	 Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block



12.B.ECb Show respect for living things	Story Lab- Learning Facts, Connections
	Science Eyes- Experiments
Learning Standard 12.C: Explore the physical properties of objects.	
1.C.EC.a Identify, describe, and compare the physical properties of objects.	Science Eyes
1.C.EC.b Experiment with changes in matter when combined with other substances.	Science Experiments
Learning Standard 12.D: Explore concepts of force and motion.	
12.D.ECa Describe the effects of forces in nature.	 Science Eyes- Experiments Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block
12.D.ECb Explore the effect of force on objects in and outside the early childhood environment.	 Science Eyes -Experiments Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 12.E: Explore concepts and information related to the Earth, include	ding ways to take care of our planet.
12.E.ECa Observe and describe characteristics of earth, water, and air.	Science Eyes- Experiments
12.E.ECb Participate in discussions about simple ways to take care of the environment.	Story Lab-Learning FactsShare the News
Learning Standard 12.F: Explore changes related to the weather and seasons.	
12.F.ECa Observe and discuss changes in weather and seasons using common vocabulary.	 Weather Graphing Timeline Calendar Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary
Goal 13: Understand important connections and understandings in science and engineer	
Learning Standard 13.A: Understand rules to follow when investigating and exploring.	
13.A.ECa Begin to understand basic safety practices one must follow when exploring and engaging in science and engineering investigations.	Classroom Rules Science Eyes- Experiments
Learning Standard 13.B: Use tools and technology to assist with science and engineering	g investigations.
13.B.ECa Use nonstandard and standard scientific tools for investigation.	Science Eyes-Experiments Make-Believe Play Block
13.B.ECb Become familiar with technological tools that can aid in scientific inquiry.	 Science Eyes-Experiments Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block



Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
Social Studies	
Goal 14: Understand some concepts related to citizenship.	
Learning Standard 14.A: Understand what it means to be a member of a group and	community.
14.A.ECa Recognize the reasons for rules in the home and early childhood environment an for laws in the community.	 Classroom Practices - Classroom Rules, Clean-up Routine, Daily Schedule Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary Share the News Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice
14.A.ECb Contribute to the well-being of one's early childhood environment, school, and community.	Classroom Practices - Classroom Rules, Clean-up Routine, Daily Schedule
Learning Standard 14.B: Understand the structures and functions of the political sys	stems of Illinois, the United States, and other nations.
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 14.C: Understand ways groups make choices and decisions.	
14.C.ECa Participate in voting as a way of making choices.	Tallying Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 14.D: Understand the role that individuals can play in a group or	· community.
14.D.ECa Develop an awareness of what it means to be a leader.	 Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Share the News
14.D.ECb Participate in a variety of roles in the early childhood environment.	 Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice All Small Group Literacy, Math/Science Activities Buddy Reading
Learning Standard 14.E: Understand United States foreign policy as it relates to other	er nations and international issues.
Not applicable to preschool	
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ot applicable to preschool	
Goal 15: Explore economic systems and human interdependence.	
Learning Standard 15.A: Explore roles in the economic system and workforce.	
15.A.ECa Describe some common jobs and what is needed to perform those jobs.	 Story Lab- Connections, Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Share the News
15.A.ECb Discuss why people work.	 Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Share the News
Learning Standard 15.B: Explore issues of limited resources in the early childhood e	environment and world.
15.B.ECa Understand that some resources and money are limited.	 Story Lab - Active Listening, Connections, Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice
15.B.ECa Understand that some resources and money are limited. Learning Standard 15.C: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers	Vocabulary • Make-Believe Play Block • Make-Believe Play Planning • Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge • Make-Believe Play Practice
	 Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice
Learning Standard 15.C: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers	Vocabulary • Make-Believe Play Block • Make-Believe Play Planning • Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge • Make-Believe Play Practice
Learning Standard 15.C: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers Not applicable to preschool	Vocabulary • Make-Believe Play Block • Make-Believe Play Planning • Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge • Make-Believe Play Practice
Learning Standard 15.C: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers Not applicable to preschool Learning Standard 15.D: Explore concepts about trade as an exchange of goods or s	Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Story Lab- Active Listening, Connections, Learning Facts, Vocabulary



MIND	
Learning Standard 16.A: Explore his or her self and personal history.	
16.A.ECa Recall information about the immediate past.	 All Story Labs Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Remember and Replicate Math Memory
16.A.ECb Develop a basic awareness of self as an individual.	 Story Lab- Active Listening, Character Empathy, Connections, Share the News Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice
Learning Standard 16.B: Understand the development of significant politica	al events.
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 16.C: Understand the development of economic systems.	
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 16.D: Understand Illinois, United States, and world socia	al history.
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 16.E: Understand Illinois, United States, and world envi	ironmental history.
Not applicable to preschool	
Goal 17: Explore geography, the child's environment, and where people live,	work, and play.
Learning Standard 17.A: Explore environments and where people live.	
17.A.ECa Locate objects and places in familiar environments.	 Make-Believe Play Block Clean Up Routine All Mystery Literacy & Mystery Math Activities
17.A.ECb Express beginning geographic thinking.	 Story Lab- Connections, Learning Facts Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 17.B: Analyze and explain characteristics and interaction	J
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 17.C: Understand relationships between geographic fac	tors and society.
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 17.D: Understand the historical significance of geograph	hy.
Not applicable to preschool	
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Goal 18: Explore people and families. Learning Standard 18.A: Explore people, their similarities, and their differences.		
		18.A.ECa Recognize similarities and differences in people.
Learning Standard 18.B: Develop an awareness of self within the context of a family.		
18.B.ECa Understand that each of us belongs to a family and recognize that families vary.	 Story Lab- Active Listening, Character Empathy, Connections Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Practice Share the News 	
Learning Standard 18.C: Understand how social systems form and develop over time.		
Not applicable to preschool		

Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
Physical Development and Health	
Goal 19: Acquire movement skills and understand concepts needed to explore the environment, support learning, and engage in health-enhancing physical activity.	
Learning Standard 19.A: Demonstrate physical competency and control of large and small muscles.	
19.A.ECa Engage in active play using gross- and fine-motor skills.	 Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Practice Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf. Small Group Literacy and Small Group Math/Science Activities Outdoor Play
19.A.ECb Move with balance and control in a range of physical activities.	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf.



	Pretend Transitions
	Make-Believe Play Block
	Outdoor Play
19.A.ECc Use strength and control to accomplish tasks.	 Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf. Number Line Hopscotch
	 Number Follow the Leader Make-Believe Play Block Graphics Practice
19.A.ECd Use eye-hand coordination to perform tasks.	Puzzles, Manipulatives & Blocks
17.A.Ded Ose cyc-nand coordination to perform tasks.	 Fingerplays, Chants & Songs Write Along Individual Scaffolded Writing- Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning
	Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions • Venger Drawing • Remember & Replicate • Graphics Practice • Make-Believe Play • Numerals Game
19.A.ECe Use writing and drawing tools with some control.	 Graphics Practice Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions Shared Scaffolded Writing- Write a Familiar Fingerplay, Write Along Make-Believe Play Block Science Eyes-Journals
Learning Standard 19.B: Demonstrate awareness and coordination of body m	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
19.B.ECa Coordinate movements to perform complex tasks.	 Puzzles, Manipulatives & Blocks Fingerplays, Chants & Songs Individual Scaffolded Writing- Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab- Extensions Remember & Replicate Graphics Practice Make-Believe Play Block Venger Drawing/Collage Write Along
19.B.ECb Demonstrate body awareness when moving in different spaces.	 Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf.



19.B.ECc Combine large motor movements with and without the use of equipment.	 Clean Up Routine Pretend Transitions Outdoor Play Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Practice Outdoor play Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr.
Learning Standard 19.C: Demonstrate knowledge of rules and safety during activity.	Wolf.
19.C.ECa Follow simple safety rules while participating in activities.	 Classroom Rules Clean Up Routine Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Practice Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf.
Goal 20: Develop habits for lifelong fitness.	
Learning Standard 20.A: Achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fi	tness.
20.A.ECa Participate in activities to enhance physical fitness.	 Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Do What I Do, Fingerplays & Chants, Freeze Game, Mouse Trap, Mr. Wolf, Pattern Movement Outdoor play Number Line Hopscotch
20.A.ECb Exhibit increased levels of physical activity.	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Do What I Do, Fingerplays & Chants, Freeze Game, Mouse Trap, Mr. Wolf, Pattern Movement Outdoor play Number Line Hopscotch
Learning Standard 20.B: Assess individual fitness levels.	
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 20.C: Set goals based on fitness data and develop, implement, and	monitor and individual fitness improvement plan.
Not applicable to preschool	
Goal 21: Develop team-building skills by working with others through physical activity.	
Learning Standard 21.A: Demonstrate individual responsibility during group physical	l activities.
21.A.ECa Follow rules and procedures when participating in group physical activities.	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs,



Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf. • Make-Believe Play Practice • Outdoor Play
 Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf. Make-Believe Play Practice
ysical activity.
 Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf. Make-Believe Play Practice Outdoor Play
of illness and injury.
evention, treatment, and safety.
 Share the News Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary
Throughout Daily Schedule Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block
 Classroom Practices - Classroom Rules, Clean-up Routine Share the News Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Story Lab- Learning Facts, Vocabulary
g individuals, groups, and communities.



Learning Standard 23.A: Describe and explain the structure and functions of the hum	an body systems and how they interrelate.
23.A.ECa Identify body parts and their functions. Learning Standard 23.B: Identify ways to keep the body healthy.	 Story Lab- Active Listening, Learning Facts, Vocabulary Attention Focusing Activities Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Practice
23.B.ECa Identify examples of healthy habits.	 Story Lab- Active Listening, Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Practice Classroom Rules
23.B.ECb Identify healthy and non-healthy foods and explain the effect of these foods on the body.	 Story Lab- Active Listening, Learning Facts, Vocabulary Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Practice Share the News
Learning Standard 23.C: Describe factors that affect growth and development.	Share the Hemb
Not applicable to preschool	T
Goal 24: Promote and enhance health and well-being through the use of effective commu	nication and decision-making skills.
Learning Standard 24.A: Demonstrate procedures for communicating in positive ways	, resolving differences, and preventing conflict.
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 24.B: Apply decision-making skills related to the protection and pr	omotion of individual health.
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 24.C: Demonstrate skills essential to enhancing health and avoiding	g dangerous situations.
24.C.ECa Participate in activities to learn to avoid dangerous situations.	 Classroom Rules Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning



Share the News
All Story Labs

Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity	
The Arts		
Goal 25: Gain exposure to and explore the arts.		
Learning Standard 25.A: Investigate, begin to appreciate, and participate in the arts.		
25.A.ECa Movement and Dance: Build awareness of, explore, and participate in dance and creative movement activities.	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Movement Games, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs	
25.A.ECb Drama: Begin to appreciate and participate in dramatic activities.	 Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Practice Pretend Transitions 	
25.A.ECc Music: Begin to appreciate and participate in music activities.	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Movement Games, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs	
25.A.ECd Visual Arts: Investigate and participate in activities using visual arts materials.	 Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Block All Story Labs Buddy Reading 	
Learning Standard 25.B: Display an awareness of some distinct characteristics of the arts.		
25.B.ECa Describe or respond to their creative work or the creative work of others.	 Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Block Share the News Story Lab - Active Listening, Character Empathy, Connections, Extensions, Learning Facts, Predictions, Story Grammar, Vocabulary Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions 	
Goal 26: Understand that the arts can be used to communicate ideas and emotions.		
Learning Standard 26.A: Understand processes, traditional tools, and modern technologies used in the arts.		
Not applicable to preschool		
Learning Standard 25.B: Understand ways to express meaning through the arts.		
26.B.ECa Use creative arts as an avenue for self-expression.	Make-Believe Play Prop Making Make-Believe Play Block	



	Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions
Goal 27: Understand the role of the arts in civilizations, past and present.	
Learning Standard 27.A: Analyze how the arts function in history, society, and everyday life.	
Not applicable to preschool	
Learning Standard 27.B: Understand how the arts shape and reflect history, society, and everyday life.	
Not applicable to preschool	

	The state of the s
Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
English Language Learner Home Language Development	
Goal 28: Use the home language to communicate within and beyond the classroom.	
Learning Standard 28.A: Use the home language at age-appropriate levels for a variety	of social and academic purposes.
28.A.ECa May demonstrate progress and mastery of benchmarks through home language.	Tools of the Mind works closely with individual districts or programs on
28.A.ECb Use home language in family, community, and early childhood settings.	how to implement activities based on their mode of instruction and Dual Language model.
28.A.ECc Develop an awareness of the different contextual and cultural features in the early childhood and community settings the child participates in. Goal 29: Use the home language to make connections and reinforce knowledge and skill	Tools of the Mind works closely with individual districts or programs on how to implement activities based on their mode of instruction and Dual Language model. Awareness of the different contextual and cultural features in a variety of settings may be observed across the day, but especially observed in: • Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge • Make-Believe Play Planning • Make Make-Believe Play Block • Make-Believe Play Practice
Learning Standard 29.A: Use the home language to attain benchmarks across all the learning skills.	
29.A.ECa Use home cultural and linguistic knowledge to express current understandings and construct new concepts.	Tools of the Mind works closely with individual districts or programs on how to implement activities based on their mode of instruction and Dual Language model. Use of home cultural and linguistic knowledge to express current understandings and construct new concepts may be observed across the day, but especially observed in: • Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge • Make-Believe Play Planning • Make Make-Believe Play Block • Make-Believe Play Practice



	• G 11 C
	Small Group Literacy, Math/Science Activities
	Buddy Reading
	Share the News
29.A.ECb With adult support, begin to bridge home language and English to demonstrate	Tools of the Mind works closely with individual districts or programs on
progress in meeting IELDS.	how to implement activities based on their mode of instruction and Dual
	Language model. Demonstrated progress in meeting IELDS may be
	observed across the day, but especially observed in:
	With the Delic ve I lay I laming
	Make Make-Believe Play Block
	Small Group Literacy, Math/Science Activities
	Buddy Reading
	Share the News
	Graphics Practice
	Timeline Calendar
	Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a
	Familiar Finger Play, Write Along
20 A EC. Enhibit form letional literary shills in home law event fortent monetants English	
29.A.ECc Exhibit foundational literacy skills in home language to foster transfer to English.	Tools of the Mind works closely with individual districts or programs on
	how to implement activities based on their mode of instruction and Dual
	Language model. Foundational literacy skills in home language may be
	observed across the day, but especially observed in:
	 Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning,
	Story Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions
	Buddy Reading
L	

Standard	Tools of the Mind Activity
Social/Emotional Development	
Goal 30: Develop self-management skills to achieve school and life success and develop positive relationships with others.	
Learning Standard 30.A: Identify and manage one's emotions and behavior.	
30.A.ECa Recognize and label basic emotions.	 Share the News Story Lab- Vocabulary, Connections, Character Empathy, Predictions Buddy Reading Make-Believe Play Block
30.A.ECb Use appropriate communication skills when expressing needs, wants, and feelings.	 Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Block Share the News Story Lab- Connections, Character Empathy
30.A.ECc Express feelings that are appropriate to the situation.	Make-Believe Play PlanningMake-Believe Play Practice



	Make-Believe Play Block
	Share the News
	Story Lab- Connections, Character Empathy
30.A.ECd Begin to understand how to follow rules.	Classroom Practices- Classroom Rules, Clean Up Routine, Daily Schedule
	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern
	Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games, Songs,
	Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants, Mouse Trap, Mr. Wolf
	Make-Believe Play Block
30.A.ECe Use materials with purpose, safety, and respect.	Make-Believe Play Block
	Make-Believe Play Prop Making
	Individual Scaffolded Writing- Make-Believe Play Planning, Story
	Lab-Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab-Extensions
	Shared Scaffolded Writing- Message of the Day, Write a Familiar
	Fingerplay, Write Along
	Buddy Reading
	Small Group Literacy and Small Group Math/Science Activities
	Graphics Practice
30.A.ECf Begin to understand the consequences of his or her behavior.	Classroom Rules
	Share the News
	Story Lab- Connections, Character Empathy, Predictions
Learning Standard 30.B: Recognize own uniqueness and personal qualities.	
30.B.ECa Describe self using several basic characteristics.	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Share the News
	Story Lab- Character Empathy, Connections
Learning Standard 30.C: Demonstrate skills related to successful personal and sci	1 1
30.B.ECa Exhibit eagerness and curiosity as a learner.	Make-Believe Play Block
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Make-Believe Play Prop Making
	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Science Eyes
30.B.ECb Demonstrate persistence and creativity in seeking solutions to problems.	Make-Believe Play Block
	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Share the News
30.B.ECc Show some initiative, self-direction, and independence in actions.	Classroom Practices - Classroom Rules, Clean-up Routine, Daily
	Schedule
	Make-Believe Play Block Make Believe Play Bloming
	Make-Believe Play Planning Planial Sci S Parallelia Activities France Company Patterns
	Physical Self-Regulation Activities- Freeze Game, Pattern Manual National Self-Regulation Activities Freeze Game, Pattern Manual Self-Regulation Freeze
	Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs,



30.B.ECd Demonstrate engagement and sustained attention in activities.	Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf. • Mystery Literacy Activities - Mystery Question, Mystery Letter, Mystery Rhyme, Mystery Word • Mystery Math Activities - Mystery Numeral, Mystery Numeral Two Card, Mystery Pattern, Mystery Shape • Buddy Reading • Make-Believe Play Block • Make-Believe Play Planning • Make-Believe Play Prop Making • Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge • Make-Believe Play Practice • Buddy Reading • All Story Labs • Graphics Practice
	Small Group Literacy, Math/Science Activities
Goal 31: Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain	n positive relationships.
-	-
Learning Standard 31.A: Develop positive relationships with peers and adults).
31.A.ECa Show empathy, sympathy, and caring for others.	 Community-Building Activities Share the News Story Lab- Connections, Character Empathy Make-Believe Play Block
31.A.ECb Recognize the feelings and perspectives of others.	 Community-Building Activities Share the News Story Lab- Vocabulary, Connections, Character Empathy, Predictions Make-Believe Play Practice Make-Believe Play Block Tallying
31.A.ECc Interact easily with familiar adults.	This could be observed across the whole day, both indoor and outdoor time.
31.A.ECd Demonstrate attachment to familiar adults.	This could be observed across the whole day, both indoor and outdoor time.
31.A.ECe Develop positive relationships with peers.	 Community-Building Activities Share the News Make-Believe Play Planning Make-Believe Play Block
Learning Standard 31.B: Use Communication and social skills to interact effectively with others.	
31.B.ECa Interact verbally and nonverbally with other children.	Share the News All Story Labs



	Buddy Reading
	All Small Group Math/Science Activities
	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Make-Believe Play Block
31.B.ECb Engage in cooperative group play.	Make-Believe Play Block
	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Small Group Literacy and Small Group Math/Science Activities
	• Fingerplays, Chants, & Songs
31.B.ECc Use socially appropriate behavior with peers and adults, such as helping, sharing,	Make-Believe Play Block
and taking turns.	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Classroom Rules
	• Clean Up Routine
	• Fingerplays, Chants, & Songs
	• Share the News
	Buddy Reading
Learning Standard 31.C: Demonstrate an ability to prevent, manage, and resolve inter	
, ,	personal conflicts in constructive ways.
31.B.ECa Begin to share materials and experiences and take turns.	Make-Believe Play Block
	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Classroom Rules
	• Fingerplays, Chants, & Songs
	Share the News
31.B.ECb Solve simple conflicts with peers with independence, using gestures or words.	Share the News
	Classroom Rules
	Make-Believe Play Practice
	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Make-Believe Play Block
	Small Group Literacy and Small Group Math/Science Activities
30.B.ECc Seek adult help when needed to resolve conflict.	Make-Believe Play Block
	Make-Believe Play Planning
	Classroom Rules
	Small Group Literacy and Small Group Math/Science Activities
Goal 32: Demonstrate decision-making skills and behaviors in personal, school, and com	nmunity contexts.
Learning Standard 32.A: Begin to consider ethical, safety, and societal factors in making decisions.	
32.A.ECa Participate in discussions about why rules exist.	Classroom Rules
*	Share the News
	Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge
	Make-Believe Play Block
	Truce Delieve Fluy Diock



	Make-Believe Play Planning
32.A.ECb Follow rules and make good choices about behavior.	This could be observed across the whole day, both indoor and outdoor time.
Learning Standard 32.B: Apply decision-making skills to deal responsibly with daily academic and social situations.	
32.B.ECa Participate in discussion about finding alternative solutions to problems.	 Classroom Rules Share the News Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge Make-Believe Play Block Make-Believe Play Planning
Learning Standard 32.C: Contribute to the well-being of one's school and community.	
Refer to Social Studies, Standard 14.A	



Attention Focusing Activities—*Fingerplays, Chants, & Songs*, and clapping games are used as attention focusing activities to capture and regain children's attention prior to starting a Tools activity. These activities also provide children with the opportunity to practice rhyme, develop oral language skills and combine speech with motor actions. AY

Attribute Game- Children learn to recognize basic shapes and learn about their attributes while also working on concepts such as: same/different, more/less & sorting skills. **Semester II**

Buddy Reading—Children practice concepts of print, book handling skills and comprehension building, as well as turn-taking roles of reader and listener in this activity that occurs 2-3 times per week. Children also read their own writing to their 'buddy' several times/week starting in Semester II. Buddy Reading tubs are divided into categories so that children practice classification as part of the clean up routine associated with this activity. **AY**

Key:

AY: All Year: Activity occurs across the year beginning in the first several months of school

Semester I: Activity is typically introduced and used in the first half of the year

Semester II: Activity is typically introduced and used in the second half of the year

Classroom Practices— The following practices are used by teachers in Tools of the Mind and are reflective of the Tools of the Mind classroom experience. AY

Classroom Rules — The teacher and children collaborate to create a set of 3-4 classroom rules for all to follow. Rules are written and accompanied by an icon. Teachers are intentional in previewing relevant rules *before* activities and creatively eliciting children's use of language to remember and say the rules. **AY**

Clean Up Routine – The teacher plays a clean up song and, while it is playing, one teacher walks around and encourages children to finish before the song is over. Children join the other teacher on the rug, and the next activity begins when the song is over.

Daily Schedule— Teachers post icons representing the daily schedule and review with children each day during *Opening Group*. **AY**

External Mediators- Are used to support students in understanding how to begin or complete complex tasks. An example would be the use of "Lips and Ears" cards in *Buddy Reading*, to assist students in understanding when it is their turn to speak and when to listen. External mediators are used in the majority of activities in the Tools of the Mind curriculum. **AY**



Paired "Buddy Work"—Children are paired during small group activities in which there are specific roles for each person. Buddies are expected to help one another and check each other's work, engaging in the Vygotskian practice of "other-regulation." Children are paired with all members of the classroom over time, supporting the development of positive relationships with every member of the group. **AY**

Participation Styles—Teachers are deliberate in their choice of participation styles to keep all children mentally engaged. They include: *Turn & talk*— children turn to peer seated next to them and share; *Double Talk*: children turn and talk with two peers; *Choral Response*—children respond chorally to questions that have a single answer; *Individual Response*—children respond individually to questions posed by the teacher or peers. AY

Scaffolding- Teachers are deliberate in their instruction of students by providing supports, prompts & resources that allow them to work within their **Zone of Proximal Development** and thus achieve cognitive and social growth while fostering independence and confidence. Scaffolding may include deliberately organizing activities where peers support each other and the teacher takes on the role of a facilitator, or the teacher may provide scaffolding directly as needed. **AY**

Community-Building Activities- Games & songs played to assist children in learning & remembering their classmates' names such as; *Name Game Chants, I Have- Who Has Names.* These activities also provide children with the opportunity to practice rhyme, develop oral language skills and combine speech with motor actions. **AY**

Counting Activities—Activities designed to practice counting specific number of objects with accuracy and develop an understanding of self-checking and correction. Counting activities include; *Puzzles, Manipulatives & Blocks, Making Collections, Making Collections with Categories, Math Memory, Number Follow the Leader, Number Line Hopscotch, Numerals Game, Timeline Calendar*. See individual activities for more information. AY

Do What I Do -Children listen and/or view a pattern of actions demonstrated by the teacher, remember and replicate it in this *Attention Focusing*, *Physical Self-regulation*, and *Transition Activity*. **AY**

Elkonin Boxes I-II—This is a series of games designed for practicing phonemic awareness. There are two different versions in which children learn to segment and blend words by phonemes. Children learn in small teacher-led groups. **Semester II**

• Elkonin Boxes I- Jump the Boxes— Children use gesture, jumping and language to break apart and recombine words into individual phonemes



• Elkonin Boxes II- The Token Game — Children work in pairs to push tokens into boxes for each phoneme on selected Elkonin picture cards using gesture and language

Fingerplays, Chants & Songs -Used in a variety of ways. Teachers use as *Attention Focusing Activities* to capture and regain children's attention prior to starting an activity. These activities also provide children with the opportunity to practice rhyme, develop oral language skills and combine speech with motor actions. **AY**

Free Play- A block of time separate from the *Make-Believe Play Block* where children can explore centers either independently, with peers or with scaffolding from a teacher. AY

Freeze Game— Children dance to music looking at poses on a card and freeze to make the pictured pose when music stops. Poses increase in complexity and challenge over time and require a high level of children's focus and attention. **Freeze on the Number** is introduced in Semester II and increases the challenge level of this activity by introducing math concepts. See section **Physical Self-Regulation**. **AY**

Geometry, Measurement, & Data Activities— Children practice these concepts by participating in Attribute Game, I Have-Who Has Shapes, Mystery Shape, Pattern Movement, Remember & Replicate, Science Eyes, Tallying, Venger Drawing & Venger Collage, and Weather Graphing as well as by exploring materials present in the Science, Table Toys or Block Center. See individual activities for more information. AY

Graphics Practice— Graphics Practice is the Tools of the Mind handwriting program in which children develop the fine motor coordination required for drawing and penmanship. Children learn the strokes and shapes, correct grasp and pressure as they direct their hand's motor movements to music. Self-regulation is built into graphics practice as the children stop and start fine motor movement along with the music. Graphics Practice is conducted several times per week. **AY**

I Have—Who Has Games— All I Have—Who Has Games are designed for children to gain automaticity and thus fluency in a particular skill in both literacy and math. The games are motivating, played in small groups, allow children to help one another. Games are introduced by semester listed but may be used throughout the year.

- **I Have—Who Has** Literacy Games are practiced in *Small Group* and include: Introduced Semester I and practiced throughout the year as needed:
 - o Colors—rapid naming of colors Semester I
 - o Names— children learn classmates names Semester I



- o Letters— rapid letter naming Semester II
 - Uppercase letters
 - Lowercase letters
 - Upper and Lowercase letter matching
- o Sounds—children name the sound the letter makes (not the name of the letter) Semester II
- o Vocabulary children learn vocabulary words related to the *Play Theme* AY
- I Have-Who Has Math Games include:
 - o Numerals— rapid naming of numbers Semester I
 - o Shapes—rapid naming of shapes Semester I

Make-Believe Play Block- is the centerpiece of the Tools of the Mind preschool program. It is a 45-60 minute block of uninterrupted time when children engage in intentional make-believe play (similar to dramatic play). Make-Believe Play occurs in all of the centers typically found in a preschool classroom. There are three primary goals:

- To develop children's underlying cognitive skills such as memory, attention & inhibitory control
- To help support children's literacy development. Through dramatization, children strengthen their vocabulary and comprehension skills by using their background knowledge and understanding of the story roles and events.
- To develop social skills involved in play such as turn taking and the ability to understand multiple perspectives

During this time block, children plan their play, engage in play together and work to clean up when play is over. Teachers scaffold *Make-Believe Play Planning* and play development, helping children become deeply engaged in play with one another, and developing ever more mature stages of play. **AY**

Make-Believe Play Building Background Knowledge—In the first week of a new *Play Theme*, children learn about roles, actions, vocabulary and facts related to the upcoming theme. Teachers support children to use Make-Believe Play to bring this information to life during Play centers, and use this information to create setting and props for dramatic play. AY

Make-Believe Play Planning— As part of the *Make-Believe Play Block* children draw and write a plan for their dramatization using *Individual Scaffolded Writing*. Planning includes the role the child will play and role actions and speech. *Play Planning* takes place daily. AY



Make-Believe Play Practice— The teacher leads children in the use of gesture and language to act out the meaning of new vocabulary or facts children have learned about the roles and actions related to the theme being played in the classroom (e.g., a restaurant or hospital), as well as characters' feelings and emotions and story events and actions. Make-Believe Play Practice happens daily. **AY**

Make-Believe Play Prop Making – Teacher provides support and materials for prop making during the background-building week of a new theme. Children also make and invent props on their own throughout the play theme using a variety of materials such as cardboard, paper, wood, tape, glue & paint. AY

Make-Believe Play Scaffolding- Daily support teachers provide to students to support the development of mature make-believe play. **AY**

Making Collections- Children learn to represent quantities with objects and engage in meaningful counting in this small group activity. The format of the game is specifically designed to support partner play & turn taking that allows for the practice of self-regulation skills. In the second semester, Making Collections adds Categories to increase the challenge level of the activity by requiring children to recognize and count objects that belong to distinct categories. AY

Math Memory- In this small group activity, children learn to use mental visualization and language as memory tools to identify objects that have been added, removed or remain the same in an array. Children develop complex vocabulary and language to describe objects and isolate their attributes. Children have a 'Memory Buddy' with whom to practice recall strategies. **Semester I**

Message of the Day- Supports the development of *Scaffolded Writing* by providing the teacher with the opportunity to demonstrate literacy concepts & skills within the *Zone of Proximal Development* of the children in the classroom. Message of the Day is done daily, and children practice the concepts demonstrated during *Scaffolded Writing* activities such as *Make-Believe Play Planning*. AY

Movement Games & Songs- Music & Movement activities are used throughout the day both as *Attention Focusing Activities* as well as for the development of motor skills and the exploration of musical concepts such as rhythm, beat & tempo. AY

Mystery Literacy Activities— Children build literacy skills by solving a daily Mystery. The games help children to practice phonemic awareness, sound-symbol correspondence, compare onset-rime patterns in words and engage with peers as they solve the mysteries together. **AY** Mystery Literacy Activities include:

• Mystery Question—Children work together to solve a daily question e.g. Are you wearing red? Students identify their name on an index card and place it under a response e.g. Yes or No Semester I



- Mystery Letter—Children identify what letter is missing (initial, medial and final positions in words) Semester II
- Mystery Rhyme— Children choose from two words which rhymes with target word Semester II
- Mystery Word—Children view a target sound and match it to the correct picture (beginning or ending sound) Semester II

Mystery Math Activities— Mystery Math activities are designed to teach and reinforce math concepts and engage children in meaningful conversations about math concepts. Children engage in discussion with peers to solve the mysteries. The teacher debriefs their solutions during whole group math. **AY** Mystery Math Activities include:

- Mystery Numeral—Children identify the numeral associated with a number of dots Semester II
- Mystery Numeral Two Card—Requires children to add two quantities pictured on two cards and choose answer Semester II
- Mystery Pattern—Children determine if patterns pictured on strips are the same or different Semester II
- Mystery Shape—By manipulating two pieces of a shape, children determine which pair of composite shapes compose a target shape Semester I

Name Games- Children participate in songs and chants designed to help them learn the names of their classmates. Name Games occur daily at the beginning of the year and are part of the larger construct of *Community Building Activities*. Semester I

Number Follow the Leader- Children take turns being the leader that demonstrates a movement to the class which is then replicated a specific number of times by all the children. **Semester II**

Number Line Hopscotch—This small group activity is designed to practice rote counting by pairing one child's jumping numbered carpet squares with the group's oral counting and clapping. In a more challenging version, the carpet squares are arranged in challenging nonlinear arrangements and include numerals up to 20 or greater. **Semester II**

Numerals Game— In this small group activity, children play in pairs taking turns to count and check a number of objects specified on a numeral card, learning to count and recognize numerals 1-10, then 1-20. AY

Opening Group – Teachers and children start the day in a large group activity which includes *Attention Focusing Activities*, *Timeline Calendar, Weather Graphing, Share the News, Message of the Day, and Physical Self-Regulation Activities*. Opening Group should not exceed 15 minutes. AY

Outdoor Play- Time provided for children to play outside with a variety of structures and materials on a daily basis AY



Pattern Movement—Children use gesture and language to replicate patterns in this teacher-led *Physical Self-Regulation Activity*. AY

Physical Self-Regulation Activities—A key component in developing self-regulation in the Tools of the Mind program are the physical self-regulation activities. Children practice physical self-regulation by planning and inhibiting specific actions until the appropriate moment. The activities are designed to allow children to practice controlling body movements by matching them to cues. Physical Self-regulation Activities are used to focus children at the start of new activity blocks to prepare children to learn. They learn to follow multi-step directions and increase in complexity throughout the year. Activities include: *Freeze Game, Pattern Movement, Number Follow the Leader, Movement Games & Songs, Do What I Do, Fingerplays, Chants & Songs, Mouse Trap, and Mr. Wolf.*

Play Themes- Five Play Themes are provided to teachers to begin the school year: Family, Restaurant, Grocery Store, Hospital/Health Clinic & Pets & Vets. Teachers are provided with guidance on how to create their own *Play Themes* based on the interests of the children in their class and the resources of the community to create Make-Believe Play Centers for the remainder of the year. **AY**

Poems- Children are exposed to poems both during *Fingerplays, Chants & Songs* as well as *Write a Familiar Fingerplay*. Semester II

Pretend Transitions—Children combine gesture, private speech, and pretending during all transitions throughout the day in this **Self**—**Regulation Transition Activity. AY**

Private Speech- a Vygotskian term meaning audible self-directed speech that assists one with regulating thinking & behavior. The tactic of use of Private Speech is taught to students in the Tools of the Mind curriculum as a strategy for learning & self-regulation. **AY**

Puzzles, Manipulatives & Blocks — Teacher facilitated small group experience where children explore, plan and create using Tangrams, Cuisenaire Rods, Unifix Cubes, Patterns Blocks and Jigsaw and Puzzles, and other Manipulatives & Math materials. These materials are also available for exploration in the Table Toys Centers during Free Choice. **Semester I**

Remember & Replicate- In this small group activity, children remember and replicate sets of play dough forms different colors, sizes and shapes that they first watch the teacher make and assemble. The activity develops the child's fine motor skills, memory & knowledge of positional words and shape, spatial and color concepts. **Semester I**



Rhyming Game — Children are asked to make a rhyme with the word modeled by the teacher. Children make rhyming words with their peers (turn & talk, double talk) and respond chorally to the teacher with examples. Semester II

Scaffolding- Teachers are deliberate in their instruction of students by providing supports, prompts & resources that allow them to work within their **Zone of Proximal Development** and thus achieve cognitive and social growth while fostering independence and confidence. Scaffolding may include deliberately organizing activities where peers support each other and the teacher takes on the role of a facilitator, or the teacher may provide scaffolding directly as needed. **AY**

Scaffolded Writing—In the Tools of the Mind program, writing is seen as the gateway to literacy learning. As children learn to encode, they are practicing all skills needed for decoding. **AY**

- Shared Scaffolded Writing In this shared writing experience, children learn the mechanics of how to do Scaffolded Writing with the support of both teacher and peers. The teacher introduces and models the process step by step, and children then write all together. Children learn concept of word, voice-to-line match, sound-to-symbol correspondence and how to use the *Sound Map*. Children learn that writing has a purpose and develop the ability to "read" and "re-read" their writing, all steps on the path to decoding. Shared Scaffolded Writing occurs during *Message of the Day, Write a Familiar Fingerplay & Write Along*. AY
- Individual Scaffolded Writing A child produces an individual, unique written product demonstrating levels of understanding of meaning and mechanics. Children receive scaffolding support from adults and peers and, when ready, use the *Sound Map* to practice sound-to-symbol correspondence. The primary Individual Scaffolded Writing activities include: *Make-Believe Play Planning, Story Lab- Learning Facts, Science Eyes, Story Lab Story Extensions.* AY

Science Eyes —Science activities designed to apply and extend children's knowledge, develop new vocabulary, learn and apply scientific method of discovery, observation, data collection, data recording and analysis. Children work in pairs, taking turns looking at objects and describing what they see using a variety of senses. Children draw, write and use mathematics in these activities. AY Science Eyes activities increase in complexity throughout the year and include:

- Science Eyes-Science Experiments This version of Science Eyes includes long-range observational studies and experiments Semester II
- Science Eyes- Journals- Children are provided with journals in which to record their observations during Science Eyes experiments or long-range observational studies. Semester II



• Science Eyes – Senses – Children learn to classify their observations and remember to use more than one sense to observe. Semester II

Self-Regulation Transition Activities—Designed to promote focused attention, deliberate memory and the use of private speech (all components of self-regulation) to set the stage for children to learn. These activities are designed to use during transitions and less structured times during the day. Activities include: **Do What I Do and Pretend Transitions**. See individual activities for descriptions. **AY**

Share the News—During Share the News, children engage in collaborative conversations with peers, taking turns in conversations. There are rules to guide Share the News. Topics are presented by the teacher; including feelings, social problem solving, opinions, ideas and concepts. Tools participation styles, *Turn & Talk* and *Double Talk*, are used. AY

Small Group Activities (Math/Science & Literacy)- Refers to an instructional practice whereby children are divided into two or three groups to engage in a teacher planned and facilitated learning experience with a specified learning objective from the Tools of the Mind curriculum. Small group learning activities happen daily. AY

Sound Map- (consonant & vowel) – a map of letters with a pictorial representation designed to allow children to explore sound-to-symbol correspondence and develop phonemic awareness. **AY**

Story Lab—Story Lab is an interactive reading activity where children listen with a purpose, with a specific comprehension strategy in mind and then answer questions related to the strategy. Story Lab is an integral part of Dramatization, Scaffolded Writing activities and decoding instruction. Story Lab is connected to both Dramatization as well as Math & Science concepts. The teacher leads the children with speech and gesture to process information, remember story elements and actively practice comprehension strategies. **AY**

- Story Lab Active Listening Children learn to ask and respond to questions about ideas and facts within a text. AY
- Story Lab Character Empathy— Children think about and label what a character is feeling AY
- Story Lab Connections— Children make connections between something that is known and something that is learned from a text AY
- Story Lab Extensions- Children use drawing and writing to extend a predictable, patterned book Semester II
- Story Lab Learning Facts Children talk about an eventual draw a fact from a Non-Fiction text Semester I
- Story Lab- Predictions—Children make text-based predictions about the next chapter based upon background knowledge of the developing story line within the book Semester II
- Story Lab-Story Grammar— Children identify and diagram the main characters, setting and sequence of events Semester II



• Story Lab-Vocabulary—Children learn the meaning of new words and practice remembering their meaning AY

Take-Away Sounds- A teacher led activity that prompts children to break words up into initial sounds (onset) and rime. Semester II

Tallying— Children learn how to create a visual model of "5" and to track of items counted with different questions. Semester II

Timeline Calendar— Timeline Calendar uses a number line for the concept of time in this daily *Opening Group* activity. Children are able to learn that days make up months, and months make up years and that time is a continuous concept. Teachers lead children in counting and clapping the days and practice time vocabulary like before, after, until, how long. At the end of the year, teachers transform the number line with children into a conventional monthly calendar format. **AY**

Venger Drawing— Children use basic shapes to make their own pictures, applying the concept of shape in am meaningful context in this small group activity. Children learn to discuss, imagine and then incorporate basic shapes into their own drawings and label their designs. **Semester I**

Venger Collage— In this more challenging version, children cut, paste and incorporate colored geometric shapes into their Venger Drawings. Children write a sentence to describe their creation. **Semester II**

Weather Graphing—Children learn to observe and use a graph to record, summarize, read and analyze weather data in this daily *Opening Group* activity. Children practice math skills, comparing quantities, counting to confirm and the concept of zero. AY

Write a Familiar Fingerplay- A teacher led activity that is an extension of *Message of the Day*, where *Shared Scaffolded Writing* is used to model writing a familiar fingerplay, song, chant or poem for students. Semester II

Write Along— A teacher led activity that is an extension of *Message of the Day* where children write the daily message using *Shared Scaffolded Writing* instead of participating verbally as the teacher writes. Semester II

Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)- A term used to explain the Vygotskian description of how learning and development are related. At the bottom of the Zone of Proximal Development is what the child can do independently. At the top of the Zone is what the child can do with maximum assistance. Knowing what a child's ZPD is for any given skill allows the teacher to most effectively provide instruction as it can be aimed at a level just beyond what the child can do independently thereby allowing learning to lead development.



In addition to all of the above Tools of the Mind Terms and Activities, each Tools of the Mind preschool classroom will usually also include the following centers typically found in early childhood classrooms:

Art Center- One of the six centers, Art Center activities include exploration of open-ended materials such as paint, play-doh, markers & crayons as well as materials for creation of three-dimensional art projects such as glue, wood and found materials. **AY**

Block Center— One of the six centers, Block Center activities include exploration of open-ended construction materials such as Unit Blocks, books on construction and related play materials that support building such as signs, trucks and small people and animals. **AY**

Dramatic Play Center-One of the six centers, Dramatic Play Center activities include exploration of open-ended materials such as fabric and costumes, kitchen set and furniture, pretend food and props for role-play. **AY**

Listening Center—Classrooms may include a Listening Center where children listen to recorded books in their Literacy Center. AY

Literacy Center- One of the six centers, Literacy Center activities include exploration of open-ended literacy materials such as books on various topics, writing paper and implements, listening center materials, computers and other technology, journal and letter writing materials and other literacy related play materials. **AY**

Science Center-One of the six centers, Science Center activities include exploration of science materials such as magnets, magnifying glasses, objects from nature, living things, and sensory materials. **AY**

Table Toys Center— One of six centers, children explore, plan and create using Tangrams, Cuisenaire Rods, Unifix Cubes, Patterns Blocks and Jigsaw and logic puzzles and other selected small Manipulatives & Math activities. **AY**