



4-Year-Old Goals

These goals are based on the Work Sampling System Developmental Guidelines for Preschool 4 (age 4). They incorporate state and national standards of curriculum development and teaching practices and are organized according to specific areas of development. They are also tied into the Illinois Early Learning Standards.

Personal and Social Development

- To demonstrate self-confidence
- To show some self-direction
- To follow simple classroom rules and routines
- To carefully use classroom materials
- To manage transitions
- To show eagerness and curiosity as a learner
- To attend to tasks and seek help when encountering a problem
- To approach tasks with flexibility and inventiveness
- To interact easily with one or more children
- To interact easily with familiar adults
- To participate in the group life of the class
- To show empathy and caring for others
- To seek adult help when needed to resolve conflicts

Language and Literacy

- To gain meaning by listening
- To follow two or three-step directions (with no visual prompts)
- To demonstrate phonological awareness
- To speak clearly enough to be understood without contextual clues
- To use expanded vocabulary and language for a variety of purposes
- To show an appreciation for books and reading
- To show a beginning understanding of concepts about print
- To begin to develop knowledge about letters
- To comprehend and respond to stories read aloud
- To represent ideas and stories through pictures, dictation and play
- To use letter-like shapes, symbols, and letters to convey meaning
- To understand purposes for writing
- To draw a human figure with 10 body parts
- To write most of the letters in his/her name (uppercase)
- To use an appropriate pencil grip
- To establish handedness



Mathematical Thinking

- To begin to use simple strategies to solve mathematical problems
- To show beginning understanding of numbers and quantity
- To sort objects into subgroups that vary by one or two attributes
- To recognize simple patterns and duplicate them
- To begin to recognize and describe the attributes of shapes
- To show an understanding of and use of several positional words
- To participate in measuring activities

Scientific Thinking

- To ask questions and use senses to observe and explore materials and natural phenomena
- To use simple tools and equipment for investigation
- To make comparisons among objects

Social Studies

- To identify similarities and differences in personal and family characteristics
- To begin to understand family needs, roles and relationships
- To describe some people's jobs and what is required to perform them
- To begin to be aware of technology and how it affects life
- To demonstrate an awareness of rules
- To show awareness of what it means to be a leader

The Arts

- To participate in group music experiences
- To participate in creative movement, dance and drama
- To use a variety of art materials for tactile experience and exploration

Physical Development and Health

- To move with balance and control
- To coordinate movements to perform gross motor tasks
- To use eye-hand coordination to perform fine motor tasks
- To show beginning control of writing, drawing and art tools
- To perform self-care tasks independently
- To follow basic health and safety rules