



Kansas Early Learning Standards Overview Building the Foundation for Successful Children

The Kansas Early Learning Standards provide guidance to early care providers, educators, professionals, and families. The Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS) are designed to guide the developmental sequence of learning for children from birth through kindergarten. KELS is a standards-based, child-focused approach that links standards to program decisions. They provide the foundation as learning environments are designed and activities are planned. They are an extensive resource for early childhood educators, caregivers, and families.

All young children are unique and capable learners that develop at their own pace. A rich nurturing environment helps children feel safe so they can thrive. The purpose of the Kansas Early Learning Standards is intended to provide a clear understanding of what young children should know and be able to do as a result of a quality early learning environment.

The Kansas Early Learning Standards provide guidance for professionals in early childhood. They support professional development that enhances their ability to provide developmentally appropriate activities and experiences for children that promote learning opportunities that build upon themselves. During the early years children acquire skills and knowledge in all developmental areas including physical health, social-emotional development, communication, literacy, math, science, and social studies. All areas of development are interrelated, and a foundation in these areas are critical to future learning.

The Kansas Early Learning Standards will assist you in your planning, guide you in selecting an appropriate curriculum, and serve as a foundation to create a quality early learning environment. The KELS will give you the tools to ensure your program prepares children and families for future learning.

<http://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Early-Childhood-Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Early-Childhood>

