



# CURRICULUM GOALS



801 Percy Warner Boulevard, Nashville, TN 37205  
615.345.7170 | [nashvillejcc.org](http://nashvillejcc.org)

# DISCOVER. WONDER. EXPLORE.

The Gordon JCC Early Childhood Learning Center offers unlimited opportunities for growth and learning. Learning occurs when children participate in language activities, pre-reading and math games, songs, construction, drama and experimentation. It is through these exciting experiences that children develop important cognitive, motor and social skills.

The following are our Curriculum Goals, arranged by age groups. It is important to keep in mind that children, despite their chronological ages, may acquire skills at different times. We have designed our curriculum to build the skills that are necessary for children to become problem solvers, successful students and lifelong learners.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Listens to stories, rhymes and songs

Recites simple rhymes

Names objects

Speaks in complete sentences

Draws a picture and names the object

Names and sorts common items (food, toys, clothing)

Identifies like objects

Determines what's missing from a group of three objects

Follows one or two step directions

Imitates three step auditory patterns

Recognizes basic shapes (circle, square, triangle)

Recognizes basic colors (red, yellow, blue, green, orange, and purple)

Understands basic opposites

Understands roles of author and illustrator

Recognizes parts of a book (front, back, top, bottom)

Recognizes first name

Sequencing

Follows directions

Attends to one-on-one tasks

### 1's

Retells a story

Describes objects and pictures

Draws a picture and dictates text to teacher

Names and sorts objects by identifying attributes (curved, edible)

Identifies objects that are the same or different

Sequences a three part story

Follows two or three step directions

Imitates four step auditory patterns

Names shapes (rectangle, oval, heart, diamond)

Names colors (brown, black, white, silver, gold, pink)

Determines what's missing from a group of four objects

Understands more complex opposites

Understands left to right and top to bottom progression

Writes first name

Recognizes last name

Reads names of classmates

Identifies upper case letters

Matches beginning sounds

Identifies words that rhyme

Hears syllables

Writes upper case letters

Recites days of the week

Knows birthday

### 2's

Retells a complex story

Describes properties and uses of objects

Interprets events shown in a picture

Sorts and classifies objects using several attributes

Identifies detailed objects/pictures that are the same or different

Matches objects that go together

Determines what's missing from a group of five objects

Identifies hidden pictures

Recognizes whole/part relationships (hands - clock, leg - table)

Sequences a four part story

Follows three or four step directions

Imitates five step auditory patterns

Names complex shapes (pentagon, hexagon, octagon, sphere, cube, cylinder, pyramid)

Names complex colors (magenta, teal, fuchsia, tan, gray, beige, burgundy)

Knows left and right

Understands left to right, return sweep, top to bottom and spacing conventions

Writes first and last names

Recognizes upper and lower case letters

Knows sounds of the letters

Supplies a word that rhymes with another

Decodes simple words

Identifies color and number words

Recognizes word family patterns

Understands when to use a capital letter

Understands basic punctuation

Writes lower case letters

Writes simple words and sentences

Recites months of the year

Knows phone number

Knows address

Spatial words/concepts

Small group instruction with academic rotations

### 3's



# MATH

Begins to understand one-to-one correspondence

Matches sets

Counts orally to ten

Counts three objects

Identifies positions (first, middle, last)

Sorts and classifies objects on the basis of one characteristic

Recognizes and extends simple patterns

Understands measurement

terms (short, tall, heavy, light, small, long, short)

Puts objects in order by size

Describes spatial relationships

(in, out, above, below, up, down, over, under, on, off)

Describes characteristics of shapes

Understands zero

Compares sets and identifies which has more or less

Uses sets of objects to represent a number

Solves simple addition problems using objects

Counts orally to 20

Counts 10 objects

Recognizes numbers 1-10

Identifies ordinal positions (first through fifth)

Sorts and classifies objects using a variety of classification schemes

Recognizes and extends a pattern of three variables

Uses non-standard measuring devices such as blocks, string

Puts objects in order by length, height

Compares weight of objects

Recognizes two and three dimensional shapes

Understands concepts of whole and half

Sorts coins

Understands a simple graph

## 1's

Compares sets and identifies difference in numeric terms

Solves addition and subtraction problems using objects

Counts orally to 100

Counts 20 objects

Recognizes numbers 0-20

Writes numerals 0-9

Identifies ordinal positions (first through tenth)

Sorts and classifies objects using intersecting sets

Extends complex patterns

Measures objects (length, height, weight)

Describes characteristics of two and three dimensional shapes

Recognizes concepts of whole, half, quarter, third

Understands equivalent forms of the same number (5 is 1+4 or 2+3)

Estimates number of objects in a container

Sorts and names coins

Uses graphs and charts

Records results of a survey

## 2's

# SOCIAL SKILLS/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Identifies self and family members

Begins to solve problems verbally

Participates in games

Helps clean up toys

Takes care of personal belongings

Begins to understand and follow rules

Utilizes play to develop self-regulation skills

Identifies family relationships

Differentiates between yesterday, today and tomorrow

Follows simple rules in a game

Understands that people are alike and different

Understands that families share responsibilities

Shares classroom materials

Demonstrates awareness of community helpers and their roles

Begins to demonstrate persistence and creativity in problem solving

Utilizes play to promote social confidence and interaction

Develops empathy, sympathy and caring for others

Works cooperatively with others

Takes responsibility for physical needs, clean up, personal belongings

Shows empathy for other's feelings

Helps classmates with tasks

Takes turns in use of toys and materials

Follows classroom routines such as check-in

Participates in discussions and finding solutions

Develops an awareness of what it means to be a leader



## 3's

# SCIENCE



Identifies parts of the body (ears, nose, fingers, eyes, head, hands, mouth, tongue, legs, arms, feet)  
Understands concepts of hot, cold, wet, dry, hard, soft, rough, smooth  
Understands five senses and relates to body parts  
Shows respect for living things  
Matches textures  
Explores magnets and magnifying glasses

Names animals/babies (farm pets, etc.)  
Understands that seeds make new plants  
Experiments with sensory materials and describes their properties  
Identifies insects/flowers  
Identifies simple fruits (apples, oranges, bananas, grapes, strawberries)  
Identifies simple vegetables (tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, potatoes)  
Mixes colors

**1's**

Names parts of the body (eyebrows, shoulders, thumb, neck, chin, knees, toes, elbows, chest, heel)  
Names parts of a plant (leaf, stem, root, flower)  
Uses five senses to identify objects or attributes  
Understands good nutrition

Understands that objects float or sink  
Understands properties of water and that it can change its form  
Understands that air is everywhere  
Knows that the sun supplies warmth and heat  
Compares things that are living or nonliving  
Understands that some things are attracted to or repelled by a magnet

Names and groups animals, insects, arachnids  
Plans and carries out simple investigations  
Experiments with changes in matter when combined with other substances  
Observes and discusses changes in weather and seasons using common vocabulary  
Understands metamorphosis

**2's**

Names parts of the body (shin, wrist, calf, index finger, eyelashes, thighs, hips, ankles, soles, palms)  
Understands that living things need water, light and air  
Understands that some foods come from different parts of a plant  
Understands the difference between fruits and vegetables

Able to make a floating object sink and a sinker float  
Conducts simple science experiments and records results  
Distinguishes properties of objects by using senses  
Describes characteristics of animals, insects, arachnids

Explores systems of the body  
Explores recycling and ecology  
Describes simple ways to care for the environment  
Expresses wonder and curiosity about their world by asking questions, solving problems and designing things

**3's**

# FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Fills containers with rice or sand using a shovel or spoon  
Turns single pages  
Puts pegs in pegboards  
Tears paper

Strings large beads  
Puts lids on jars  
Draws horizontal lines and circles  
Makes playdough balls  
Builds a block tower

Srips and fringes paper using scissors  
Draws a simple face  
Follows a highlighted outline to make a shape  
Uses clothespins to grip objects

**1's**

Screws and unscrews nuts and bolts  
Strings small beads  
Makes playdough ropes  
Holds pencil with fingers  
Draws a person

Copies horizontal and vertical lines, circles, crosses, and diagonal lines  
Copies basic shapes  
Cuts on a straight line  
Laces following a sequence of holes  
Folds paper in half

Follows a highlighted outline to make a shape or letter  
Snaps an article of clothing  
Buckles a belt  
Buttons an article of clothing

**2's**

Copies designs  
Cuts along a curved line  
Cuts out circles, triangles and rectangles  
Completes a dot-to-dot  
Completes a maze

Draws a person including many details  
Folds paper into quarters  
Uses tweezers to pick up objects  
Zips an article of clothing

**3's**



# JUDAiCS

Becomes familiar with Shabbat rituals, symbols and prayers

Learns about Jewish holidays through stories, songs and symbols

Listens to Bible stories

Participates in Shabbat Service

Recites Shabbat prayers

Learns about Mitzvot such as Tzedakah

Learns holiday stories and songs

Participates in activities related to Jewish values

Listens to and retells Bible stories



Recites daily prayers

Recites prayers for various types of food

Learns about Havdallah to welcome each sweet new week

Learns Hebrew words for some body parts, holiday symbols and foods

Learns about Mitzvot such as caring for animals, welcoming guests

Participates in activities related to Jewish values and principles

Learns about Jewish history beginning with the Creation

## MUSIC & AUDITORY SKILLS



Matches sounds

Differentiates between loud and soft sounds

Sings simple songs

Participates in rhythm games

Plays a variety of instruments

Chants a rhyme

Identifies sources of sounds (baby crying, rain, dog barking)

Identifies instruments (drum, piano, guitar)

Follows musical patterns

### 1's



Begins to relate music to expression and feeling by moving body

Differentiates between high and low sounds

Copies a rhythm pattern

Uses instruments rhythmically

Participates in simple dances

Identifies sources of sounds (car horn, thunder, alarm clock)

Identifies instruments (xylophone, violin, tambourine)

Uses voice expressively when singing or chanting

Sings songs of several verses

### 2's

Creates movements to relate to rhythm and music

Distinguishes between different pitches

Distinguishes between different tempos

Creates short pieces of music with instruments

Improvises instrumental accompaniments to songs

Identifies sources of sounds (piano, guitar, violin)

Participates in more complex dances

Identifies instruments by sound

Coordinates rhythm and timing in movement activities

Moves in coordination with a partner

Sings more complex songs

### 3's

# VISUAL ARTS

Uses a variety of tools and media in a safe and appropriate manner

Uses materials and instruments that are the appropriate size and shape (i.e., large paper and brushes, chubby crayons)

Begins to use smaller implements such as thinner pencils and crayons

Uses a wider variety of tools and materials such as glue, string, wood, clay, natural objects, yarn, paper mache

Begins to combine two dimensional work with three dimensional work in collage and sculpture

Incorporates leather, wood, clay, fiber, boxes, wire into artwork

Recognizes and produces artwork using shades and tints

Develops motor planning

Practices fine motor control

Uses watercolors, chalk and a variety of materials such as foil, Styrofoam, contact paper, textured paper

Recognizes and produces artwork using primary and secondary colors

Begins to combine various materials and tools to produce multimedia artwork

Becomes familiar with the language of art such as line, shape, balance, positive and negative space

Explores techniques such as relief printing, monoprints, stitchery

Recognizes and produces artwork using a variety of colors, shapes and textures

Uses writing and drawing tools with some control

1's

Begins to explore sculpture and modeling

Begins to explore styles and techniques of famous artists such as Michelangelo, Monet and Cezanne

2's



3's

# PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Catches a rolled ball

Throws a small object

Jumps with two feet

Walks up steps

Engages in active play using gross and fine motor skills

Follows simple safety rules while participating in activities

Walks forward on a line

Completes an obstacle course

Does a pencil roll

Develops gross motor control

Runs

1's

Catches a thrown ball against body

Throws a ball with direction using two hands

Rolls a ball to a target

Hops on one foot

Walks forward and backward on a line

Walks forward on a balance beam

Walks on tip toe

Rides a tricycle

Does a forward roll

Moves with balance and control in a range of physical activities

Combines large motor movements with and without the use of equipment

Demonstrates ability to cooperate with others during group physical activities

2's



Catches a ball away from body

Throws a ball with direction using one hand

Throws a ball into the air and catches it

Bounces and catches a ball

Balances on one foot

Walks forward, backward, and sideways on balance beam

Coordinates rhythm and timing in movement activities

Moves in coordination with a partner

Skips and gallops

Uses strength and control to accomplish tasks

Uses eye-hand coordination to perform tasks

Follows rules and procedures when participating in group physical activities

3's

