

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) was created and is licensed by the Offord Center at McMaster University. This information is provided by the Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS) Initiative at the Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities at UCLA.



The Early Development Instrument (EDI) outcomes show five key domains of early childhood development that children need to thrive in health, development, and school readiness. These domains are made up of subdomains, helping us further explore strengths and needs of DC's 4-year-old population. The specific assessment indicators, completed by teachers, tie to each subdomain and domain. You can use these lists to further refine your own practices and policies.



## Physical Health & Well-being domain

### Subdomain: Physical readiness for school day

- Over- or underdressed for school-related activities
- Too tired/sick to do school work
- Late
- Hungry

### Subdomain: Physical independence

- Independent in bathroom habits most of the time
- Shows an established hand preference
- Well-coordinated
- Sucks a thumb/finger

### Subdomain: Gross and fine motor skills

- Proficient at holding a pen, crayons, or a paintbrush
- Ability to manipulate objects
- Ability to climb stairs
- Level of energy throughout the school day
- Overall physical development



## Social Competence domain

### Subdomain: Overall competence with peers

- Overall social/emotional development
- Ability to get along with peers
- Plays and works cooperatively with other children
- Able to play with other children
- Shows self-confidence

### Subdomain: Respect and responsibility

- Follows rules and instructions
- Respects the property of others
- Demonstrates self-control
- Demonstrates respect for adults
- Demonstrates respect for other children
- Accepts responsibility for actions
- Takes care of school materials
- Shows tolerance to someone who made a mistake

### Subdomain: Approaches to learning

- Listens attentively
- Follows directions
- Completes work on time
- Works independently
- Works neatly and carefully
- Able to solve day-to-day problems by him/herself
- Able to follow one-step instructions
- Able to follow class routines without reminders
- Able to adjust to changes in routines

### Subdomain: Readiness to explore new things

- Curious about the world
- Eager to play with a new toy
- Eager to play a new game
- Eager to play with/read a new book

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## Emotional Maturity domain

### Subdomain: Prosocial and helping behavior

- Tries to help someone who is hurt
- Volunteers to help clean up a mess someone else has made
- Will try to stop a quarrel or dispute
- Offers to help others who have difficulty with a task
- Comforts a child who is crying or upset
- Spontaneously helps to pick up objects that another child has dropped
- Invites bystanders to join a game
- Helps other children who are feeling sick

### Subdomain: Aggressive behavior

- Gets into physical fights
- Bullies or is mean to others
- Kicks, bites, hits other children or adults
- Takes things that do not belong to him/her
- Laughs at other children's discomfort
- Disobedient
- Has temper tantrums

### Subdomain: Anxious and fearful behavior

- Is upset when left by a parent/guardian
- Seems to be unhappy, sad, or depressed
- Appears fearful or anxious
- Appears worried
- Cries a lot
- Nervous, high-strung, or tense
- Incapable of making decisions
- Shy

### Subdomain: Hyperactive and inattentive behavior

- Can't sit still, restless
- Distractible, has trouble sticking to any activity
- Fidgets
- Impulsive, acts without thinking
- Has difficulty awaiting turn in games or groups
- Cannot settle into anything for more than a few moments
- Inattentive



## Language & Cognitive Development domain

### Subdomain: Basic literacy skills

- Knows how to handle a book
- Able to identify at least 10 letters of the alphabet
- Able to attach sounds to letters
- Showing awareness of rhyming words
- Able to participate in group reading activities
- Experimenting with writing tools
- Aware of writing directions in English
- Able to write his/her own name in English

### Subdomain: Interest in literacy/numeracy and memory

- Generally interested in books
- Interested in reading
- Able to remember things easily
- Interested in mathematics
- Interested in games involving numbers

### Subdomain: Advanced literacy skills

- Able to read simple words
- Able to read complex words
- Able to read simple sentences
- Interested in writing voluntarily
- Able to write simple words
- Able to write simple sentences

### Subdomain: Basic numeracy skills

- Able to sort and classify objects by a common characteristic
- Able to use one-to-one correspondence
- Able to count to 20
- Able to recognize numbers 1-10
- Able to say which number is greater of the two
- Able to recognize geometric shapes



## Communications Skills & General Knowledge domain

### Subdomain: n/a

- Ability to use language effectively in English
- Ability to listen in English
- Ability to tell a story
- Ability to take part in imaginative play
- Ability to communicate one's own needs in a way understandable to adults & peers
- Ability to understand on first try what is being said to him/her
- Ability to articulate clearly, without sound substitutions
- Answers questions showing knowledge about the world

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