

# CTELDS



Connecticut Early Learning  
and Development Standards

*What children, birth to five,  
should know and be able to do*



*Connecticut's Early Learning and Development Standards  
were developed to help families, communities and schools  
work together to support children's early learning and growth.*



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*Photos taken at the Connecticut Early Childhood Block Party in Hartford's Bushnell Park on August 24, 2013, courtesy of Leah Grenier (cover photo and pages 4, 5, 6 and 10)*

*CT ELDS logo design by Andrea Wadowski, Connecticut State Department of Education.*

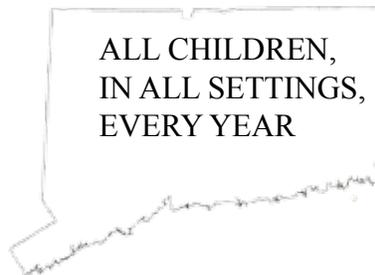
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I am pleased to introduce the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards (CT ELDS) which serve as the foundation for supporting ALL young children in Connecticut, no matter where they live, play and learn. The CT ELDS are statements of what children from birth to age five should know and be able to do across the earliest years of development.

The learning progressions within the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards promote:

- Equity for all children, through the setting of high, but appropriate, expectations;
- High-quality early learning experiences, by providing clear goals and trajectories of learning;
- Provision of individual support, based on each child's growth and development;
- Families' understanding of what their children are learning and how they can support them;
- Teachers' understanding of age-appropriate content and approaches to children's learning; and,
- Communication across sectors, based upon these common goals for children.

The CT ELDS were developed through the work of the Connecticut Early Childhood Education Cabinet and its Learning Standards Workgroup. In addition, over 100 state and national experts participated in some way during the development process, helping to ensure a strong and comprehensive set of learning standards.



Connecticut's vision is that all young children will have high-quality learning experiences, across all types of settings, and that children's growth and development will be supported across every year of their lives. The CT ELDS serve as a foundation for achieving this vision as they provide the basis for planning learning environments, supporting individual children and communicating around common goals.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Myra Jones-Taylor".

Myra Jones-Taylor, Ph.D.  
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