



Connecticut Office of
Early Childhood

Excerpt: Introduction

This document is an excerpt of:

[CT ELDS Main: What Children Birth to 5 Should Know and Be Able To Do](#)

Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2014

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.*



April 2014

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.

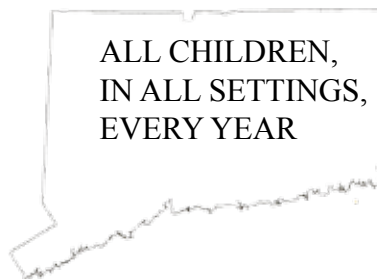
Document design and layout by EASTCONN Communications, Hampton, Connecticut.

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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