

Kiddie Academy® Life Essentials® 6 Weeks – 36 Months Curriculum Exceeds Michigan State Standards



APPROACHES TO LEARNING	MI	Life Essentials®
INITIATIVE AND CURIOSITY		
Demonstrates initiative and curiosity in the world around them	✓	✓
ATTENTIVENESS		
Demonstrates the ability to focus on a task	✓	✓
PERSISTENCE		
Demonstrates persistence to complete a task		✓
PROBLEM SOLVING		
Applies strategies to solve problems	✓	✓
CREATIVITY AND INVENTIVENESS		
Demonstrates creativity and imagination	✓	✓
COOPERATION		
Demonstrates cooperative behaviors in stages of play	✓	✓
MEMORY		
Responds to familiar and unfamiliar people, objects, and events	✓	✓
Uses memories and prior knowledge to build new knowledge		✓

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	MI	Life Essentials®
SELF-CONCEPT		
Develops self-awareness	✓	✓
SELF-REGULATION		
Demonstrates self-control	✓	✓
SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS		
Develops appropriate social skills to establish and maintain positive relationships	✓	✓
EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH		
Demonstrates positive behaviors and engages in self-expression	✓	✓

MATHEMATICAL THINKING	MI	Life Essentials®
NUMBERS AND OPERATIONS		
Develops understanding of numbers and quantities	✓	✓
COUNTING AND CARDINALITY		
Demonstrates beginning ability to count in order to compare and contrast quantities		✓
Uses mathematical thinking to solve problems		✓
GEOMETRY		
Demonstrates beginning understanding of spatial awareness	✓	✓
Explores and identifies basic shapes		✓
MEASUREMENT AND DATA		
Explores and communicates basic measurement attributes		✓
Demonstrates and increased ability to compare, sort, classify, and create patterns		✓

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	MI	Life Essentials®
ALPHABET AND WORD KNOWLEDGE		
Demonstrates emerging knowledge of the alphabet and environmental print	✓	✓
PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS		
Demonstrates an early awareness of spoken words and sounds	✓	✓
EMERGENT WRITING		
Demonstrates pre-writing skills		✓
CONCEPTS OF PRINT		
Demonstrates book knowledge and awareness of print	✓	✓
COMPREHENSION		
Attends to and comprehends meaning from stories and informational text read aloud		✓
VOCABULARY		
Demonstrates understanding and responds to communication	✓	✓
RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE		
Responds to familiar and unfamiliar people, objects, and events	✓	✓
EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE		
Communicates needs and wants using verbal and non-verbal cues	✓	✓

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH	MI	Life Essentials®
FUNDAMENTALS OF HEALTH AND SELF CARE		
Demonstrates increased understanding of healthy and self-care practices	✓	✓
BODY AWARENESS		
Demonstrates awareness of body	✓	✓
Identifies basic body parts		✓
SAFE PRACTICES		
Develops and demonstrates awareness of basic safety routines	✓	✓
FINE MOTOR SKILLS		
Demonstrates hand-eye coordination	✓	✓
Demonstrates strength, coordination, and small muscle control	✓	✓
GROSS MOTOR SKILLS		
Develops large muscle control for movement and exploration	✓	✓
Demonstrates balance, strength, and coordination	✓	✓
NUTRITION		
Demonstrates increasing healthy eating habits	✓	✓
SLEEP HABITS		
Develops healthy sleeping habits	✓	✓
PHYSICAL PLAY		
Engages in active play	✓	✓

CREATIVE EXPRESSION	MI	Life Essentials®
MUSIC AND MOVEMENT		
Engages in musical experiences	✓	✓
DRAMATIC PLAY		
Uses pretend play to demonstrate self-expression and creativity	✓	✓
VISUAL ARTS		
Explores a variety of materials to express self through art	✓	✓

SOCIAL STUDIES	MI	Life Essentials®
SELF, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY		
Demonstrates and increased understanding of relationships and roles within their family, community, and themselves as members of a group	✓	✓
Demonstrates understanding of acceptable behaviors	✓	✓
HISTORY		
Demonstrates an awareness of time and events	✓	✓
GEOGRAPHY		
Demonstrates awareness of physical features in his/her environment		✓
ECONOMICS AND RESOURCES		
Demonstrates an awareness of community workers		✓
Demonstrates an awareness of economics and the ability to make choices		✓

SCIENTIFIC THINKING	MI	Life Essentials®
LIFE SCIENCE		
Demonstrates an increased understanding of the basic characteristics of living things		✓
EARTH SCIENCE		
Demonstrates awareness and understanding related to the properties of Earth and Space		✓
PHYSICAL SCIENCE		
Uses senses to gain information through observation and exploration	✓	✓
Demonstrates an increased understanding of changes in matter		✓
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE		
Demonstrates an increased understanding of living and non-living things in their environment		✓
THINKING AND REASONING		
Uses their senses and prior knowledge to construct new knowledge	✓	✓
EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY		
Uses thinking and planning to cause desired effect	✓	✓

The Kiddie Academy infant and toddler curriculum standards exceed those required by your state, and are the most comprehensive compared to many other states across the United States.

Kiddie Academy® Life Essentials® Preschool/Pre-K Curriculum Exceeds Michigan State Standards



MATHEMATICS	MI	Life Essentials®
NUMBER SENSE		
Recites numbers in order	✓	✓
Associates number names and quantities with written numerals	✓	✓
Determines quantity through one-to-one correspondence and subitizing	✓	✓
Uses the name of the last number counted to identify the number of objects in a set	✓	✓
ORGANIZING DATA		
Sorts, matches, and classifies objects by attributes	✓	✓
Represents data with concrete objects, pictures, and graphs	✓	✓
Creates patterns by repeating a unit	✓	✓
GEOMETRY		
Identifies and describes common shapes and their attributes	✓	✓
Describes directionality, order, and position of objects	✓	✓
Names, draws, and constructs two- and three-dimensional shapes	✓	✓
ALGEBRAIC OPERATIONS		
Demonstrates the concept of addition as putting together or adding to, and subtraction as taking apart or taking away	✓	✓
Counts, compares, and describes two sets of objects using terms such as more, less, same, greater, fewer, or equal	✓	✓
Identifies the new quantity or number created when objects or numbers are combined or separated	✓	✓
MEASUREMENT		
Describes and compares measurable attributes of objects	✓	✓
Uses standard and nonstandard tools to measure objects	✓	✓

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	MI	Life Essentials®
INQUIRY SKILLS		
Asks questions and makes predictions based on observations and manipulation of materials	✓	✓
Tests predictions through experimentation	✓	✓
Uses simple tools and equipment for investigation	✓	✓
LIFE SCIENCE		
Compares characteristics of living and non-living things	✓	✓
Observes life cycles of plants, insects, and animals	✓	✓
Explores relationships between living things and environments	✓	✓
Identifies body parts and describes their functions	✓	✓
Identifies the five senses and describes their functions	✓	✓
EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT		
Describes properties of natural materials such as rocks, dirt, sand and water	✓	✓
Explores changes in seasons and weather	✓	✓
Observes characteristics of the sun, moon, stars, and sky	✓	✓
Identifies natural and human-made environmental features	✓	✓
Discusses ways to protect the environment	✓	✓
PHYSICAL SCIENCE		
Explores physical properties of objects and their materials	✓	✓
Compares properties of liquids and solids, and how they change when combined, heated, or cooled	✓	✓
Investigates energy sources such as light, heat and electricity	✓	✓
TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING		
Demonstrates safe and proper use of tools and materials	✓	✓
Designs things using simple tools and a variety of materials	✓	✓
Identifies parts and how they connect and affect other parts	✓	✓
Uses simple machines and investigates motion	✓	✓
Uses electronic devices independently and appropriately	✓	✓
Uses technology to communicate, solve problems, and gain information	✓	✓

APPROACHES TO LEARNING	MI	Life Essentials®
Displays initiative, self-direction, and independence	✓	✓
Demonstrates creativity, imagination, and inventiveness	✓	✓
Attends to tasks for brief periods and seeks help as needed	✓	✓
Maintains challenging tasks	✓	✓
Engages in cooperative play	✓	✓
Demonstrates positive social behaviors such as helping, sharing, and taking turns	✓	✓
Follows rules and makes age-appropriate decisions about behavior	✓	✓
Identifies and seeks solutions to problems	✓	✓
Applies what is learned to new situations	✓	✓

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH	MI	Life Essentials®
Develops healthy habits	✓	✓
Demonstrates self-help and hygiene skills	✓	✓
Engages in physical fitness activities and active play	✓	✓
Demonstrates awareness of body and senses	✓	✓
Describes and follows safety rules	✓	✓
Discusses appropriate responses to emergency situations	✓	✓
Uses eye-hand coordination to perform fine motor tasks	✓	✓
Uses tools to draw and write with increasing control	✓	✓
Moves with balance, control, and coordination	✓	✓
Combines movements for gross motor skills	✓	✓

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	MI	Life Essentials®
Recognizes one's own unique personal qualities	✓	✓
Expresses positive feelings and confidence in self and abilities	✓	✓
Regulates personal responses to needs, feelings, and events	✓	✓
Uses coping skills independently	✓	✓
Uses classroom materials appropriately	✓	✓
Develops social skills to maintain positive relationships	✓	✓
Demonstrates positive behaviors and expresses emotions appropriately	✓	✓

SOCIAL STUDIES	MI	Life Essentials®
SELF, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY		
Demonstrates awareness of self as a unique individual	✓	✓
Identifies similarities and respects differences among people and how they live	✓	✓
Recognizes that people belong to families, and that family structures may vary	✓	✓
Develops appreciation for one's own culture and other cultures	✓	✓
HISTORY		
Recognizes events that happened in the past	✓	✓
Discusses how things, people and places change over time	✓	✓
GEOGRAPHY		
Explores environments where people live, work and play	✓	✓
Demonstrates how maps and globes are used to locate places	✓	✓
Describes the roles of transportation and communication in connecting people and places	✓	✓
CITIZENSHIP		
Discusses reasons for rules and laws	✓	✓
Engages in group decision-making	✓	✓
Identifies symbols, practices, and traditions associated with one's hometown, state, and the United States of America	✓	✓
ECONOMICS AND RESOURCES		
Discusses how trade and money are used to obtain goods and services	✓	✓
Recognizes wants versus basic necessities	✓	✓
Describes roles and contributions of community workers	✓	✓

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	MI	Life Essentials®
ALPHABET AND PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS		
Recognizes uppercase and lowercase letter symbols	✓	✓
Recognizes some sounds associated with letters	✓	✓
Identifies initial and final sounds in spoken words	✓	✓
Identifies, blends, and segments syllables	✓	✓
Recognizes rhyming words in spoken language	✓	✓
Begins to recognize familiar words and environmental print	✓	✓
WRITTEN LANGUAGE		
Produces scribbles, letter-like shapes, symbols, or letters to convey meaning	✓	✓
Begins to print letters of own name	✓	✓
Uses a combination of drawing, dictation and developmentally appropriate writing to record ideas	✓	✓
COMPREHENSION		
Identifies main characters and major events in a story	✓	✓
Sequences events by retelling, dramatizing, drawing, writing	✓	✓
Compares and contrasts characters from familiar stories	✓	✓
Explains how illustrations and photographs support the text	✓	✓
CONVENTIONS OF ENGLISH		
Uses increasingly complex sentences and vocabulary	✓	✓
Determines meaning of unknown words using context clues	✓	✓
Describes familiar people, places, things, and events	✓	✓
Develops understanding of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage	✓	✓
Uses question words appropriately	✓	✓
Uses complete sentences of varying length	✓	✓
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Speaks clearly to be understood in a variety of settings	✓	✓
Participates in and extends conversations	✓	✓
Asks questions to seek help or obtain information	✓	✓
Demonstrates understanding by following oral directions	✓	✓
ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS		
Engages in various forms of non-verbal communication	✓	✓
Responds to increasingly complex English vocabulary	✓	✓
Begins to use single English words and simple phrases to communicate meaning	✓	✓
WORLD LANGUAGES		
Discusses how people use different languages (including sign language) to communicate	✓	✓
Expresses simple words, phrases, and greetings in a language other than one's own	✓	✓

CREATIVE ARTS	MI	Life Essentials®
MOVEMENT AND DANCE		
Expresses concepts, ideas, or feelings through movement	✓	✓
Participates in cultural music and movement activities	✓	✓
MUSIC		
Participates in music activities by listening, singing, performing	✓	✓
Experiments with a variety of musical instruments	✓	✓
Describes various musical tempos and styles	✓	✓
DRAMA AND STORYTELLING		
Uses dialogue, movements, and objects to tell a story or express thoughts and feelings	✓	✓
Displays creativity and imagination while acting out roles in dramatic play situations	✓	✓
VISUAL ARTS		
Uses a variety of materials and techniques to create art forms	✓	✓
Represents thoughts, feelings, experiences, and/or knowledge in artistic creations	✓	✓
Discusses one's own art as well as the art of others	✓	✓

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