



Preschool Learning Milestones

ORANGE CLASS

At four years old, children are preparing for more structured learning environments, such as kindergarten, so the learning goals for this age group focus on strengthening social skills, language, cognitive abilities, and motor development. Here are some key learning goals for a four-year-old in our preschool:

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL

- Playing cooperatively with peers, engaging in group activities, and taking turns without constant reminders
- Expressing emotions appropriately and identifying emotions in themselves and others
- Developing problem-solving skills in social situations (e.g., resolving conflicts through negotiation)
- Showing empathy and understanding for the feelings of others
- Following classroom rules and routines with little assistance

COGNITIVE

- Recognizing numbers 1-20 and counting objects accurately
- Understanding basic math concepts such as simple addition and subtraction (using objects or pictures)
- Sorting objects by multiple attributes (e.g., size, shape, color)
- Completing age-appropriate puzzles and problem-solving activities
- Engaging in pretend play with more structured and imaginative scenarios
- Developing early literacy skills, including identifying the beginning sounds of words

SELF-HELP SKILLS

- Demonstrating independence in personal care tasks like washing hands, toileting, and dressing
- Managing daily routines with minimal reminders (e.g., cleaning up toys, packing their bag)
- Understanding safety rules and following them (e.g., looking both ways before crossing the street)

CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING

- Engaging in tasks that require thinking ahead or planning (e.g., building a structure with blocks, figuring out how to reach a goal in a game)
- Using logic to explain simple cause-and-effect relationships
- Asking more in-depth questions and exploring curiosity about the world around them (e.g., why things happen, how things work)

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- Speaking in complete sentences (4-6 words) and having more complex conversations
- Asking and answering "who," "what," "where," and "why" questions
- Recognizing and naming most letters of the alphabet, both uppercase and lowercase
- Beginning to recognize and write their name and other familiar words
- Understanding the sounds associated with some letters (phonemic awareness)
- Listening to stories and recalling key details, characters, and events

FINE AND GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

- Improving gross motor skills, such as running, jumping, climbing, and balancing
- Strengthening fine motor skills for writing, cutting with scissors, and manipulating small objects
- Developing more control in drawing shapes, writing letters, and coloring within lines
- Participating in physical activities that involve coordination, like hopping on one foot or skipping
- Becoming more independent in tasks like dressing, buttoning clothes, and using utensils properly

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

- Expressing creativity through drawing, painting, and other art projects, often with more detailed pictures
- Exploring music through singing, rhythm, and movement activities
- Engaging in pretend play with more developed storylines, incorporating real-world roles (e.g., pretending to be a teacher, doctor, or parent)
- Participating in group performances or storytelling, building confidence in public speaking



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CURRICULUM

McGraw Hill Early Literacy

Orange class will be introducing the McGraw Hill Wonders Early Childhood Literacy Program, a comprehensive curriculum that lays a solid foundation in reading, writing, and language development for preschool-aged children. This program is thoughtfully designed to align with Common Core State Standards, ensuring that our students are on the right track to meet academic milestones. Through a blend of engaging stories, interactive activities, and age-appropriate lessons, students will develop essential literacy skills such as letter recognition, phonemic awareness, vocabulary building, and early writing techniques.

The Wonders program is structured to foster a love for reading and writing from a young age by introducing children to rich literature and hands-on learning experiences. It supports key early literacy benchmarks, such as developing listening and comprehension skills, boosting oral language, and understanding the relationship between sounds and letters. By providing a structured yet playful learning environment, students in the Orange class will be equipped to transition smoothly to kindergarten, confident in their foundational literacy skills and ready for the next step in their academic journey. This program also emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and creative expression, laying the groundwork for a lifelong passion for learning.

Armenian Curriculum

Additionally, we will expand our Armenian curriculum, developed by the Galouste Gulbenkian Foundation, in Orange class. This curriculum encompasses language, culture, and educational domains. In the Orange class, students will focus on learning 10 letters of the Armenian alphabet. Through songs, games, and repetitive practice, children will enhance their Armenian language skills, with each student having a personal Armenian language book used within the classroom. Our approach is designed to provide a rich, multifaceted educational experience that supports each child's development and prepares them for a successful academic journey.