



# Early Learning and Development Guidelines

Heather Craiglow  
Head Start Collaboration Office Director

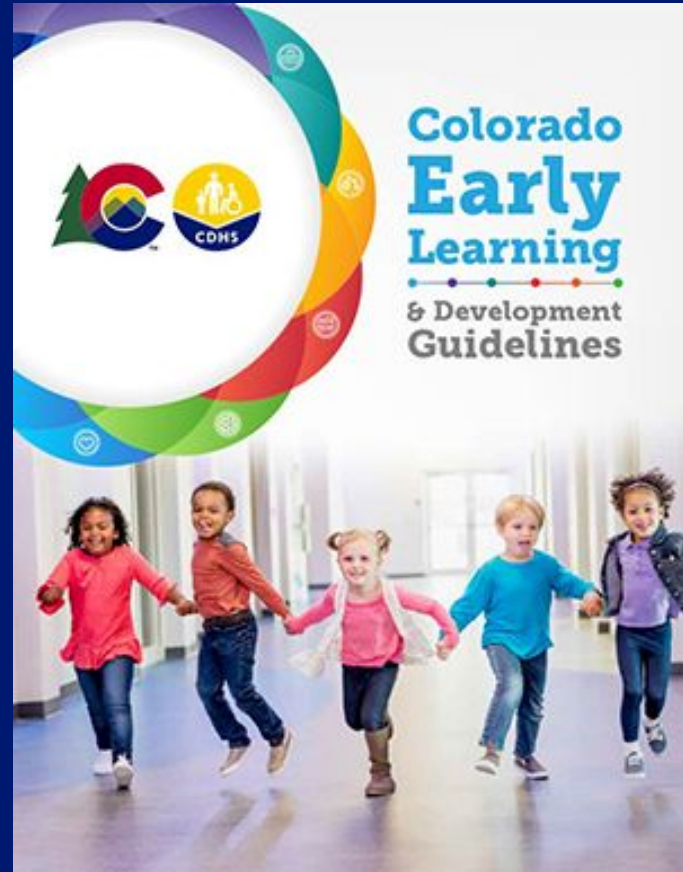


**COLORADO**  
Department of Early Childhood

# WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES?

The Colorado Early Learning and Development Guidelines describe the path of children's learning and development from birth to eight years old.

They're designed so that everyone who cares for young children can play an important part in giving Colorado's kids a healthy start.



# GUIDELINES AT A GLANCE



## Ages

Birth to age three

Ages three to five

Kindergarten to third grade

## Domains

Physical health

Social (how children interact with others)

Emotional (how children express their feelings)

Language and literacy (how children learn to communicate and read)

Cognitive (how children think and problem-solve)

Approaches to learning (how children learn)



## Introduction

- Focus on children throughout the birth to age 8 continuum;
- Recognize and are responsive to variations in a child's and family's developmental trajectories and environments;
- Apply to a variety of settings including, but not limited to, child care, preschool, Head Start, K-3, health care, home, and other community settings;



## Introduction

- Provide targeted information for parents, caregivers, teachers, higher education personnel, early interventionists, health providers, home visitors, early learning professionals, and family educators;
- Include strategies based on research or promising practices; and
- Complement and align with the Preschool-3rd grade portion of 2020 Colorado's P-12 academic standards and the 2015 Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.



## Purpose

- Improve families' and professionals' knowledge of child development;
- Guide families and professionals working with children in planning and implementing developmental and learning activities;
- Inform or guide developmental support, instruction, assessment, and intervention;





# Colorado Early Learning & Development Guidelines

[earlylearningco.org](http://earlylearningco.org)



**COLORADO**  
Department of Early Childhood <sup>7</sup>

# RESOURCES

## [Colorado Department of Early Childhood](#)

The **PLAYbook** describes a child's learning and development from birth to 5 years old and provides practical tips and fun activities that anyone can use to support young children's healthy development.

The **PLAYbook** is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Karen \(Burmese\)](#), and [Somali](#).







# THANK YOU!

Heather Craiglow  
Head Start Collaboration Office Director  
[heather.craiglow@state.co.us](mailto:heather.craiglow@state.co.us)



**COLORADO**  
Department of Early Childhood