



Project Learning Tree Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood Correlations to the Head Start Program

Domain	Domain Element	Indicators	PLT Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood Activity
Language Development	Listening & Understanding	Demonstrates increasing ability to attend to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
		Shows progress in understanding and following simple and multiple-step directions.	4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
		* Understands an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.	1- Shape of Things 2- Sounds Around 3- Get in Touch with Trees 5- Signs of Fall 6- Evergreens in Winter 7- Bursting Buds 8- Adopt a Tree 9- To be a Tree
		* For non-English-speaking children, progresses in listening to and understanding English.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 4- We All Need Trees 9- To be a Tree
	Speaking & Communicating	* Develops increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate information, experiences, ideas, feelings, opinions, needs, questions and for other varied purposes.	4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Progresses in abilities to initiate and respond appropriately in conversation and discussions with peers and adults.	
		* Uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.	1- Shape of Things 3- Get in Touch with Trees 8- Adopt a Tree 9- To be a Tree 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Progresses in clarity of pronunciation and towards speaking in sentences of increasing length and grammatical complexity.	
		* For non-English-speaking children, progresses in speaking English.	

Literacy	Phonological Awareness*	Shows increasing ability to discriminate and identify sounds in spoken language.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 7- Bursting Buds
		Shows growing awareness of beginning and ending sounds of words.	7- Bursting Buds
		Progresses in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words, games, songs, stories and poems.	
		Shows growing ability to hear and discriminate separate syllables in words.	7- Bursting Buds
		* Associates sounds with written words, such as awareness that different words begin with the same sound.	
	Book Knowledge & Appreciation*	Shows growing interest and involvement in listening to and discussing a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and poetry.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 7- Bursting Buds 10- Trees as Habitats
		Shows growing interest in reading-related activities, such as asking to have a favorite book read; choosing to look at books; drawing pictures based on stories; asking to take books home; going to the library; and engaging in pretend-reading with other children.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 6- Evergreens in Winter
		Demonstrates progress in abilities to retell and dictate stories from books and experiences; to act out stories in dramatic play; and to predict what will happen next in a story.	7- Bursting Buds 10- Trees as Habitats
		Progresses in learning how to handle and care for books; knowing to view one page at a time in sequence from front to back; and understanding that a book has a title, author and illustrator.	
	Print Awareness & Concepts*	Shows increasing awareness of print in classroom, home and community settings.	
		Develops growing understanding of the different functions of forms of print such as signs, letters, newspapers, lists, messages, and menus.	
		Demonstrates increasing awareness of concepts of print, such as that reading in English moves from top to bottom and from left to right, that speech can be written down, and that print conveys a message.	
		Shows progress in recognizing the association between spoken and written words by following print as it is read aloud.	5- Signs of Fall
		* Recognizes a word as a unit of print , or awareness that letters are grouped to form words, and that words are separated by spaces.	
	Early Writing	Develops understanding that writing is a way of communicating for a variety of purposes.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Begins to represent stories and experiences through pictures, dictation, and in play.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 8- Adopt a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Experiments with a growing variety of writing tools and materials, such as pencils, crayons, and computers.	
		Progresses from using scribbles, shapes, or pictures to represent ideas, to using letter-like symbols, to copying or writing familiar words such as their own name.	8- Adopt a Tree
Alphabet Knowledge	Shows progress in associating the names of letters with their shapes and sounds.		
	Increases in ability to notice the beginning letters in familiar words.		

		* Identifies at least 10 letters of the alphabet, especially those in their own name.	
		* Knows that letters of the alphabet are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named.	
Mathematics	Number of Operations*	Demonstrates increasing interest and awareness of numbers and counting as a means for solving problems and determining quantity.	4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 9- To be a Tree
		Begins to associate number concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in meaningful ways.	4- We All Need Trees
		Develops increasing ability to count in sequence to 10 and beyond.	5- Signs of Fall
		Begins to make use of one-to-one correspondence in counting objects and matching groups of objects.	6- Evergreens in Winter
		Begins to use language to compare numbers of objects with terms such as more, less, greater than, fewer, equal to.	
		Develops increased abilities to combine, separate and name "how many" concrete objects.	
	Geometry & Spatial Sense	Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes.	1- Shape of Things 6- Evergreens in Winter
		Progresses in ability to put together and take apart shapes.	1- Shape of Things
		Begins to be able to determine whether or not two shapes are the same size and shape.	5- Signs of Fall
		Shows growth in matching, sorting, putting in a series and regrouping objects according to one or two attributes such as color, shape or size.	1- Shape of Things 5- Signs of Fall 6- Evergreens in Winter
		Builds an increasing understanding of directionality, order and positions of objects, and words such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, inside, outside, in front and behind.	
	Patterns & Measurement	Enhances abilities to recognize, duplicate and extend simple patterns using a variety of materials.	
		Shows increasing abilities to match, sort, put in a series, and regroup objects according to one or two attributes such as shape or size.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 5- Signs of Fall
		Begins to make comparisons between several objects based on a single attribute.	1- Shape of Things 3- Get in Touch with Trees 5- Signs of Fall
Shows progress in using standard and non-standard measures for length and area of objects.			
Science	Scientific Skills & Methods	Begins to use senses and a variety of tools and simple measuring devices to gather information, investigate materials and observe processes and relationships.	2- Sounds Around 3- Get in Touch with Trees 4- We All Need Trees
		Develops increased ability to observe and discuss common properties, differences and comparisons among objects and materials.	1- Shape of Things 2- Sounds Around 3- Get in Touch with Trees 5- Signs of Fall 8- Adopt a Tree 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats

		Begins to participate in simple investigations to test observations, discuss and draw conclusions and form generalizations.	4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 7- Bursting Buds 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Develops growing abilities to collect, describe and record information through a variety of means, including discussion, drawings, maps and charts.	4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 8- Adopt a Tree 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Begins to describe and discuss predictions, explanations and generalizations based on past experiences.	7- Bursting Buds 11- Three Cheers for Trees
	Scientific Knowledge	Expands knowledge of and abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.	1- Shape of Things 3- Get in Touch with Trees 5- Signs of Fall 8- Adopt a Tree 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.	1- Shape of Things 2- Sounds Around 3- Get in Touch with Trees 9- To be a Tree
		Develops growing awareness of ideas and language related to attributes of time and temperature.	
		Shows increased awareness and beginning understanding of changes in materials and cause-effect relationships.	7- Bursting Buds 9- To be a Tree 11- Three Cheers for Trees
Creative Arts	Music	Participates with increasing interest and enjoyment in a variety of music activities, including listening, singing, finger plays, games, and performances.	1- Shape of Things 2- Sounds Around 3- Get in Touch with Trees 7- Bursting Buds 8- Adopt a Tree 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
		Experiments with a variety of musical instruments.	2- Sounds Around 4- We All Need Trees
	Art	Gains ability in using different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representation.	6- Evergreens in Winter 8- Adopt a Tree 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
		Progresses in abilities to create drawings, paintings, models, and other art creations that are more detailed, creative or realistic.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 6- Evergreens in Winter 9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
		Develops growing abilities to plan, work independently, and demonstrate care and persistence in a variety of art projects.	
		Begins to understand and share opinions about artistic products and experiences.	3- Get in Touch with Trees

	Movement	Expresses through movement and dancing what is felt and heard in various musical tempos and styles.	1- Shape of Things 4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 7- Bursting Buds 8- Adopt a Tree
		Shows growth in moving in time to different patterns of beat and rhythm in music.	4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 7- Bursting Buds 8- Adopt a Tree 11- Three Cheers for Trees
	Dramatic Play	Participates in a variety of dramatic play activities that become more extended and complex.	9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
		Shows growing creativity and imagination in using materials and in assuming different roles in dramatic play situations.	9- To be a Tree 10- Trees as Habitats
Social & Emotional Development	Self Concept	Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferences.	8- Adopt a Tree
		Develops growing capacity for independence in a range of activities, routines, and tasks.	1- Shape of Things
		Demonstrates growing confidence in a range of abilities and expresses pride in accomplishments.	8- Adopt a Tree
	Self Control	Shows progress in expressing feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, others, or property.	
		Develops growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begins to accept the consequences of their actions.	
		Demonstrates increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely, and respectfully.	
	Cooperation	Increases abilities to sustain interactions with peers by helping, sharing and discussion.	
		Shows increasing abilities to use compromise and discussion in working, playing and resolving conflicts with peers.	
		Develops increasing abilities to give and take in interactions; to take turns in games or using materials; and to interact without being overly submissive or directive.	4- We All Need Trees
	Social Relationships	Demonstrates increasing comfort in talking with and accepting guidance and directions from a range of familiar adults.	4- We All Need Trees
		Shows progress in developing friendships with peers.	
		Progresses in responding sympathetically to peers who are in need, upset, hurt, or angry; and in expressing empathy or caring for others.	
	Knowledge of Families & Communities	Develops ability to identify personal characteristics including gender, and family composition.	
		Progresses in understanding similarities and respecting differences among people, such as genders, race, special needs, culture, language, and family structures.	
Develops growing awareness of jobs and what is required to perform them.			
Begins to express and understand concepts and language of geography in the contexts of their classroom, home and community.			
Approaches to Learning	Initiative & Curiosity	Chooses to participate in an increasing variety of tasks and activities.	
		Develops increased ability to make independent choices.	1- Shape of Things

		Approaches tasks and activities with increased flexibility, imagination and inventiveness.	6- Evergreens in Winter
		Grows in eagerness to learn about and discuss a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks.	
	Engagement & Persistence	Grows in abilities to persist in and complete a variety of tasks, activities, projects and experiences.	
		Demonstrates increasing ability to set goals and develop and follow through on plans.	
		Shows growing capacity to maintain concentration over time on a task, question, set of directions or interactions, despite distractions and interruptions.	4- We All Need Trees
	Reasoning & Problem Solving	Develops increasing ability to find more than one solution to a question, task or problem.	
		Grows in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error, and interactions and discussions with peers and adults.	
		Develops increasing abilities to classify, compare and contrast objects, events and experiences.	2- Sounds Around 3- Get in Touch with Trees 5- Signs of Fall
	Physical Health & Development	Fine Motor Skills	Develops growing strength, dexterity and control needed to use tools such as scissors, paper punch, stapler, and hammer.
Grows in hand-eye coordination in building with blocks, putting together puzzles, reproducing shapes and patterns, stringing beads and using scissors.			1- Shape of Things 10- Trees as Habitats
Progresses in abilities to use writing, drawing and art tools including pencils, markers, chalk, paint brushes, and various types of technology.			6- Evergreens in Winter
Gross Motor Skills		Shows increasing levels of proficiency, control and balance in walking, climbing, running, jumping, hopping, skipping, marching and galloping.	1- Shape of Things 4- We All Need Trees 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Demonstrates increasing abilities to coordinate movements in throwing, catching, kicking, bouncing balls, and using the slide and swing.	
Health Status & Practices		Progresses in physical growth, strength, stamina, and flexibility.	
		Participates actively in games, outdoor play and other forms of exercise that enhance physical fitness.	1- Shape of Things 2- Sounds Around 4- We All Need Trees 5- Signs of Fall 6- Evergreens in Winter 9- To be a Tree 11- Three Cheers for Trees
		Shows growing independence in hygiene, nutrition and personal care when eating, dressing, washing hands, brushing teeth and toileting.	3- Get in Touch with Trees 10- Trees as Habitats
		Builds awareness and ability to follow basic health and safety rules such as fire safety, traffic and pedestrian safety, and responding appropriately to potentially harmful objects, substances and activities.	

* Indicates the 4 specific Domain Elements and 9 Indicators that are legislatively mandated