LAUNCH for PreK

Comprehensive, Inclusive Early Childhood Special Education Curriculum

Ignite young minds and pave the way for a lifetime of learning with Launch for PreK!

WHAT IS TEACHTOWN LAUNCH FOR PREK?

Launch for PreK is a comprehensive, inclusive early childhood special education curriculum for students ages 3–5. Designed to meet the needs of young learners with developmental delays and disabilities as well as the peers who learn alongside them, Launch for PreK uses a thematic approach to provide equitable access to early childhood content and instruction. Celebrate diversity and inclusivity while targeting key global learning domains, including language, literacy, and social development.

Launch for PreK is theme-based, play-focused, language-rich, and data-driven:

A **theme-based** curriculum allows teachers to address developmentally-appropriate skills for students with diverse learning needs and abilities. Instruction is fresh and engaging each week as students work toward mastery of learning goals at their own pace. Examples of themes include *This is My Family, Seasons, Emotions, Community Helpers, Farm, Around the House, Transportation,* and many more.

There are **72 total themes designed to be covered over the course of 2 school years**, with each theme covering one week of preschool instruction. As a theme-based curriculum that supports ALL LEARNERS, Launch for PreK ensures every student has an entry point to access age-appropriate learning, regardless of when they begin their early childhood program.

A **play-focused** curriculum allows teachers to create classrooms in which students have consistent opportunities to practice meaningful skills in their natural learning environment: through play!

Playful learning, or learning via play, is supported through activity-based lesson plans that include circle time, story time, fine motor/art skills, music, sensory exploration, physical materials that support hands-on learning, and much more! The rich illustrations in the children's books support text comprehension and foster imagination with extended use as visual supports, puppets, felt board cut-outs, and coloring pages.

A **language-rich** curriculum allows teachers to provide systematic instruction in communication and language development, the learning domain in which the most early childhood students need the most support. Launch for PreK includes 144 children's books available in English & Spanish that cover diverse genres and content through folk tales, fables, classics, modern story books, and concept (nonfiction) books. From singing and drawing to reading and listening and watching, Launch for PreK prioritizes students' language development through any and all means available to them.

A **data-driven** curriculum allows teachers to use information on student progress to inform how they use the curriculum and other TeachTown PreK interventions (Social Skills, Basics, Language Accelerator) to support student growth and address areas of specific need. Launch for PreK provides teachers with access to ongoing curriculum-based assessment data through technology lessons. **Observational and benchmark assessments tools** included to provide data on global developmental progress and early learning standards.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN LAUNCH FOR PREK?

With Launch for PreK, teachers are equipped to target the most critical early learning domains, including language and communication, social skills and peer relationships, play, adaptive skills, and emerging academics.

Each theme of instruction includes 1 story book (fiction), 1 concept book (non-fiction), and 5 daily lesson plans. Lesson plans fold in both whole group and small group activities through:

- Circle time
- Story time
- Sensory exploration
- Emerging literacy
- Emerging math
- Fine motor/ art skills

Additionally, teachers are supported with student resources, targeted social skills, theme-specific songs and nursery rhymes, technology-facilitated lessons, centers materials guide, and parent communication supports.

ACTIVITY–BASED LESSON PLANS

Whole group and small group classroom-based activity lesson plans with leveled differentiation; teacher guides; parent communication supports lessons, centers materials guide, and parent communication support.

PREK LIBRARY

Immerse students in the rich diversity and storytelling of 144 children's books, categorized by folk stories & classic literature, modern storybooks, & concept books. With the Launch for PreK Children's Library, teachers can celebrate diversity and inclusivity through the characters, content, and genres that represent the students we serve and the world we live in! Books are available in English and Spanish, and accessible to families in both languages at home through the book read-aloud videos.

Library by the Numbers: 144 total books; 2 per theme: 72 fiction; 72 nonfiction.
Each week of instruction includes a fiction text and a nonfiction text.

Fiction texts: folk tales, classic literature, and modern storybooks;
Nonfiction texts: concept books relating to common PreK standards

Folk Tales, Fables, & Classics	Modern Storybooks	Concept Books (Theme-Related)	Songs
• Anansi (Ghanaian fable) • The Lion and the Mouse (Aesop) • How the Raven Brought the Light (Tlingit Indigenous fable) • The Stonecutter (Japanese folk tale) • Stone Soup (Portuguese version of multicultural folk tale) • The Little Red Hen (American fable)	• *On the Bus Ride Back* (A student's experience in their community on the ride back to school from a field trip) • *The Door Across the Hall* (A child builds a friendship with a new peer who moves in across the hall)	• Colors • Numbers • Emotions • Weather • Animals • Plants • The Five Senses • Transportation	3 Categories: • Original Theme Songs • Original Classroom Songs • Classic Nursery Rhymes and Songs Songs include accessible opportunities for participation and inclusive lyrics

The Launch for PreK Children's Library boasts 144 books!

Launch for PreK shares stories that include / focus on people of various cultural groups, racial and/or ethnic groups, ability groups, communication modalities, and visible support.

Cultural Groups:

Indigenous Peoples of the Americas *(Alaska Tlingit, Mexican Aztec, Creek Nation, Algonquin Nation)*, Ghanaian, South African, Ethiopian, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnam, Korean, Hmong Indian, Iraqi Portuguese, Russian, Polish, Italian, Hawaiian, Trinidadian

Ability Groups:

People with: Autism, Blindness / Visual Impairments, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Intellectual Disabilities, Language Delays / Impairments, Speech Impairments, Spina Bifida, Paralysis, Deaf People / People with Hearing Impairments, People without disabilities

Racial and/or Ethnic Groups:

Arab, Asian, Black, Indian / Southeast Asian, Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, Latino / Latina / Latinx, White

Communication Modalities:

People who use Spoken Language, ASL / Sign Language, AAC Devices (tablets), Visual Choice Boards, Switches

Adaptive Equipment:

People who use: Wheelchair, Prone stander, Upright stander, Pull-behind walker, Hearing aid, Cochlear implant, AFO / lower leg braces, Supportive / modified seating, Braille, Glasses, Foot braces

DIFFERENTIATION TO MEET NEEDS OF ALL LEARNERS

The Children's Library boasts innovative differentiation within each book that offers teachers the opportunity to adjust the text complexity and length according to their students' needs. On any given page of the book, the text that accompanies the picture will include important information highlighted in blue. Within this highlighted text, a few words or phrases will be **bolded**.

Check out the examples, below:
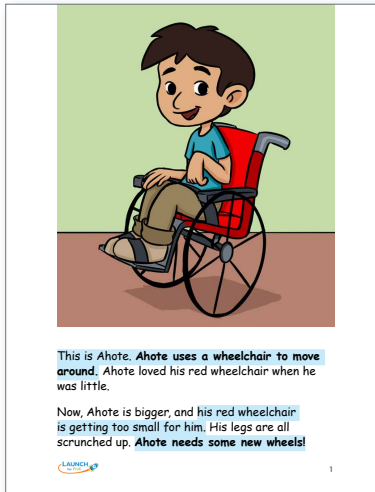
Sample from
New Wheels
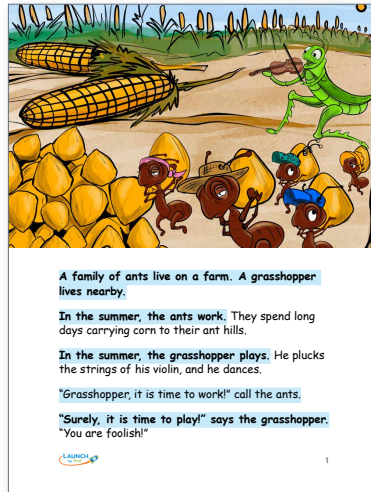
Sample from
The Ant and the Grasshopper
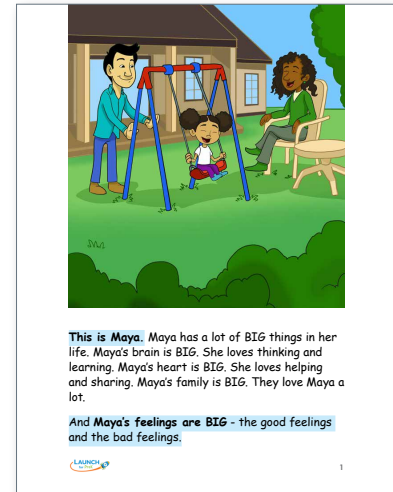
Sample from
Maya's Big Feelings

- Teachers who read only the bold words will provide students with the most essential plot information.
- Sharing the sentence(s) highlighted in blue gives students a few more details and context about the story.
- Reading the entire text on the page provides the full context when the group of students are ready to sustain attention for longer periods of time.

Teachers may choose to differentiate up or down based on their students' readiness to learn. This may shift based on the time of day, number of students in the group, or time during the school year.

MANIPULATIVES KIT & THEME KITS

Make learning come to life with age-appropriate and accessible hands-on materials to implement classroom activities. Launch for PreK includes a Manipulative Kit with items to be used across themes as well as a Theme Kit that includes items specific to individual themes (such as farm animals for the theme called 'On the Farm'). All 72 themes have designed manipulatives to support hands-on learning.

Examples of Theme-Specific Manipulatives

Theme: Transporation
Manipulative: Lacing Keys

Theme(s): Five Senses, My Body, Family
Manipulative: Potato Head Family

Theme(s): Camping, Food, Summer
Manipulative: Camping Set

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Strengthen the home-to-school connection through the student login that provides access to student-led technology lessons, songs, and books. All books are available in PDF and video read-aloud format in both English and Spanish.

Weekly theme letters share the books, songs, vocabulary words, social skills, and other key learning for the week. These parent communication supports also offer fun activities to try at home!

Parents and caregivers are our students' first and forever teachers. Classroom-based educators can use Launch for PreK parent communication letters and progress monitoring tools to keep families informed of progress.

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

Launch for PreK includes observational assessments and benchmark assessments designed to monitor progress on key early learning standards and developmental milestones over time. These assessments may be used as the primary assessment tools for PreK students or they may be used alongside other common early childhood assessments, such as the ABLLS-R and Brigance, to inform instruction and guide education decisions.

Observational Assessments

OBSERVATIONAL ASSESSMENT
GROSS MOTOR

OVERVIEW
Each TeachTown Observational Gross Motor Observational Asse functional gross motor co identification of a student's

DELIVERY AND DAT
Each Observational Asses digital data sheet. Inputtin

DIRECTIONS FOR A
Each Observational Asses on developmental skill sets settings for when to obser dependent on availability o

USING ASSESSMENT
Observational assessment profiles for each develop within the specific learning

Observational Assessments

Physical Development and Motor Skills
Gross Motor

Gross Motor
Observational Assessment

Student Name: _____ Date(s): _____
Assessor: _____ Setting: _____

RUNNING
Recommended setting(s): anywhere
Additional resources needed: none

| ☐ Student is not yet demonstrating the skills evaluated on this assessment | ☐ Cruises holding onto furniture | ☐ Runs well with little falling | ☐ Runs without falling | ☐ Runs and uses arms and legs in coordinated opposition | ☐ Runs without falling can stop quickly |

NOTES:

HOPPING
Recommended setting(s): anywhere
Additional resources needed: none

| ☐ Student is not yet demonstrating the skills evaluated on this assessment | ☐ Stands without support | ☐ Stands on one foot with support | ☐ Stands on one foot without support; jumps up on one foot, landing with two feet | ☐ Hops on one foot with support or without support once or twice | ☐ Hops on one foot proficiently (able to play hopscotch) |

NOTES:

TeachTown Observational Assessment | www.TeachTown.com   pg. 5

Benchmark Assessments

SAME AND DIFFERENT ID (PreK) - FORM A
BENCHMARK ASSESSMENTS DATA SHEET

Student Name: _____ Date: _____
Assessor: _____ Setting: _____

| Repetition: The instruction may be repeated one time if needed. If the student is not attending, gain the student's visual attention. For example, say, Look, or call the student's name before repeating the instruction. | Reinforcement: At regular intervals, | Recording and Scoring: Circle the | Discontinue Rule: Stop administering |

Directions: Say, I am going to show y
Let's get started.

INSTRUCTION
1. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is the same.
2. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is different.
3. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is different.
4. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is different.
5. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is the same.
6. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is different.
7. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is the same.
8. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is different.
9. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is the same.
10. Look at the shape at the top, find the bottom that is different.

Benchmark Assessments

SAME AND DIFFERENT ID (PreK)
Form A
Form B
Form C

Teacher Script: *Look at the shape at the top. Then, find the shape at the bottom that is the same.*

As you read the first sentence of the Teacher Script, point to the shape at the top.

Same and Different ID (PreK) Form A - Item 1

A-1

LAUNCH AROUND THE WORLD

Give students meaningful access to age-appropriate current events through engaging newsletters, hands-on activities and technology-based lessons, and teacher supports.

TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES

Launch for PreK is a **data-driven** curriculum that allows teachers to use information on student progress to support continued growth and address areas of need. Teachers have access to ongoing curriculum-based assessment data through technology lessons, which are leveled by student ability and available for group instruction as well as independent student use.

* Recommended technology use is consistent with typical State guidelines for early childhood screen time.

Targeted Early Learning Domains

- Approaches to Play and Learning
- Social Relationships and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language Development
- Creative Development
- Physical Development and Motor Skills
- Adaptive Skills and Independent Functioning
- Emerging Academic Skills

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

Launch for PreK curriculum shares stories that include/ focus on people of various cultural groups, racial and/or ethnic groups, ability groups, communication modalities, and visible supports

Alignment to Standards and Best Practices

Aligned with state **early childhood standards**, nationally recognized early childhood **assessment tools**, curriculum recommendations of the National Association of the Education of Young Children (**NAEYC**), and the **Science of Reading for PreK**

SUPPORT THE WHOLE CHILD THE WHOLE WAY

TeachTown is proud to support the whole child the whole way. Ask us about our brand new PreK Whole Child Package, including our comprehensive early childhood special education curriculum, Launch for PreK, and supporting interventions: Social Skills, Basics, and Language Accelerator. **Scan the QR code to the right to learn more.**

SCAN ME