


**California
Preschool Program
Guidelines**

California Department of Education • Sacramento, 2015

The Preschool Child: Unit 2, Key Topic I 1

The Preschool Child

- Why it is important to know about child development?
- What are some factors of child development that play a role in how children progress through the preschool years?



The Preschool Child: Unit 2, Key Topic I 2

The Preschool Child

- Read pages 19-22 and 32-33.
- Look for and record *factors in a child's life* that play a role in how children develop through the preschool years.
- Find and note *characteristics of a child* that influence how children develop through the preschool years.

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The Preschool Child

- Brain development
- Home language
- Dual language
- Opportunities for play and exploration
- Physical development
- Culture
- Gender
- Age
- Individual differences
- Socioeconomic status

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The Preschool Child

“Research-based information on the learning and development that occurs during the preschool years in each domain can deepen families’ and parents’ understanding of who the preschool child is and how best to nurture and support the preschool child.”

California Preschool Program Guidelines, Page 22

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How does knowledge of child development guide our work?

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- How does knowledge of child development support the importance of integrated curriculum?
- How would knowledge of the factors that can play a role in each child's development support integrated curriculum or learning across all domains?

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- What stood out for you? What is particularly memorable about the content in these learning experiences?
- What was new?
- Where were there differences among you and your classmates in your responses?

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- What might account for these differences?
- How might this experience influence your work with young children and their families now and in the future?