



## Lowell Public School Preschool Curriculum



**Curriculum:** There are seven units of study in preschool. Each unit of study is constructed around rich literature. Picture books, predictable books, and non-fiction text is used to build children's background and vocabulary. Intentionally planned activities built around interesting topics are planned for whole, small group and center-based learning, providing many opportunities for children to interact with adults and peers using key vocabulary to build oral language.

Lowell Public School's Preschool Curriculum consists of seven units of study:

**Ready to Learn:** During the first few weeks of school, preschool classrooms are focused on creating a sense of community and establishing classroom routines, rules, and expectations. Children will engage in hands-on learning experiences that support them in getting to know one another, their own capabilities while sharing information about themselves and their families with others.

[School to Home Connection:](#) Ask your child to tell you about his/her classmates, the daily schedule, and their participation in center-based activities.

**All About Me:** In this unit of study, children learn about themselves. Children engage in a range of activities to support them in identification of various body parts while responding to positional language. Children compare their own abilities and skills as a baby to those they have now. In this module, children will use their five senses to gain descriptive language and identify individual differences and preferences. Throughout, children will read books and discuss how people change across the life cycle. Children will make comparisons and identify how living things change over time.

[School to Home Connection:](#) Share stories with your child about when they were babies. Praise and celebrate your child's emerging independence, "Look at you getting dressed all by yourself."





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**Family and Community:** During this unit of study, children will be engaged in learning about their local community. Through this unit children will learn that everyone has a responsibility for participating in and caring for others and their environment. In this unit children will identify natural resources and how people use and care for their environment. Children will discuss how people and animals respond to seasonal change. Students will explore seasonal change in their community as well as discuss cultural celebrations including harvest and Thanksgiving. Children will discuss how people care for their environment by recycling and reusing materials. Children and teachers will discuss the many ways people communicate to one another in words and print as part of daily experiences such as writing letters, ordering food, making shopping lists, and giving directions as they learn about the many roles and responsibilities of people in their community.

School to Home Connection: During this unit be sure to tell your child's teacher about your willingness to share information about your own, career, culture, or special talent. Maybe you can be a guest speaker in class to share your skills and time!

**We All Live Somewhere:** Children will be engaged in learning that we all live somewhere. This module will focus on the concepts of culture, traditions, where people live, and where animals live. Throughout this module, children will learn that everyone has a place in the world. In this unit, children will continue to think of themselves as part of a bigger picture. Children and teachers will identify traditions and how people use traditions to celebrate their culture. Children will discuss how changes in the season mean changes in the weather. Children will become observers of weather and the properties of water as they relate to snow and ice. How people and animals respond to seasonal change and where people and animals live will also be discussed.

School to Home Connection: During this unit encourage your child to use descriptive language to describe the weather outdoors, family traditions, as well as the behavior of animals and people. As you discuss the weather and seasons, focus on extending the number of back and forth conversational exchanges you have with your child.





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**We All Have Ideas:** During this unit, children will be asked to apply their communication and collaboration skills to develop and express ideas. The processes of planning, design, and construction will be stressed as children bring their ideas to life through representation in pictures, print, and oral language. English language arts and early literacy skills will be highlighted, such as formulating and expressing ideas, using one's imagination, selecting materials, making predictions, comparing and contrasting texts, and creating new endings to stories. Children will also explore and express STEM concepts related to science, technology and engineering, and mathematics, such as understanding and constructing simple machines, and concepts in geometry and measurement.

[School to Home Connection:](#) Parents can support children and their child's classroom during this unit by donating recyclable materials such as paper towel or toilet paper tubes, small boxes, milk jar caps, small blocks of wood, or other materials that might be used for children to plan, design, and construct their ideas.

**Growing and Changing:** In this unit, children will be observers of the world around them. As they observe, students will learn about the things that are growing and changing throughout the spring season. Students will continue to explore mathematical concepts using Eureka math lessons and deepen their understanding of narratives through sequencing and retelling. Students will have a chance to ask questions, make observations, draw conclusions, and record data. Throughout the module, students will learn about the spring season, the life cycles of butterflies and frogs, changes in the weather with a focus on rain, and how things grow. Students will plant seeds and explore gardens.

[School to Home Connection:](#) This unit provides children and their families with an opportunity to get out and explore their neighborhood together. Through the school year your child has been developing mathematical language. As you explore the outdoors with your child, point out numbers or shapes with your child. You will be amazed how much your preschooler knows about numbers, geometry, measurement, and algebraic thinking.

**Earth's Place in the Universe:** As your child's preschool year draw to an end, this module will engage your child with learning about the sun and moon. Using this foundational knowledge, students will explore shadows and how they are formed. After students have a sense of their place in the world, they move to focus on how to protect it. Students will learn about recycling and caring for their environment, including a focus on the ocean. Students will explore ocean animals and the beach habitat before leaving for their summer break.

[School to Home Connection:](#) Parents and children can engage in talking about repeating patterns (day/night and seasonal change) and tell stories about how people and animals change over time. Visit the library and check out books with a predictable pattern or sequence and tell or write your own sequels to the book.