

The Vermont Early Learning Standards

A Resource for Families

Families are a child's first and most important teacher, advocate, and nurturer. An essential resource in ensuring the learning and development of children from birth through Grade 3 is the Vermont Early Learning Standards or VELs. Here are some ideas about how you can use the VELs to ensure that your child has strong relationships, is healthy, and is prepared for school.

The VELs is . . .

- Vermont's guide to help families and teachers understand how young children birth through age eight learn, grow and develop
- A tool to help you know what your child should know and be able to do at different ages
- A tool to help you understand what comes next in each area (or domain) of development
- A powerful tool to make sure that families and professionals can help realize Vermont's commitment to ensure that all the state's children grow up happy, healthy and ready for a lifetime of learning (Vermont's Promise)

The VELs can . . .

- Make you familiar with what your child is learning in child care, preschool, or Grades K-3
- Give you ideas for how to support your child's learning and development at home and in the community
- Help you understand what experiences may be available at home, in school and in the community to help prepare your child for school and life
- Help you develop partnerships with your child's teachers about your child's learning, growth and development
- Give you ideas about how play can be a fun way to help your child learn

You'll find the VELs online at <http://vels.education.vermont.gov/>

Resources specifically for families are available at

<https://vels.education.vermont.gov/resources-educators-and-families/family-resources>