

# TEXAS QUALITY REVIEW RESPONSE

Programa Completo de Prekínder Get Set for School®



We would like to express our appreciation to the Texas Resource Review (TRR) for the review of the digital version of the Get Set for School Pre-K Program (GSS) by Learning Without Tears.

The TRR Qualitative Review recognized many of the strengths of the GSS program in Spanish:

- Specific, intentional, and purposeful cross-curricular connections
- Utilizes high-quality, culturally relevant, and diverse texts as a core component of content and skill integration
- Supports developmentally appropriate practice across all content domains
- Is supported by child development research within and across all domains
- Provides guidance on developing listening and speaking skills
- Provides opportunities to develop oral language skills
- Includes developmentally appropriate diagnostic tools and guidance
- Provides instructional methods that appeal to different learning interests and needs
- Includes teacher and student resources in authentic and academic Spanish transadaptations and translations





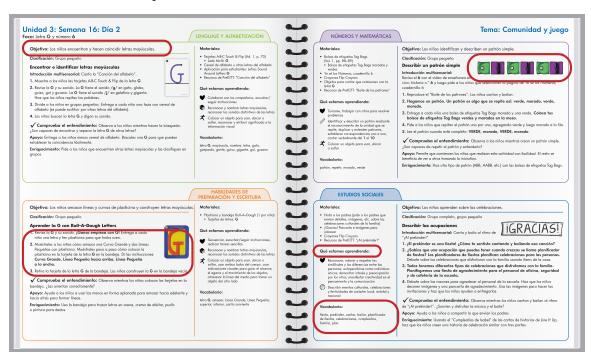
We would also like to thank the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for their review of GSS regarding the alignment to the Texas Pre-Kindergarten Guidelines (TPG), where **GSS was determined to meet 100 percent** in English and was approved by the State Board of Education for Pre-K curriculum adoption in the state of Texas. We are actively pursuing 100 percent in Spanish, expected to be approved when the TEA reviews this summer.

Pub- lisher	Title	ISBN	ISBN I: Social & Emotional		II: Lang & Dev		III: Emergent Literacy Reading		IV: Emergent Literacy Writing		V: Math		VI: Science		VII: Social Studies		VIII: Fine Arts		IX: Physical Development		X: Tech Apps		Adop- tion Status
			St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	St	Т	
LWT	Get Set for School Complete Pre-K Program	9781 9505 7830 6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Eligible For Adoption
LWT	Programa Completo de Prekínder Get Set for School	9781 9505 7869 6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	90.91%	90.91%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Eligible For Adoption
						LWT=	Learning W	ithout Tears	; St= Studen	nt; T=Teache	r; Source: P	roclamation	2021 List o	f Instruction	al Materials	Adopted (Pl	DF)						

Get Set for School® is a complete Pre-K program designed to prepare children for kindergarten in English and Spanish with integrated essential skills across content domains for connected and meaningful learning.

The Get Set for School (GSS) Pre-K Interactive Teaching Tool (PreKITT) is completely translated from English to Spanish for teachers to use for planning and/or teaching in-person and virtually. Of the three GSS Student Apps, Touch & Flip Numbers is translated into Spanish and available for use by students and data collection for teachers. The remaining two Student Apps, Sound Around Letters and the Wet-Dry-Try App are actively being translated and will be available by back to school for the 2021–2022 school year.

#### Integrated, Multisensory Activities In Each Lesson



Children learn by doing. That's why Get Set for School® is structured around hands-on teaching strategies and manipulatives. It provides explicit, modeled instruction with multimodal-multisensory materials and creative lessons that enable children of different abilities to achieve. The curriculum is based on developmentally appropriate skills and content for 4-year-olds with child-friendly language and supplemental activities to meet preschool children at every level. Get Set for School provides teachers with the tools to teach critical social skills through modeling, practice, exploration, and discovery across all content domains.

# SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTING GET SET FOR SCHOOL

The strength of GSS lies in its rich, hands-on curriculum and custom manipulatives created from years of experience and research on teaching children emergent reading and writing skills. GSS is a complete program with resources that can be used in any type of preschool setting and with any group of children, regardless of ability. GSS assumes children enter Pre-K with no prior knowledge to ensure all learning gaps are closed with progress through the curriculum. It assumes teachers should be provided with a flexible resource and support them in making informed choices based on the needs of their students. That comprises using various assessments, including but not limited to how students are grouped, and the level of ELL support or interventions they need and/or enrichment along with the various needs, schedules, and teaching models due to the pandemic.



## **CONTENT DOMAINS**

## **Engaging Students with Emergent Reading and Writing**

Get Set for School follows the prescribed target age group articulated in Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines, which outlines the expected outcomes for 4- and 5-year-olds by the end of Pre-K.

Because of the hands-on, multimodal approach of GSS, children not only build essential foundational skills but self-esteem, and self-concept skills through a truly scaffolded approach. This approach to letter formation is unique and intentional, as it has a strategic focus on the fine motor development of 4-year-old children.

## **Building Language & Literacy Skills**

Engaging with a variety of writing experiences as a process is embedded throughout the program through Language & Literacy lessons. GSS provides opportunities for children to draw in response to text read-alouds and to practice writing skills independently in Centers.

We know that Pre-K is a time for seeing how spoken words are written. The use of manipulatives accommodates learners from all language backgrounds and is developmentally appropriate for Pre-K. Manipulatives allow students to use their first language, activate prior knowledge, and develop new conceptual understandings and vocabulary. Using the Sound Around Box<sup>TM</sup>, phonological awareness is taught and reinforced along with songs like "Syllable Sound-Off." Children involve their whole bodies in learning essential skills like phonemes, words, and sentences through the daily multimodal lessons.

In addition, using the Line It Up Story Cards, the Mat Man Book Set, and the Get Set for School Read-Aloud Library,

Unidad 4: Semana 22: Día 2 LENGUAJE Y ALFABETIZACIÓN Objetivo: Los niños reconocen y nombran las letras mayúsculas Materiales: Caja Sound Around Box (Vol. 1, pp. 48–49)
Reass magnéticos Show Me Magnetic
Reces for Capitals
Objetos que comiences con la letra R
Marcador para pisarra
Recursos de PrékITI: "Canción de la Iuvia" Clasificación: Grupo completo, grupo pequeño Identificar las letras mayúsculas Introducción multisensorial: Canta y baila al ritmo de "Canción de la Iluvia". 1. Revisa la R y su sonida Qué estamos aprendiendo: Forma una R en la caja Sound Around Box. Miremos alrededor del salón de clases y busquemos cosas que empiecen con R. Haz que un niño elija el primer objeto de alguna parte del salón de clases. Miren tenemos un auto ROJO. Rojo empieza con R. mbrar las letras mayúsculas Escribe ROJO en un lado de la caja Sound Arcund Box. Señala la R en ROJO. Rojo empieza con R. 5. Repite los pasos del dos al cuatro con más niños letra R, mayúscula, rajo, cosas, salón de clase √ Comprueba el entendimiento: Observa a los niños mientras participalencontrar objetos que empiecen con R? Apoyo/Estudiante de Inglés como Segundo Idioma (ELL): Repite los nombres de los objetos a medida que los encuentren en el salón de clases.

children are not only participating in shared reading, they are also building print awareness, vocabulary and background knowledge, speaking and listening skills, and comprehension of text. Children also learn expressive and process writing as they participate in modeled, shared, and independent writing through activities across all learning areas. In addition, the read-aloud library includes bilingual texts for students to first build on their home language and Get Set for School provides explicit instruction for teachers to facilitate read-alouds.

#### **Emergent Literacy—Reading:**

- Speaking & Listening Skills
- Print Knowledge & Concepts
- Phonological Awareness
- Alphabet Knowledge
- Vocabulary Skills
- Shared Writing



### **Building Confidence Through Readiness & Writing**

Emergent reading and writing lessons are integrated within each day of learning. Incorporated into Language & Literacy lessons is the letter of focus each day (and its sounds) which are connected to learning letter formation during each subsequent Readiness & Writing lessons. Children build fine motor skills by forming letters in correct sequence throughout the week with different manipulatives (e.g., Roll-A-Dough, Stamp and See Screen, Wet-Dry-Try with the Slate Chalkboard, etc.) every day before ever being asked to put them on paper. This builds a child's confidence. While learning letter formation, children experience more modeled writing from an adult, then independent writing when practicing the letters learned and learning to write their names using the Capital Practice Strips and those with the Magnetic Lowercase and Blackboard Set.

For more opportunities with writing, children participate in shared writing through the use of various graphic organizers and class lists, stories, etc. during Oral Language, Social Studies, Science, and Numbers & Math lessons.

For specific examples of shared writing experiences, see the following lessons: 1. Language & Literacy (Vol. 2, pp. 18, 384); 2.Language & Literacy, Enrichment (Vol. 2, p. 142); 3.Readiness & Writing, Enrichment (Vol. 2, p. 420); 4. Numbers & Math (Vol. 2, p. 173); 5. Numbers & Math, Enrichment (p. 227); 6. Science (Vol. 2, pp. 129, 253); 7. Social Studies (Vol. 2, p. 163); 8. Social Studies, Enrichment (Vol. 2, p. 187).

#### **Emergent Literacy—Writing:**

- Alphabet Knowledge
- Phonological Awareness
- Letter Formation
- Fine Motor & Gross Motor Physical Development

Dijetivo: Que los niños desarrollen hábitos correctos para escribir su nombre.

Clasificación: 1:1

Escribir el nombre mediante Wet-Dry-Try

1. Mientros el niño observa, escribe su nombre con la primera letra en moytiscula con el recurso Magnetic Lowercose & Blackboard Set.

2. Indicale al niño que trace coda letra con una esponja majoda y bugos seque con una hajo de para laboratorie seque con una hajo de para blacortente pequeño.

3. El niño contino hasta que todas las letras estén trazadas con Wet and Dry.

4. Al final, haz que los niños tracen/escribon sus nombres completos con fiza.

✓ Comprueba el entendimiento: Observa cómo agarran los objetos. ¿El niño sostiene la esponja y la tiza correctamente?

A poyo/Estudiante de Inglés como Segundo Idioma (EU): Agrega opciones adicionales para frazar. Haz que usen el dedo majodo para trazar los letras.

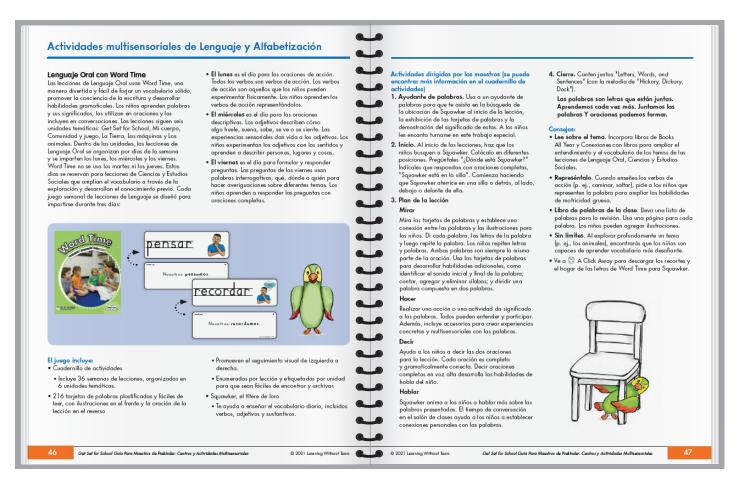
Enriquecimiento: Haz que los niños escribon su nombre aclos en la pizarra o usen las páginos de práctica para escribir el nombre con maytiscula inicial.



#### Oral Language Skills are Built Each Day

Language-rich environments are so important during Pre-K as children are learning to understand and use language for multiple purposes and these skills are key to the development of reading and writing skills (Texas Pre-K Guidelines, 2015). The GSS Oral Language lessons, using Word Time™, boost children's vocabulary, thinking, and speaking skills through a Look, Do, Say, Talk format. Children begin learning grammar through a consistent focus: verbs on Monday; adjectives on Wednesdays, and nouns with questions and answers on Fridays. The Word Cards reinforce print concepts with words and images connected directly to the lessons and class discussions to support language acquisition.





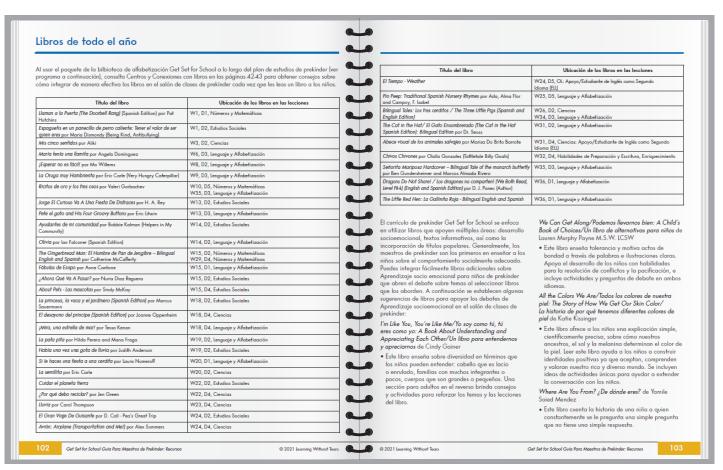
#### Numbers & Math, Science, and Social Studies

The multimodal approach continues with learning numbers and math concepts. Tag bags offer opportunities for classification and sorting and build fine motor skills through the fasteners, as well as being used for non-standard units of measure. The 4 Squares More Squares activity is designed to help children as they learn puzzle skills like slide flip, and turn, spatial relationships, and problem-solving skills.

#### Multimodal Instruction—Math, Science, & Social Studies:

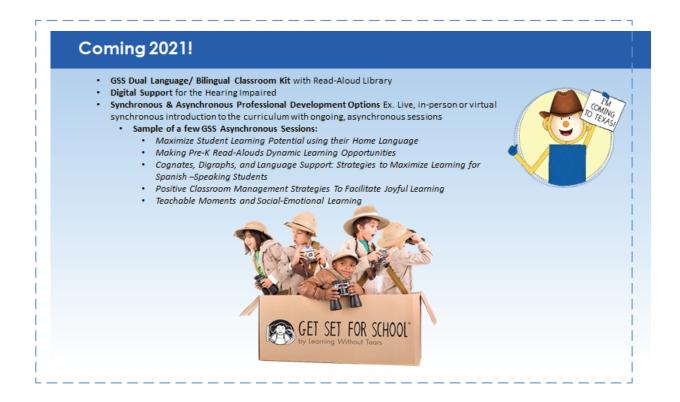


Get Set for School integrates children's literature throughout the curriculum. In the following graph (second column), we list the learning area and location each book is associated with.



#### Discovering the World Through Science and Social Studies

Children build scientific thinking through discovery experiments, investigating activities, and inquiry-based instruction and exploration. Children have authentic opportunities to develop their observation, questioning, and communication skills as they explore their environment using a variety of scientific tools and through literature in the Get Set for School Read-Aloud Library, many of which can be found in existing classroom libraries. The GSS Social Studies lessons allow children to build knowledge of themselves, their families, and their communities.



# **REFERENCES:**

The University of Texas System and Texas Education Agency. (2015). Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines.

