

The Young Children's Program provides an environment designed to help each child

- **Construct knowledge through experience and inquiry (GOAL 7)**

Adapted from COGNITION AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE—LEARNING ABOUT THE WORLD,
Milestones of Child Development, VA Early Childhood Development Alignment Project, 2007

Scientific Knowledge

	36-48 mo	Know that living things are made up of different parts (e.g., body parts)	
	36-48 mo	Explore characteristics, basic needs, and life cycles of living things	
	36-48 mo	Discover and describe naturally occurring patterns (e.g., weather phenomena, etc.)	
	48 mo+	Show beginning understanding of the interrelationships in earth/space systems <i>(child reflects understanding of the passage of time, explains shadows)</i>	
	48 mo+	Recognize matter in its three forms (e.g., solid, liquid, gas)	
	48 mo+	Describe the observable properties of objects using pictures and words	
	48 mo+	Expand knowledge of and respect for their environment, living creatures, and plant life	

Scientific Inquiry and Exploration

	36-48 mo	Ask questions about scientific phenomena	
	36-48 mo	Expect specific results when playing with toys and other materials	
	36-48 mo	Provide some explanations for scientific phenomena	
	48 mo+	Begin to use simple tools and equipment for investigation	
	48 mo+	Make comparisons among objects in terms of what they are made of and their physical properties	
	48 mo+	Observe and remark upon changes and cause-effect relationships in the physical world	
	48 mo+	Begin to collect, describe, and record information	
	48 mo+	Participate in simple investigations to test observations, discuss and draw conclusions, and form generalizations	
	48 mo+	Apply information or experience to a new context	
	48 mo+	Form explanations and communicate scientific information	