



■ Tiny Scholars Academy

June Curriculum Guide

Nurturing Curious Minds • Building Bright Futures

Month:	June
Age Groups:	Infants (6 wks–12 mo) • Toddlers (12–36 mo) • Preschool (3–5 yrs)
Standards Alignment:	Rhode Island Early Learning & Development Standards (RIELDS)
Prepared By:	Curriculum Team — Tiny Scholars Academy

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1. PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY & CORE VALUES

Our Philosophy

At Tiny Scholars Academy, we believe every child arrives as a natural learner — full of wonder, curiosity, and an innate desire to connect with the world around them. Our curriculum is rooted in the understanding that play is the primary vehicle for learning in the early years. We honor each child's developmental pace and celebrate every milestone as a joyful achievement.

Core Values

■ Whole-Child Development	We nurture cognitive, social-emotional, physical, language, and creative growth in every interaction.
■ Inclusive Community	We celebrate diversity and create environments where every child, family, and educator feels seen, heard, and valued.
■ Play-Based Inquiry	We design experiences that invite children to explore, question, experiment, and discover.
♥■ Secure Attachments	Warm, responsive relationships between caregivers and children are the foundation of all learning.
■■■■■ Family Partnership	Families are our most important collaborators. We communicate openly, share progress, and celebrate together.
■ Standards-Based Quality	All planning is aligned with Rhode Island ELDS to ensure school-readiness and continuous improvement.

Our Approach to Assessment

Teachers use authentic, observational assessment to document children's growth. Portfolios, anecdotal notes, photos, and work samples are collected regularly. Developmental screening is conducted in accordance with RIDOH and licensing requirements. All records are maintained confidentially and shared with families during conferences.

2. JUNE THEME OVERVIEW ■■ SUNSHINE, GROW & EXPLORE

June Big Idea: The world is alive with growing things! This month children explore the wonder of summer — sunshine, gardens, water, bugs, and the outdoors. Every classroom is transformed into an inquiry lab where children observe, experiment, create, and celebrate the natural world.

Week 1 Hello Summer! Senses, sunlight, weather observation, transition celebrations

Week 2 Things That Grow Plants, gardens, seeds, life cycles, farm-to-table

Week 3 Splash & Explore Water play, ocean/pond life, rain, float vs. sink

Week 4 Bugs & Tiny Things Insects, magnification, habitats, living vs. non-living

June Guiding Questions Across All Classrooms

- What do plants need to grow? What do we need to grow?
- How does weather affect our daily lives and the natural world?
- What lives in and near the water? How do living things depend on water?
- What tiny creatures share our world? Why are bugs important?
- How are we the same as — and different from — other living things?

3. MONTHLY LEARNING GOALS — JUNE

■ Infant Room (6 wks – 12 mo)

- Develop secure attachment and trust with primary caregiver
- Engage senses through nature-inspired textures, sounds, and visuals
- Build language foundations through songs, narration, and responsive talk
- Strengthen motor skills: reaching, grasping, tummy time, supported sitting
- Explore cause-and-effect through simple sensory play with water, grass, and soil

■ Toddler Room (12 – 36 mo)

- Expand vocabulary with 5–10 new nature/summer words weekly
- Develop independence in self-care routines (washing hands, pouring water)
- Participate in group music, movement, and outdoor exploration
- Practice emerging fine motor skills: digging, pinching seeds, painting
- Build social skills: sharing, turn-taking, parallel and associative play
- Explore early science concepts: grow/not grow, wet/dry, alive/not alive

■ Preschool Room (3 – 5 yrs)

- Apply all 9 RIELDS domains through integrated thematic learning
- Develop phonological awareness: initial sounds, rhyming, syllable clapping
- Strengthen number sense 1–20 and pattern recognition
- Engage in project-based inquiry: class garden journal, bug observation logs
- Practice writing first and last name with correct letter formation
- Build SEL skills: emotion identification, conflict resolution, self-regulation
- Develop scientific thinking: hypothesis, observe, record, conclude

4. INFANT CLASSROOM (6 weeks – 12 months) | 4-WEEK JUNE CURRICULUM

Environment Note: The infant room is a primary caregiving environment. All curriculum is embedded into routines — feeding, diapering, nap transitions, and sensory play. Ratios are maintained per RIDOH regulations. Outdoor time occurs daily in the buggy or on a blanket in a shaded area.

Week	Theme	Learning Objectives	Activities	Materials	Assessment
Week 1 Hello Summer!	Senses & Sunshine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual tracking • Sensory exploration • Caregiver bonding • Tummy time strength 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunlight/shadow play with sheer fabric • Nature basket: soft grass clippings, smooth stones • Mirror play outdoors • 'You Are My Sunshine' sung during diapering 	Sheer yellow fabric, unbreakable mirrors, nature basket, sun hat	Anecdotal notes on visual tracking & tummy time milestones
Week 2 Things That Grow	Garden Senses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Object permanence • Smell/touch exploration • Cause & effect • Vocalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touch-and-smell herb pouches (mint, lavender) • Crinkle-leaf sensory book • Digging in soil bin (supervised) • Narrate garden walks 	Herb pouches, sensory books, soil bin with barrier, garden picture cards	Document response to new textures; note vocalizations
Week 3 Splash & Explore	Water Senses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause/effect with water • Bilateral arm movement • Language reception • Social smiling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water table splashing (seated/supported) • Wet sponge squeezing • 'Rain, Rain Go Away' action rhyme • Blue sensory bottles 	Shallow water tubs, sponges, blue sensory bottles, waterproof bibs	Photo documentation of water response; track sitting endurance
Week 4 Bugs & Tiny Things	Texture & Sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auditory discrimination • Pincer development • Visual tracking • Imitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bug sound shakers (DIY maracas) • Soft bug puppets — peek-a-boo • Bug texture board (felt, mesh, fuzz) • 'Itsy Bitsy Spider' with finger play 	Shaker toys, soft bug puppets, texture boards, big picture bug books	Note pincer attempts, imitation of gestures, response to name

Infant Daily Routine Framework

Time	Routine	Curriculum Integration
7:00–9:00	Arrival / Greetings	Warm attachment talk; name recognition; songs
9:00–9:30	Feeding / Diapering	Narrate everything; counting fingers/toes; language bath
9:30–10:30	Active Exploration	Sensory bins, tummy time, mirrors, nature baskets
10:30–11:00	Outdoor Time	Blanket time; wind/light observation; nature sounds
11:00–12:30	Nap / Rest	Soft nature lullabies; consistent routine = security
12:30–2:30	Feeding / Diapering	Continued language narration; responsive caregiving
2:30–3:30	Sensory / Social Play	Puppet play, water exploration, music & movement
3:30–5:30	Quiet Wind-Down	Book sharing, gentle rocking, family connection

5. INFANT ROOM — TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING

Week 1 — Hello Summer!

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | INFANT ROOM | Week 1 — Hello Summer!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

Week 2 — Things That Grow

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | INFANT ROOM | Week 2 — Things That Grow

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

Week 3 — Splash & Explore

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | INFANT ROOM | Week 3 — Splash & Explore

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Teacher Notes / Reflections:	
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Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | INFANT ROOM | Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Teacher Notes / Reflections:	
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6. TODDLER CLASSROOM (12 – 36 months) | 4-WEEK JUNE CURRICULUM

Environment Note: The toddler room embraces active, movement-based learning. Centers rotate weekly to match the theme. Language-rich environments, predictable routines, and loving limits support the toddler's drive for autonomy. All water and nature activities are supervised with full ratio compliance.

Week	Theme	Learning Objectives	Activities	Materials	Assessment
Week 1 Hello Summer!	Weather & Our Senses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 senses vocabulary • Weather matching • Gross motor: outdoor play • Social: group games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloud dough sensory bins • 'What's the weather?' morning chart • Outdoor bubble play • Sun collage with tissue paper 	Cloud dough, weather chart, bubbles, tissue paper, glue	Observe vocabulary use; document sensory responses
Week 2 Things That Grow	Plants, Seeds & Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life cycle sequencing • Fine motor: planting • Science: prediction • Literacy: grow vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant a bean in a cup • Sorting seeds by size/color • 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' read-aloud • Mud kitchen dramatic play 	Bean seeds, soil, cups, seed sorting trays, caterpillar book, mud kitchen	Anecdotal notes on sequencing & prediction language
Week 3 Splash & Explore	Water Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Float/sink concepts • Pouring & measuring • Nature vocabulary: pond, ocean • Coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Float or sink experiment • Color mixing with water • 'Under the Sea' movement song • Fish painting (stamp with sponge fish) 	Water table, objects to test, food coloring, ocean song, fish sponges, paint	Document language about water; photo float/sink predictions
Week 4 Bugs & Tiny Things	Insect World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living vs. non-living • Counting 1–5 bugs • Fine motor: bug hunt • Art: symmetry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bug hunt with magnifying glasses • Butterfly symmetry painting • 'There's a Bug on My Nose' song • Sorting bugs by legs/wings 	Magnifying glasses, plastic bugs, paint for symmetry, sorting trays, bug song	Portfolio: symmetry painting; note counting accuracy

Toddler Daily Schedule

Time	Block	Centers / Focus
7:00–8:30	Arrival & Free Play	Building, books, sensory bins — calm entry
8:30–9:00	Morning Meeting	Weather chart, song of the week, name recognition
9:00–9:30	Snack	Fine motor (pouring, spreading), social language
9:30–10:15	Structured Activity	Teacher-led thematic project (see week plans)
10:15–11:00	Outdoor Play	Gross motor, nature observation, garden care
11:00–11:30	Lunch	Self-feeding skills, language about food/plants
11:30–1:30	Nap / Rest	Soft music; teachers complete observation notes
1:30–2:00	Snack & Read-Aloud	Thematic book; comprehension conversation
2:00–3:00	Center Rotations	Art, sensory, dramatic play, blocks
3:00–3:45	Outdoor / Gross Motor	Second outdoor window; garden exploration
3:45–5:30	Family Connection	Art display, portfolio sharing, dismissal

7. TODDLER ROOM — TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING

Week 1 — Hello Summer!

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | TODDLER ROOM | Week 1 — Hello Summer!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

Week 2 — Things That Grow

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | TODDLER ROOM | Week 2 — Things That Grow

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

Week 3 — Splash & Explore

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | TODDLER ROOM | Week 3 — Splash & Explore

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Teacher Notes / Reflections:	
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Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | TODDLER ROOM | Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:

Teacher Notes / Reflections:	
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8. PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM (3 – 5 years) | RIELDS-ALIGNED JUNE CURRICULUM

Standards Alignment: All preschool activities are intentionally mapped to the 9 Rhode Island Early Learning & Development Standards (RIELDS) domains. Domain codes appear in each activity cell. See Section 10 for the full domain reference guide.

RIELDS Domain Codes — Quick Reference

Code	Domain Name
D1	Social & Emotional Development
D2	Language Development & Communication
D3	Early Literacy
D4	Early Mathematics
D5	Science & Technology
D6	Social Studies
D7	Creative Arts
D8	Physical Development & Health
D9	Approaches to Learning

Preschool Week 1 — Hello Summer! ■■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Circle & Literacy	Morning meeting weather journal entry Read: 'The Sun is My Favorite Star' Phonics: S words — sun, sky, summer, seed (D2,D3)
Math & Science	Measure temperature AM vs PM; graph results Sort objects: hot vs. cold; light vs. heavy (D4,D5)
Art & Music	Watercolor sunrise paintings Teach 'Here Comes the Sun' (simplified) (D7)
Outdoor Inquiry	Shadow tracing at three times of day Sunflower seedling planting (D5,D9)
Social Studies	Map our neighborhood: where does summer happen? Discuss summer helpers: farmers, lifeguards (D6,D1)

Preschool Week 2 — Things That Grow ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy & Language	Read: 'Planting a Rainbow' / 'Growing Vegetable Soup' Label diagram of a plant — 5 parts (D2,D3)
Math & Patterning	ABAB pattern with seeds and pebbles Count petals 1–10 on flower prints (D4)
Science Inquiry	Class experiment: Bean in a bag (window germination) Record changes daily in science journal (D5,D9)
Art & Drama	Collage 'Garden Mural' (cooperative) Dramatic play: Farmer's Market (D7,D1,D6)
Gross Motor	Garden yoga — 'seed to flower' body sequence Dig, plant, water outdoor garden beds (D8)

Preschool Week 3 — Splash & Explore ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy Focus	Read: 'Swimmy' / 'Jump Into Science: Floating' Write/dictate: 'My favorite water place is...' (D2,D3)
STEM Investigation	Float or Sink chart experiment Make a rain gauge; measure a 'rain' from watering can (D4,D5)
Creative Arts	Watercolor resist: ocean scene with crayon/wax Movement song: 'I'm a Little Rain Drop' (D7,D8)
Social Emotional	Discuss water safety rules; role play beach scenario Practice taking turns at water table (D1,D6)
Outdoor Science	Observe puddle evaporation across the day Bug / creature hunt near water feature (D5,D9)

Preschool Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things ■

Focus Area	Activities & Standards
Literacy & Writing	Read: 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' / 'Insects Are My Life' Write bug observation journal entry with drawing (D2,D3)
Math & Data	Count insect legs, wings, body parts Create bar graph: bugs found on nature walk (D4,D5)
Science Inquiry	Magnifying glass insect investigation (real & model) Sort: insect vs. not insect; complete bug sort sheet (D5,D9)
Art & Construction	Recycled material bug building (STEM challenge) Symmetry butterfly — fold paint printing (D7,D4)
Movement & Health	Insect movement game: fly, crawl, hop, spin Discuss: why do we love bugs? Ecosystem role (D8,D1,D6)

9. PRESCHOOL ROOM — TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING

Week 1 — Hello Summer!

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | PRESCHOOL | Week 1 — Hello Summer!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

Week 2 — Things That Grow

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | PRESCHOOL | Week 2 — Things That Grow

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

Week 3 — Splash & Explore

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING | PRESCHOOL | Week 3 — Splash & Explore

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
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Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things

TEACHER WEEKLY PLANNING PRESCHOOL Week 4 — Bugs & Tiny Things				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:	Circle Time: Activity: Outdoor: Notes:
Teacher Notes / Reflections:				

RHODE ISLAND EARLY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS — DOMAIN REFERENCE

The Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards (RIELDS) provide a framework for what children birth through age 5 should know, understand, and be able to do. Tiny Scholars Academy uses RIELDS as the foundation for all preschool curriculum planning and assessment.

D1	Social & Emotional Development	Children develop a positive sense of self, manage their feelings, form relationships, and demonstrate empathy. June focus: building summer friendships, emotional regulation during transitions, community helpers discussion.
D2	Language Development & Communication	Children use language to communicate needs, ideas, and questions. They develop listening and conversational skills. June focus: nature vocabulary, asking questions about the outdoors, descriptive language in journal writing.
D3	Early Literacy	Children develop phonological awareness, print awareness, alphabet knowledge, and comprehension. June focus: S/W/B/P initial sounds, environmental print in the garden, story retelling of June read-alouds.
D4	Early Mathematics	Children explore number, operations, geometry, measurement, data, and patterns. June focus: counting bugs/petals 1–20, graphing weather/bugs, ABAB patterns, measuring plant growth.
D5	Science & Technology	Children observe, explore, investigate, and develop scientific thinking. They use tools for learning. June focus: life cycles, weather observation, float/sink experiments, magnifying glasses as science tools.
D6	Social Studies	Children develop an understanding of self, community, the environment, and civic responsibilities. June focus: community helpers in summer (farmers, lifeguards), caring for our environment and garden.
D7	Creative Arts	Children express themselves through visual art, music, drama, and movement. They appreciate aesthetic experiences. June focus: watercolor techniques, nature collage, movement songs, dramatic play in farmer's market.
D8	Physical Development & Health	Children develop gross and fine motor skills, healthy habits, and body awareness. June focus: outdoor play, garden digging (fine motor), yoga, water safety awareness, sun safety.
D9	Approaches to Learning	Children demonstrate curiosity, persistence, creativity, problem-solving, and flexibility in learning. June focus: science journaling, STEM bug-building challenge, wondering questions during outdoor inquiry.

■ Hello Sunshine Families! Welcome to Our Summer of Learning!

June has arrived and we are SO excited to dive into our theme: **Sunshine, Grow & Explore!** This month, your children will discover the magic of summer through gardens, water science, bug investigations, and all the wonder that comes with longer, sunnier days. Read on to learn what's happening in our classrooms and how you can continue the learning at home!

■ Infant Room Corner

Our littlest learners are exploring summer with their senses! Watch for grass texture play, sunlight-and-shadow discoveries, and lots of singing. Ask your teacher about your baby's sensory log.

■ Toddler Room Corner

Toddlers are planting beans, splashing at the water table, and hunting for bugs! This month we're building 10 new nature words each week. Send your child in mud-friendly clothes — we love to dig!

■ Preschool Room Corner

Preschoolers are working across all 9 RIELDS learning domains this month! They'll keep science journals, build insects from recycled materials, graph the bugs they find, and write their own summer stories. Curriculum night: **June 18th at 6 PM.**

■ Important Dates

- June 3 — Welcome Summer Day (dress in yellow!)
- June 10 — Garden Day — volunteers welcome!
- June 17 — Water Play Day (send a change of clothes)
- June 18 — Curriculum Night, 6:00 PM
- June 19 — Juneteenth — Academy closed
- June 24 — Bug Fair & Science Showcase
- June 28 — End-of-Month Celebration & Portfolio Pickup

■ Learning At Home

- Grow a bean in a plastic bag on your window!
- Go on a neighborhood bug hunt with a magnifying glass.
- Sing 'Itsy Bitsy Spider' and 'You Are My Sunshine' together.
- Let your child water your plants or garden.
- Ask: 'What do you think bugs eat? Where do they sleep?'

■ JUNE SUN SAFETY REMINDER

Please apply sunscreen to your child **BEFORE** drop-off. Teachers will reapply provided sunscreen before outdoor time. Please send a labeled water bottle, sun hat, and closed-toe shoes every day. Outdoor time may be shortened on days when heat index exceeds 90°F.

Thank you for entrusting us with your most precious tiny scholars. We are so grateful for this community. As always, our doors are open — please reach out with any questions, ideas, or celebrations to share! ■

With sunshine and care,

The Tiny Scholars Academy Team