

Writing Educational Objectives

Goals and objectives

Goals state the intended purpose of the educational activity. They often include “will be able to...” *Ex: The student will be able to spell 3rd grade spelling words. The student will be able to type. The student will be able to recognize common types of trees.*

Broad Objectives state the behavioral outcomes that determine if the student was successful. *Ex: The student will correctly spell words from a 3rd grade list. The student will type with increased speed and proficiency. The students will identify common trees.*

Specific Measurable Objectives provide a measurement to determine if the educational program was successful. *Ex: 75% of students will correctly spell 500 words from the 3rd grade spelling list. 65% of students will type 50 wpm or faster with at least 90% accuracy. 80% of students will correctly identify 4 out of 5 common types of trees.*

How to use these objectives

The objectives listed below are broad goals that state expected student behaviors in the areas of study required by state law. You may make them more specific and measurable by stating specific numbers needed in order for the student to pass; though that is not required by PA state law.

The italicized information in the objectives below will change depending on the grade level and curriculum used. Include on your list of objectives the material that you will cover over the academic year. For science and social studies, list the main units included in your curriculum.

Listing curriculum sources

Some families list the curriculum to be used for each subject in the reporting of their objectives.

Example: Using XYZ Curriculum, Johnny will:

Advantages of Listing Curriculum: Demonstrates that the family has selected and acquired the educational materials. It can be used as a reference in future years when writing objectives for a younger child using the same curriculum.

Disadvantages of Listing Curriculum: The law in PA does not require parents to disclose what material they are planning on using in advance. Some families are concerned they may have less flexibility to change curriculum if they find something that works better during the year, although the school district has no authority to require you to stick to a particular curriculum.

Family developed unit studies: If you are creating your own unit studies rather than using a purchased curriculum, you may write “Using individually developed unit studies, the student will....”

Language Objectives

Using XYZ curriculum, the student will:

Spell words with progressing difficulty

Read fluently from grade appropriate books including:

List of books can be included

Answer comprehension questions about material read

Develop legible penmanship

Identify parts of speech and their role in sentences

Write: *sentences, paragraphs, essays, book reports, creative writing, letters, research paper*

Demonstrate correct punctuation and mechanics

Deliver fluent oral presentations

Identify correct use of vocabulary words

Maintain written log of materials read.

Science Objectives

Using *XYZ Curriculum*, the student will:

Study the following units:

List determined by curriculum

Explain cause and effect of scientific phenomenon for each unit of study

Identify vocabulary terms and key concepts

Perform related experiments and observations

Social Studies Objectives (Geography; Cultures; World/US/State History)

Using *XYZ Curriculum*, the student will:

Study the following units:

List determined by curriculum

Evaluate the influence of key historical figures for each unit.

Describe how society is impacted by change.

List major events chronologically.

Locate geographic areas on a map or globe.

Assess the effect of geological location on culture and history.

Math Objectives: (Choose the problems appropriate to the student's grade level.)

Using *XYZ curriculum*, the student will:

Identify:

Whole numbers to (twenty, hundred, thousand, million, billion), Pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters,

Geometric shapes, Less than and greater than signs, Roman Numerals

Measure:

Temperature, Time, Liquid and dry measurements, Weight, Length and height

Add, subtract, multiply, and divide problems with:

Single digits, Double digits, Place value to (ten thousands, millions, billions), Word Problems,

Number lines, Fractions, Decimals, Money, Linear measurements (inches, meters), Volume measurements (teaspoons, cups, bushels, cubic centimeters), Graphs and charts, Area, perimeter, radius, diameter, circumference, Negative numbers

Solve algebraic problems with:

polynomial equations, positive and negative numbers, exponents, roots, absolute value, rational expressions, quadratic equations, exponential growth, statistics and probability, logarithms and antilogarithms, vectors, graphs and coordinates, and word problem.

Solve geometry problems with:

Pythagorean theorem, measurement of angles, geometric proofs, intersecting lines, triangles, volume, area, and surface area.

Solve trigonometry problems including those with:

trigonometric functions, inverse functions, identities, graphs, and word problems.

Minor Subjects

The student will

Demonstrate enhanced performance and sportsmanship in physical fitness activities

Create artistic works using a variety of media

Evaluate the work of famous artists and/or composers

Play progressively more difficult compositions on a musical instrument

Assess the civic responsibilities of citizenship

Contrast healthy and unhealthy behaviors

List behaviors that enhance safety, including prevention and response to fire

Minor objectives may be individualized by giving the curriculum source and listing specific activities.

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