



The image shows the cover of the book "California Preschool Learning Foundations, Volume 3". On the left side, there is a vertical column of eight colorful icons: a red bear, a green leaf, a pink heart, a yellow book, a blue globe, a green triangle, a purple pencil, and an orange soccer ball. The main title "California Preschool Learning Foundations" is written in blue and red text, with "Volume 3" in green below it. A large, faint orange bear silhouette is in the background. At the bottom, it says "CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION • SACRAMENTO, 2012".

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Science

“Young children, like scientists, have a sense of wonder and natural curiosity about objects and events in their environment (*California Preschool Learning Foundations, Volume 3, p. 48*).”



A photograph of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a green dress with a floral pattern, looking intently at a plant with pink flowers. She is reaching out towards the plant.

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Science

The science foundations include content based on “...children’s existing intuitive knowledge and interests related to science and on concepts children can explore directly in their everyday environment.”

(California Preschool Learning Foundations, Volume 3, p. 55)



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Science

Physical Sciences foundations explore:

- Properties of objects (sound, light and shadow, weight, flexibility) and different materials including solid and nonsolid substances.

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Science

Physical Sciences foundations explore:

- Changes in objects (taking apart, combining and mixing, solid to liquid).
- Movement of objects
- Relationship of properties to movement such as pushing heavy versus light objects.

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Science

Life Sciences foundations explore:

- Properties and characteristics of living things, such as the difference between living and nonliving things, appearances, habitats, behaviors, and changes and growth over time.
- A beginning understanding that all living things (humans, plants, animals) have basic needs such as food and water.

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Science

Earth Sciences foundations relate to:

- Characteristics and properties of earth materials such as rocks, soil, air, and water in children's immediate environments.
- Observing and describing changes in the earth, such as in objects in the sky like the sun, moon, and stars.
- Tracking of weather and seasons.

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Science

Exploring Our Personal Connections to Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Earth Sciences

	Something I learned as a child	Something I recently discovered	Something I am curious about
Physical Sciences Substrand: Properties and Characteristics of Nonliving Objects and Materials Substrand: Changes in Nonliving Objects and Materials			
Life Sciences Substrand: Properties and Characteristics of Living Things Substrand: Changes in Living Things			

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Science

- Where are there similarities?
- Are there differences relating to experiences in urban, rural, coastal, or mountain settings or experiences?
- Which responses reflect experiences in formal schooling and which reflect experiences in everyday lives?

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Science

- Are values or cultural differences in beliefs about natural events and materials reflected in the responses? What do these responses suggest about working with these domains in early care and education settings?

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