Prairie Children Preschool
Core Exposure Vocabulary Lists

LOCATION

above	far	on
across	here	out
around	in	over
behind	in back of	right
below	in front	somewhere
beside	into	there
between	left	through
bottom	near	top
by	next	under
down	off	up

GENDER/PERSONAL

boy	herself	people
brother	him	person
child	himself	she
children	his	sister
family	I	their
father/dad	lady	theirs
friend	man	them
girl	me	they
grandfather	men	we
grandmother	mine	woman
he	mother/mom	women
her	my	us
hers	our	you
	ours	your

SIZE

big
large
little
long
medium
short
small
tall

QUANTITY

a lot	how many	numbers (1-20)
add	less	one
all	many	pair
another	match	some
couple	more	whole
everyone	much	zero
everything	no one	
except	none	
half	nothing	

DESCRIPTORS

bad	even	long
big	fast	new
broke	full	nice
broken	good	old
clean	great	same
cold	hard	shapes
colors	heavy	short
dark	hot	small
different	kind	slow
dirty	large	soft
dry	light	warm
empty	little	wet

TIME

after	late	soon
again	later	summer
all done	never	then
before	next	today
day	night	tomorrow
early	often	yesterday
fall	once	winter
first	spring	
last	sometime	

FUNCTION WORDS

a	do	so
am	does	that
an	done	the
and	don't	this
are	had	those
around	has	to
as	have	too
at	if	very
away	is	was
be	it	were
because	no	will
can	not	with
but	or	wrong
did	right	yes

*knowledge of yes/no for making choices (e.g., "Do you want ___?")

CATEGORIES

animals	furniture	people
body parts	letters	plants
bugs	music – instruments	shapes
clothes	numbers	toys
colors	places –	weather
food	(farm, park, house, etc.)	

VERBS

ask	kick	set
build	kiss	show
buy	know	shut
call	laugh	sing
carry	lay	sit
catch	learn	skip
clean	like	sleep
climb	live	slide
close	look	stand
cook	love	start
cry	make	step
cut	move	stop
dance	open	swim
draw	paint	swing
drink	pass	take
eat	pay	talk
fall	pet	think
find	play	throw
finish	pull	tie
fix	push	turn
follow	put	wait
get	read	wake
give	ride	walk
go	run	want
grow	say	wear
hear	see	work
jump	send	

*introduce/expose children to concrete verbs first (e.g., sit, eat, run, sleep)
*introduce/expose children to abstract verbs second (e.g., grow, make)

EMOTIONS

angry	hungry	sick
excited	hurt	sleepy
frustrated	mad	thirsty
funny	sad	tired
happy	scared	upset