



## **News Release**

Contact: Beth Johnson  
Company: Gilden Woods Early Care and Preschool  
Tel: 1-616-226-8716  
Email: [beth@appletreekids.cc](mailto:beth@appletreekids.cc)

## **For Immediate Release**

### **AppleTree Early Care and Preschool and Gilden Woods Early Care and Preschool introduce new S.T.E.M. curriculum for 4 year olds and Young 5's**

**GRAND RAPIDS, MI July 20, 2015** – AppleTree Early Care and Preschool and Gilden Woods Early Care and Preschool announced today that a S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum will be added to their K-Prep preschool program beginning in October, 2015 at all of their 16 schools located in the West Michigan, Kalamazoo, and Lansing areas.

“Children are natural born scientists and are quite capable of exploring concepts of science,” says Lezlie Soda, M. Ed., Director of Curriculum for AppleTree and Gilden Woods Early Care and Preschool. “The addition of this S.T.E.M. program enhances our current preschool curriculum by allowing students to discover the amazing world of science.”

Preschoolers are eager to investigate spaces and experiment with objects in their environment. The program will provide hands-on activities in science education to promote a sense of wonder and interest in the natural world. The S.T.E.M. curriculum invites 4-year olds and Young 5's to actively investigate their world through exploration. The program is based upon “*Peep and the Big Wide World™*” and will include six broad units of study: Water, Sound, Plants, Colors, Shadows, and Ramps (movement).

## **Company Boilerplate**

Gilden Woods and AppleTree Early Care and Preschools provide children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old high quality child care and education in a safe, nurturing environment. Children learn, play, and develop at their own pace and their unique abilities are discovered and nurtured by highly qualified teachers using research-based, developmentally appropriate programming and curriculum. The schools are specifically designed to foster engaging and interactive learning that promotes Kindergarten Readiness and future school success.

“*Peep and the Big Wide World*,” produced by the WGBH Education Foundation, is an award-winning animated video series combined with a preschool science and math curriculum to engage and support teaching science and math to preschoolers and young 5's.