

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

KINDERGARTEN



LANGUAGE ARTS

Your child will be working to develop his or her understanding and mastery of Kindergarten Common Core Standards in English-Language Arts. These standards integrate all aspects of Language Arts development and are categorized under Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening, and Language. Your child's teacher will use a wide variety of instructional strategies and formats to help your child learn and progress toward mastery of these standards by the end of the school year.

Apply Concepts about Print

- Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print by following words-left to right, top to bottom, page by page.
- Understand that spoken words are printed in written language.
- Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.
- Recognize and name all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- Demonstrate Phonological Awareness (the ability to manipulate sounds orally)
- Recognize and produce rhymes.
- Understand words are made of syllables that can be put together and taken apart.
- Blend and segment onsets and rimes (/b/-/at/ says "bat").
- Identify beginning, middle, and ending sounds.
- Substitute beginning, middle, and ending sounds to make new words (cat, cap).
- Apply Phonics and Word Recognition Skills
- Produce the correct sound for each letter including short and long vowel sounds.
- Read kindergarten sight words automatically.
- Distinguish between similarly spelled words (map/mop, hat/ham, tim/tip).

Read with Fluency

- Read familiar and emergent texts with purpose and understanding.

Identify Key Ideas and Details

- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding in fiction and nonfiction texts.
- Identify main idea and retell familiar stories with key details.
- Identify character, setting, and major events in stories.
- Describe connection between two individuals, events, or ideas in informational texts.

Understand the Structure of Texts

- Ask and answer questions about unknown words.
- Recognize common types of texts (storybooks, poems, etc.)
- Identify author and illustrator and define their roles.
- Identify parts of a book (cover, title page).

Integrate Knowledge and Ideas Within and Across Texts

- Recognize that illustrations complement and add to the meaning of text.

- Compare/contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories.

- Identify reason an author gives to support points in an informational text.

- Identify the similarities and differences between two informational texts on the same topic.

Read and Comprehend a Range of Texts with Appropriate Grade Level Complexity

- Engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

Language

- Demonstrate Command of Conventions of Standard English
- Print uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Use frequently occurring nouns and verbs.
- Form plural nouns.
- Understand and use question words.
- Use common prepositions (from, in, out, on, off).
- Speak in complete sentences.
- Capitalize the beginning of sentences and the pronoun "I".
- Recognize and name end punctuation.
- Spell simple words phonetically with a beginning, middle, and end (i.e., mtn=mitten).
- Understand and Use Grade Appropriate Vocabulary
- Use the context of a story to identify the meaning of words.
- Use the knowledge of prefixes and suffixes to understand the meaning of a word.
- Sort common objects into categories.
- Understand word opposites.
- Identify real life connections between words and their use.
- Act out similar verbs (walk, strut, march).

Utilize acquired vocabulary from reading and conversation.

Writing

- Write a Variety of Text for Various Purposes
- Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to share an opinion, tell a story, and share information.
- Produce and Publish Clear and Coherent Writing
- Add detail to writing and edits with support from peers and adults.
- Explore digital resources for use in writing.
- Research to Build and Present Knowledge
- Participate in shared research and writing projects.
- Recall information from experiences or gather information from sources to answer a question.

Speaking And Listening

- Participate in Collaborative Conversations with Understanding about Kindergarten Topics and Texts
- Follow rules for discussion.
- Continue a conversation through multiple exchanges.
- Confirm understanding through questioning and request clarification if needed.

- Present Knowledge and Ideas Clearly
- Describe familiar people, places, things, and events to provide additional detail.
- Add drawings to provide additional detail.

Speak audibly and clearly.

Handwriting

- Engage in a variety of fine motor activities using pencils, markers, crayons, playdough, and scissors.
- Upper- and lower-case manuscript alphabet and practices letter formation in written work.

Write name using upper- and lower-case letters.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Government and Civics

- Develop a sense of self and personal abilities.
- Develop the following skills: interpersonal, decision-making, problem-solving listening/speaking, personal and group skills.
- Explore, understand and appreciate the cultural similarities and differences between one's own culture and other cultures.

Geography

- Distinguish between a map and a globe.
- Locate the United States and Connecticut on a map.
- Locate areas of land and water on a map and globe.

HISTORY

- Develop a sense of personal history.
- Develop a sense of U.S. history through the study of famous Americans and national holidays.
- Locate yesterday, today, and tomorrow on a calendar to sequence events.
- Recognize events that re-occur and use terms such as before and after to compare events.

SCIENCE

Life Science

- Our Senses
- Identify how our five senses help us gather information and understand the world.
- Perceive the natural world through the use of five senses.

Earth Science

- Weather Conditions
- Recognize that weather conditions vary daily and seasonally.
- Describe and record daily weather conditions.
- Relate seasonal weather patterns to appropriate choices of clothing and activities.

Science and Technology in Society

- Environment and Shelters
- Recognize that humans select both natural and man-made materials to build shelters.
- Describe the materials people use to shelter themselves and how that is based on climate conditions.
- Compare and contrast shelters to identify common features.
- Demonstrate a thoughtful and coordinated attempt to search out, describe, explain and predict natural phenomena.
- Participate in speaking, listening, presenting, interpreting, reading and writing about science.

Scientific Inquiry

- Demonstrate a thoughtful and coordinated attempt to search out, describe, explain and predict natural phenomena.
- Participate in speaking, listening, presenting, interpreting,

reading and writing about science.

- Understand that mathematics provides useful tools for the description, analysis and presentation of scientific data and ideas.

MATHEMATICS

Our mathematics curriculum is based on the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS-M) that define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of the year at each grade level. The Common Core Standards for Mathematics have two key components:

(1) Standards for Mathematical Practice – eight practices in which students engage at all grade levels

(2) Standards for Mathematical Content – conceptual understandings and procedural knowledge and skills

The Content Standards at each grade level are grouped into domains (e.g. Geometry) and clusters within each domain.

Our main instructional focus in Kindergarten is on representing, relating and operating on whole numbers, initially with sets of objects. An additional area of focus is on describing shapes and space. To provide you with an understanding of your child's mathematics learning this year, we have highlighted domains and clusters of standards for Kindergarten below.

Mathematical Practices

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Counting and Cardinality

- Writes numbers from 0 to 20 and represent with objects
- Understands 0
- Represents addition and subtraction with objects or verbally
- Counts to 100 by ones and tens
- Count forward beginning from a given number
- Add/subtract within 10
- Compares numbers between 1-10 presented as written numerals, greater and less than
- Classifies objects into categories + graphs information
- Describes measurable attributes of objects (length, weight)
- Compares two objects with a measurable attribute in common
- Compose numbers 11-19 to gain a foundation for place value
- Names and describes 2D + 3D shapes using various attributes
- Analyze, compare, create and compose shapes

Key Fluency

- Add/subtract within 5.
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.
- Number and Operations in Base Ten
- Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value.

Measurement and Data

- Describe and compare measurable attributes (length, weight)
Example: Compare the heights of objects and describe one as taller/shorter.
- Classify objects and count the number of objects in categories.

Geometry

- Identify and describe shapes.

Describe objects using names of shapes and the relative positions of these objects using terms such as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, next to.

- Analyze, compare, create, and compose shapes.

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