

Reading, Language, Writing, Speaking and Listening Expectations for Kindergarten

Learning new language skills is a hallmark of kindergarten. Your child will learn about the alphabet and its role in reading. Your child will practice rhyming, matching words with beginning sounds, and blending sounds into words. Practice with these types of activities is a powerful step toward learning to read and spell correctly. The size of your child's vocabulary is another key factor in his or her ability to read and comprehend books and stories. Your child also will begin to experiment with writing and will be encouraged to use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing letters to share information, ideas, and feelings.

Reading Expectations

READING STANDARDS: FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Print Concepts

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Follow words correctly on a page
- ✓ Match words to the letters that make the word
- ✓ Show spaces between words
- ✓ Name all uppercase letters
- ✓ Name all lowercase letters

Phonemic Awareness

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Tell if a word rhymes
- ✓ Produce rhyming words
- ✓ Chop a word into its syllable parts
- ✓ Put syllable parts together
- ✓ Hear and say the sound parts of a word family (/b/ /at/ /bat/)
- ✓ Blend the sound parts of a word family
- ✓ Chop a three-letter word into its sounds
- ✓ Change one of the sounds in a word to make a new word

Phonics and Word Recognition

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Name the sounds of consonants
- ✓ Name the five vowels and the long and short sounds they make
- ✓ Read sight words
- ✓ Look at words and tell what make them different
- ✓ Read kindergarten books

READING STANDARDS FOR LITERATURE

Key Ideas and Details

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Ask and answer questions about a story
- ✓ Retell a story
- ✓ Tell the characters and setting in a story
- ✓ Tell the beginning, middle, and end of a story

Craft and Structure

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Ask and answer questions about words they do not know in a story
- ✓ Tell the difference between a book, a poem, and other types of stories
- ✓ Name the author and illustrator of a story, and tell what they do
- ✓ Tell about the story by looking at the pictures
- ✓ Tell how characters in stories are the same and different
- ✓ Listen and tell about stories that are read together

READING STANDARDS FOR INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Key Ideas and Details

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Ask and answer questions about nonfiction
- ✓ Name the topic of a nonfiction book and retell details
- ✓ Compare two like things in nonfiction

Craft and Structure

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Ask and answer questions about words they don't know in nonfiction
- ✓ Find the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book
- ✓ Name the author and illustrator of a nonfiction book and tell what they do
- ✓ Tell information about the nonfiction topic by looking at the pictures

- ✓ Find the main idea and tell details that go with it
- ✓ Tell how two nonfiction books on the same topic are alike or different
- ✓ Listen and tell about nonfiction books that are read together

Language Expectations

Conventions of Standard English

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Print uppercase letters
- ✓ Print lowercase letters
- ✓ Speak in complete sentences
- ✓ Form regular plural nouns orally by adding /s/ or /es/ (e.g., dog, dogs; wish, wishes).
- ✓ Understand and use question words (interrogatives) (e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how)
- ✓ Use the most frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., to, from, in, out, on, off, for, of, by, with).
- ✓ Finish a sentence that has already been started
- ✓ Put a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence and the pronoun "I"
- ✓ Recognize and name end punctuation
- ✓ Write a letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel sounds (phonemes)
- ✓ Write the letter or letters that makes a sound
- ✓ Write the letters they hear in a word
- ✓ Spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on kindergarten reading and content
- ✓ Identify new meaning for familiar words and apply them accurately (e.g., knowing duck is a bird and learning the verb to duck)
- ✓ Know that parts added to words can change the meaning (e.g., -ed, -s, un-, Pre-, ful, -less)
- ✓ Sort objects into groups with help
- ✓ Say the opposite of a word (antonyms)
- ✓ Match spoken words to places and things
- ✓ Use words heard before when talking about a story

Writing Expectations

Text Types and Purposes

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion pieces
 - Tell a reader the topic
 - Tell the name of the book they are writing about
 - State an opinion or preference about the topic or book
- ✓ Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic
- ✓ Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events
 - Tell about the events in the order in which they occurred
 - Tell how I felt about what happened

Production and Distribution of Writing

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed (with help)
- ✓ Use the computer and other digital tools to record and publish writings
- ✓ Collaborate with peers

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Study, learn, write, and research with others
- ✓ Recall information from experiences/things I know about (with help)
- ✓ Find information from provided sources to answer a question (with help)

Speaking and Listening Expectations

Comprehension and Collaboration

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Talk to others about a topic
- ✓ Know when to speak and when to listen
- ✓ Take turns when talking to others
- ✓ Ask and answer questions about what is heard so that it can be understood
- ✓ Ask for help when needed

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

By the end of Kindergarten your student should be able to:

- ✓ Tell details about familiar people, places, things and events they know about
- ✓ Provide additional detail with prompting and support
- ✓ Add pictures or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail
- ✓ Speak clearly
- ✓ Tell others about their thoughts, feelings, and ideas