



Student Success

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of what your child will learn by the end of kindergarten in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. It expands upon the key skills that are identified as performance indicators on the kindergarten checklist and report card. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined by these performance indicators, he or she will be well prepared for 1st grade.

Mathematics

Below are samples of what your child will be working on in kindergarten. **The two most important concepts are in bold.** The district expectations gradually increase as the year progresses.

- **Counting objects to tell how many there are**
- *Comparing two groups of objects to tell which group, if either, has more or less; comparing two written numbers to tell which is greater*
- *Naming shapes regardless of orientation or size (e.g., a square oriented as a “diamond” is still a square)*
- *Adding and subtracting very small numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., $3 + 1$)*
- *Acting out addition and subtraction word problems and drawing diagrams to represent them*
- **Adding with a sum of 10 or less; subtracting from a number 10 or less**



English Language Arts/Literacy

In Kindergarten, your child will learn foundational skills that will help them become an independent reader and writer. 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 making your child a reader and a writer. 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 writing using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to share information, ideas, and feelings.

Below are samples of what your child will be working on in kindergarten:

- *Naming upper-and lower-case letters, matching those letters with their sounds, and printing them*
- *Taking part in classroom conversations and following rules for discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking)*
- *Comparing the events and experiences of characters in books*
- *Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened*
- *Retelling familiar stories and talking about stories read to them using details from the text*
- *Asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud*
- *Learning to read, spell, and properly use high frequency words in texts and in their writing*
- *Applying phonics and word solving skills in decoding words and writing words*
- *Using a capital letter to start sentences and ends sentences with punctuation*

