



A Parent's Guide to the Essential Learnings

Kindergarten

This document is not a complete or comprehensive representation of the entire curriculum. It is intended to provide parents with an overview of essential learnings in all subject areas. For additional information, consult your child's teacher.

Mathematics

- Counts up to 20 real objects
- Counts to 100 by 1s and by 10s
- Counts backwards from 20 to 0 by 1s
- Recognizes written numbers 0 to 50
- Writes numerals 0 to 20
- Counts by 2s to 20 and by 5s to 50
- Uses real objects to add and subtract
- Divides a whole into equal parts (halves and quarters)
- Uses vocabulary of approximation (e.g., about, over, between, more, and less) when estimating quantities and measurements
- Checks length, temperature, and weight using standard and nonstandard measurement
- Recognizes and describes squares, circles, rectangles, and triangles
- Describes, duplicates, and extends a variety of patterns
- Uses the language of number operations (add, subtract, plus, minus) to communicate understanding of mathematical ideas
- Uses a variety of approaches to solve problems (manipulatives, pictures, guess and check)

Reading

- Identifies all letters of the alphabet
- Understands sound/letter relationship

- Identifies letter sounds in beginning and end of words
- Uses patterns of language to predict text (e.g., rhyme, repetition of sounds, words, phrases)
- Identifies the concepts of print in reading (e.g., letters, words, sentences, directionality)
- Builds vocabulary by using picture cues, listening to and responding to literature
- Develops a bank of sight words
- Recognizes familiar words in a variety of contexts
- Identifies beginning, middle, and end of a story
- Comprehends functional texts (e.g., charts, calendar, room number, center directions)
- Recalls details from a story
- Makes predictions and simple inferences based on text and pictures
- Retells a known story in sequence
- Uses simple words, symbols, and icons to understand routines and directions
- Participates in the reading of a variety of authors, styles, and genres (fiction and nonfiction)
- Listens to literature representing different cultures

Writing

- Draws pictures to communicate ideas
- Dictates a story/idea in sequence
- Writes letters and word strings

- Writes own name and a few words
- Dictates ideas, tells a story, narrates an event, describes drawings
- Generates ideas through experience (e.g., observing, listening, touching, tasting, smelling)
- Uses letter strings to depict meaning
- Edits for upper and lower case letters in a name
- Identifies changes in drawing and writing over time, with teacher help
- Listens to feedback of others

Capitalization and Punctuation

- Uses upper and lower case letters correctly in own name
- Explores the use of periods and question marks

Handwriting

- Forms upper and lower case letters
- Writes from left to right
- Holds pencil correctly

Communication

- Remains silent while speaker is talking; looks at speaker
- Listens to a variety of literary forms and verbal messages (e.g., stories, poems, instructions)
- Understands gestures and facial expressions
- Recalls major events or characters
- Follows simple oral directions

- Asks clear questions for personal information
- Expresses own ideas and/or interests clearly
- Dictates stories
- Speaks with enough volume to be heard
- Speaks to take care of own needs
- Makes meaning clear to listener
- Expresses own ideas, opinions, and feelings
- Responds with interest, questions, and comments to presentations

Science ☆

- Explains what happens to water when it evaporates
- Sorts objects by properties including shape, size, color, texture, and hardness
- Reports results of simple scientific observations and investigations
- Demonstrates safe practices in the science learning environment
- Creates and describes simple patterns
- Creates and describes a sequence
- Identifies everyday scientific terms found in home, school, and community
- Identifies types of weather
- Identifies rain, snow, and hail as forms of precipitation
- Sorts and classifies objects based on their taste, color, and touch



Social Studies

The social studies themes for the primary grades are:

- K - Self
- 1 - Family
- 2 - Neighborhood
- 3 - Community

with respect

History

- Retells/ organizes personal history/growth in a sequential order
- Explains how family members rely on each other
- Explains ways to gather information about their past
- Recognizes charts use words and pictures to give information

Economics

- Recognizes that families are part of the economic system
- Matches the products in stores to the needs or wants they meet
- Describes different jobs in the community
- Recognizes that money has value because it can be used to purchase goods and services

Geography

- Identifies natural phenomena (e.g., floods, earthquakes) that change the earth's surface
- Recognizes that people use water for certain purposes in the Pacific Northwest
- Recognizes that individual behaviors affect the environment (littering)
- Describes different types of climate (weather) in his/her region
- Recognizes the basic human needs: food, clothing, and shelter
- Recognizes land and sea on a map or globe
- Participates in a variety of cultural experiences and traditions through music, art, drama, and stories

Civics

- Identifies the ways people can be productive citizens
- Recognizes that people make, apply, and enforce laws to follow at home, in the classroom, and society
- Describes how a person can treat families and friends