

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

READING

1. Matching Letters to Sounds

Kindergarteners name upper and lowercase letters and match them to their sounds.

2. Recognizing and Blending Sounds

Kindergarteners recognize beginning sounds and blend sounds into simple words.

3. Common Words

Kindergarteners quickly read short, common words like a, the, and, and to "by sight."

4. Understanding Books and Writing

Kindergarteners develop basic understandings about books and writing.

EXAMPLES:

- Students follow words on a page from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page while reading or being read to.
- Students identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.
- Students name the author and illustrator of a story and explain what each does.
- Student recognize and name periods and question marks.

5. Simple Books

Kindergarteners read simple books with understanding.

6. Engaging with Many Books and Materials

Kindergarteners actively engage with many different kinds of books and printed materials.

EXAMPLES:

- Over the Meadow by John Langstaff
- Pancakes for Breakfast by Tomie DePaola
- Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes
- Truck by Donald Crews
- I Read Signs by Tana Hoban
- Amazing Whales! by Sarah L. Thomson

7. Asking and Answering Questions

Kindergarteners ask and answer questions about stories and informational books.

EXAMPLES:

- What or who is this story about? What happens in the story? How does the story end?
- What is this article or book about? What is the author explaining? What did we learn from this?

8. Retelling Familiar Stories

Kindergarteners read familiar stories, identifying characters, setting, and major events.

9. Understanding Words and Pictures

Kindergarteners get information from the words and the pictures in a book.

WRITING

10. Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

Kindergarteners print most uppercase and lowercase letters.

11. Capitalizing and Punctuating

Kindergarteners capitalize the first word in a sentence and end each sentence with a period or question mark.

12. Spelling Words the Way They Sound

Kindergarteners use knowledge of letters and sounds to spell words the way they sound.

13. Stories, Information, and Opinions

Kindergarteners use a combination of drawing, speaking, and writing to tell a story, give information, and state an opinion.

LISTENING & SPEAKING

14. Understanding and Using New Words

Kindergarteners understand and use many words.

EXAMPLES:

- Understand and use question words, such as who, what, where, when, why, and how
- Use common prepositions, such as to, from, in, out, on, and off
- Understand words learned in science and social studies, such as hibernation and tradition

15. Clear Expression

Kindergarteners express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.

16. Conversations and Discussions

Kindergarteners participate in conversations and follow rules for discussions – for example, listening to others and taking turns speaking.

NUMBERS

1. Words and Numerals for Numbers

Kindergarteners know the words for numbers (“one,” “two,” “three,” “four,” for 1, 2, 3, 4) through 20. They write numbers from 0 through 20.

2. Counting to 100

Kindergarteners count to 100 by ones and by tens.

3. Counting Objects in Groups

Kindergarteners count how many objects are in a group (to 20). By counting or matching objects, they tell whether the number of objects in one group is greater than (more) or less than (less), or equal to (the same as) the number of objects in another group.

4. Comparisons between Small Numbers

Kindergarteners compare any two numbers between 1 and 10 and tell which is greater than or less than the other.

5. Understanding Numbers 11-19

Kindergarteners understand numbers 11 through 19 as ten ones and some additional ones.

ADDITION & SUBTRACTION

6. Addition & Subtraction

Kindergarteners understand addition as “putting together” and “adding to.” They understand subtraction as “taking apart” and “taking away from.”

7. Mastering Addition & Subtraction

Kindergarteners add and subtract within 5 (1 to 5) quickly and accurately.

8. Solving Word Problems

Kindergarteners – using objects, fingers, simple math drawings, or mental images – solve addition word problems involving numbers that add up to 10 or less and subtraction word problems involving subtraction from 10 or less.

EXAMPLE:

There were five apples. The children ate two of the apples. How many apples were left?

9. Adding to 10

Kindergarteners – for any number, 1 through 9 – find the unknown number (quantity) needed to total 10. They show the answer with a drawing or equation (number sentence).

EXAMPLE:

$$8 + ? = 10$$

10. Breaking Up Numbers

Kindergarteners break up numbers, 3 through 10, into pairs in more than one way.

EXAMPLE:

6 can be broken up into

- 3 and 3
- 2 and 4
- 1 and 5
- 4 and 2
- 5 and 1

MEASUREMENT

11. Measuring in Different Ways

Kindergarteners understand that objects can be measured in different ways: length (“how long”), heavy (“how high” or “how tall”), and weight (“how heavy”). They compare the length, height, and/or weight of two objects.

12. Relative Position of Objects

Kindergarteners describe the relative position of objects – for example, above, below, in front of, and behind.

SHAPES

13. Naming Common Shapes

Kindergarteners name common shapes, such as squares, rectangles, circles, and triangles. They describe common shapes in simple terms: “Circles are round.” “Triangles have three sides.”

14. Understanding Flat and Solid Shapes

Kindergarteners understand the difference between “flat” or two-dimensional shapes (a square or circle drawn on paper) and “solid” or three-dimensional shapes (a wooden block or cube; a sphere or globe).

15. Creating Shapes

Kindergarteners use building and drawing to create shapes.