



K

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO KINDERGARTEN

*Curriculum Department
Lee's Summit R-7 School District*



Kindergarteners will...

Literacy

- Identify and write all upper and lower case letters
- Identify letter sounds
- Recognize and produce rhyming words
- Segment, delete, and blend syllables and sounds
- Read high frequency words
- Decode simple words
- Read grade level text accurately
- Read independently for sustained periods of time
- Use strategies to comprehend while reading and/or listening to a variety of texts
- Write first and last name
- Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose stories, opinion and informational pieces.
- Speak and listen in multiple settings

Ways to Help at Home

- *Read with and to your child every day.*
- *Play rhyming games and games that involve identifying letters and letter sounds.*
- *Recite nursery rhymes and sing songs.*
- *Encourage your child to identify high frequency words in text.*
- *Encourage your child to retell stories.*
- *Ask questions when reading with your child to support their understanding.*
- *Ask your child to put letters and pictures together to create simple stories.*
- *Encourage your child to draw and write by allowing access to pencils, crayons, markers, chalk and a variety of paper.*

Mathematics

- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Write, identify, and count objects for the numbers 1 to 20
- Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations of place value
- Understand addition as putting together or adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart or taking from
- Reason with shapes and their attributes (number of sides, number of angles, etc.)
- Sort and recognize squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, and spheres by their attributes
- Classify objects into categories and count the number of objects in each category
- Fluently add and subtract within 5

Ways to Help at Home

- *Ask your child questions that encourage them to count up to 20. (How many cans are on the shelf?)*
- *While putting toys into bins, count the number in two bins and ask your child how many more are in one bin than the other.*
- *Play games and create simple addition and subtraction problems for your child using life situations. (If you have five eggs and use two for dinner, ask how many are left in the carton.)*
- *Ask your child about the weight and length of certain objects. (Which is shorter? Which is heavier? How do you know?)*
- *Encourage your child to sort common objects. (coins, buttons, cereal) by attributes such as size, color and shape*

Kindergarteners will...

Science

- Make observations to determine the effect of sunlight on Earth's surface. and design a structure that will reduce the warming effect of sunlight on an area
- Describe weather patterns over time
- Observe the physical properties of objects and describe how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem
- Compare the strengths and weaknesses of objects and describe how each performs
- Compare the effects of different strengths or different directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object
- Describe ways to cause an object to go slower, go faster, go farther, change direction, stop
- Use observations to describe what plants and animals need to survive
- Describe how plants and animals can change the environment to meet their needs

Ways to Help at Home

- *Share the weather forecast and talk about what to wear.*
- *Share ideas about what to wear based on the season.*
- *Talk about how items at home were designed by someone. Encourage your child to 'invent' new tools (drawings).*
- *Play sports with your child and talk about concepts like speed, force and direction.*
- *Accompany your child outdoors and notice plants and animals, talk about how they survive outside.*
- *Read an age appropriate book about the seasons.*

Social Studies

- Engage in the study of themselves, their families, and their schools
- Learn how to participate and use effective citizenship skills
- Explore their families, their classrooms, and their schools through an interdisciplinary approach including history, civics, economics, and geography
- Generate and research compelling questions, such as:
 - What is my role in my family and school?
 - What is "history" and how is the past different from the present?
 - How do citizens show patriotism?
 - How do we use maps and globes to learn about places?
 - How do we make choices?

Ways to Help at Home

- *Help your child recognize various community member roles and responsibilities (i.e. fire, police, city council, waste management, public works, etc.)*
- *Explain to your child how they are related to other family members.*
- *Share stories about family history, places, and jobs.*
- *Look for opportunities to discuss, explore, and experience different cultures.*
- *Explain to your child where they live - their neighborhood, city, state, etc.*
- *Have conversations with your child about how and why you make decisions - opportunity costs based on decision making.*
- *Discuss your child's goals and ways to reach them.*
- *Have playdates, visit parks, and encourage your child to socialize with peers.*
- *Encourage your child to ask questions and find answers to their questions.*

Helping Your Child Learn

- Provide a quiet place for your child to study.
- Show interest in your child's school activities.
- Make school a first priority for your child.
- Read with your child.
- Children learn from example. Let your child see you reading and figuring out real life problems.
- Help your child with assignments.
- Encourage your child to engage in challenging tasks and persevere in completing them.
- Talk with your child. Ask your child what they like and dislike about school. Find out if your child is excited or disappointed about their day.
- Talk with your child's teacher about your child's academic and social/emotional progress.
- Limit the amount of time your child spends on video games, the internet, and television.

