

Parent Guide

Fourth Grade

Reading Public Schools
Reading, MA 01867



This guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of Kindergarten in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. It focuses on the key skills your child will learn in these subjects, which will build a strong foundation for success in the other subjects he or she studies throughout the school year. This guide is based on the new Massachusetts State Frameworks. These K–12 standards are informed by the highest state standards from across the country. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined in these standards, he or she will be well prepared for first grade.

A sample of what your child will be working on in KINDERGARTEN:

Mathematics:

Counting and Cardinality (Number order)

- Know number names and the count sequence.
Example: Bobby counts by 1's; 1, 2, 3 etc.
- Count to tell the number of objects.
Example: Olivia count bears that are scattered on the table.
- Compare numbers.
Example: Dante explains that the number 7 is greater than the number 6.

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Understanding addition as putting numbers together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.
Example: $3 + 2 = 5$; $5 - 2 = 3$

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value.
Example: Julie counts 18 blocks starting with a group of 10 and counting on from there (10, 11, 12, 13, etc.)

Measurements and Data

- Describe and compare measurable attributes.
Example: Shaniya compares 2 towers using terms such as taller/shorter.
- Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category.
Example: Ryan sorts items by color, shape, and size.

Geometry

- Identify and describe shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders and spheres)
Example: Pedro names a triangle and shares that it has 3 sides and 2 corners.
- Analyze, compare, create and compose shapes.
Example: Stella builds a rectangle using squares.

Tips for Kindergarten Families to Support Students in Math at Home:

Help your child see that the mathematics he is learning is very much a part of everyday life. From statistics in sports to the sale price of clothing to the amount of gas needed to travel from one city to another, mathematics is important to us every day. Help your child to link his "school" math to practical events.

Show your child that you like mathematics. Letting your child see that you use math—and that you aren't afraid of it—will go much further to building positive attitudes than just telling her/him that she/he should learn it.

Set high standards for your child in mathematics achievement. Challenge your child to succeed in math and encourage his/her interest by finding mathematics in books, on television, in movies, at the playground, or anywhere else you see the opportunity.

English Language Arts:

Reading Standards for Literature and Informational Text

- Ask and answer questions about a story read aloud to them
- Identify characters, settings, and major events in a story
- Retell familiar stories
- Share what an author is and what an illustrator is
- Engage in group reading activities
- Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book

Reading Standards: Foundational Skills

- Follow words on a page from left to right and top to bottom
- Name upper-and lowercase letters
- Matching letters to sounds and using other methods to figure out unfamiliar words when reading
- Recognize and produce rhyming words
- Isolate beginning, middle, and end sounds in words
- Count the number of syllables in words that are said aloud
- Read common words such as; *the, of, you, are, she, and my*

Writing Standards

- Use a combination of drawing, speaking, and writing to describe an event, give information about a topic, or share an opinion
- Take part in shared writing and research projects
- Explore digital tools for writing

Speaking and Listening Standards

- Express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly
- Follow agreed upon classroom and school rules
- Ask and answer questions for clarification or to seek help
- Describe familiar people, place, things, and/or events with details

Language Standards

- Print many upper and lower case letters
- Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun 'I'
- Recognize and name a period, a question mark, and an exclamation point
- Spell small words using learned skills
Example: cat, mop, big, etc.

Tips for Kindergarten Families to Support Students in English Language Arts at Home:

Read aloud daily to your child. Talk about the pictures. Make predictions about a story and see if they come true. Read aloud a chapter-book before bed.

Let your children see you write for pleasure. Send family letters to relatives or friends. Let everyone in the family contribute a part or an illustration.

Help your child find a place in your home that is his/her favorite reading spot. A place where he/she can read comfortably with little distraction. Put a basket of books near the spot. Include pens, crayons, pencils, erasers and paper in the basket to encourage writing too. Every now and then, put a "literacy gift" in their basket to discover and explore.

Help your child notice people reading and the writing all around them. Watch other people read. Count all the people on a bus, in a library or café reading. Read signs posted all around you.

Play word games such as Scrabble Junior, Boggle Junior, ABC Bingo, Word Concentration, etc. Tell jokes, riddles and limericks. See how many words rhyme with _____.

Subscribe to a children's magazine and have the magazine sent directly to your child. Show interest when it arrives. "Show me your favorite article." "I love that picture of _____." Popular magazines include: Highlights, Click, Ranger Rick, Sports Illustrated for Students, and National Geographic Junior. Large bookstores have many magazines to choose from. Find your favorite magazine and take one of the subscription cards located inside it.



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