

Prekindergarten

Common Core Curriculum for Parents



As standards and expectations have changed over the years for students in grades K-12, so have those for prekindergarten students. Below is an abbreviated version of the national common core curriculum standards for prekindergarten students, which have been adopted by school districts across New York State, along with example activities parents can do with their child(ren) to reinforce these concepts and skills.

English Language Arts

Reading Standards

Prekindergarten children will:

- Interact with storybooks, poems and songs.
- Actively participate in group reading activities.
- Show interest in learning new vocabulary.
- Identify the front and back cover of a book.
- Hold a book and turn the pages correctly.
- Follow words in a book from left to right, top to bottom, page by page.

With prompting and support, prekindergarten children will:

- Ask and answer questions about details in a book, story, song or poem.
- Ask and answer questions about characters and major events in a story.
- Retell familiar stories.
- Describe the role of an author and illustrator.
- Engage in looking through a book to make connections between self, illustrations and the story.
- Find similarities and differences between two stories relating to the same topic.
- Describe the connection between two events or pieces of information in a text.
- Describe the relationship between illustrations and the story.
- Make connections between self, the book and the world around them.
- Understand that words are separated by spaces.
- Recognize that spoken words are represented by specific combinations of written letters.
- Recognize and name some uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet, especially those in the child's own name.
- Recognize their own name and common words seen every day in the world around them.
- Differentiate between letters and numbers.
- Recognize and match words that rhyme.
- Isolate and pronounce the beginning sounds in words.

What can YOU do? ELA Activities for you and your child

Take advantage of opportunities to have conversations about stories before, during, and after actually reading the book:

- Talk about what happened first, next and last.
- Talk about a problem the character(s) had, and how it turned out.
- Ask child to predict what might happen next.
- Has anything like that ever happened to you?
- Does that remind you of anything?
- What lesson did you learn from this story?
- Could you draw me a picture of what this story was about?

- 📞 Label common items around the house (i.e. door, window, chair, TV, bed, sink, oven, closet)
- ✍️ Have your child tell you what to write (dictate), write it out, and then re-read it together throughout the day/week. Have your child illustrate it.
- 📅 Make a list of events that will happen/did happen throughout a day, and re-read. Have your child illustrate it.
- 🎨 Have your child draw a picture to tell about an event or experience, and have them explain the picture to you. Help them label key items and/or write down key points they retell, to re-read with them later.
- 📖 Look for opportunities for group story experiences (i.e. bookstores, libraries, family gatherings) that provide opportunities to listen as part of a group, and take turns asking/answering questions.

English Language Arts

Writing Standards

With prompting and support, prekindergarten children will:

- Use a combination of drawing, dictating and/or writing to:
 - ★ Explain about a topic
 - ★ Express an opinion
 - ★ Narrate an event and provide a reaction to what happened.
- Add drawings to provide additional details.
- Respond to questions/suggestions and add details.
- Recall information from experiences or gather information to answer a question.

English Language Arts

Speaking & Listening Standards

With prompting and support, prekindergarten children will:

- Participate in conversations about prekindergarten topics and books with peers and adults, in small and large groups, listening to others and taking turns speaking.
- Confirm understanding of an oral presentation by asking and answering questions about details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.
- Begin to express thoughts, feelings and ideas.
- Describe familiar people, places, things and events and provide additional detail.
- Create and present a poem, dramatization, art work, or personal response to a theme studied in class.

What can YOU do? ELA Activities for you and your child

- 📌 Make a list of the names of people in your household, and put a picture next to each name. Highlight the name on the mail each day, and have your child sort the mail by who it is for.
- ✂ Have your child cut out pictures from magazines and fliers:
 - Identify pictures of words that rhyme
 - Identify pictures of words with the same beginning sound
 - Sort pictures that belong together (i.e. living things, non-living things; people, animals, food; food groups; shapes; colors; size)
 - Have them cut out and sort specific letters, numbers, and basic sight words

What can YOU do? Math Activities for you and your child

- 📁 Make collections of 20 of the same thing (i.e. marbles, clothes pins, beads, pennies, poker chips, buttons, rubber bands, cotton balls, zitis, paper clips, envelopes, Legos etc.) and keep each separate collection in a container/zip lock bag.
- ⑩ Make up cards with the numerals 0-10 on them.
- ⑨ Pick a collection and put out between 1 and 5 things. Have your child count them and label them with the numeral card that tells how many there are (or write the numeral themselves). Have your child give you problems to solve and let them tell you whether or not you are correct.
- ⑧ Pick a collection and put out between 1 and 10 things. Have your child tell you how many things there are. Have your child give you problems to solve and let them tell you whether or not you are correct.
- ⑦ Put out different objects from a variety of collections:
 - Talk about first and last
 - Mix up the collections and have children sort

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Mathematics

Counting Standards

Prekindergarten children will:

- Count to 20.
- Represent 0-5 objects with a written numeral.
- Count to tell the number of objects to 10.
- Count to answer “how many” questions about as many as 10 things.
- Identify whether the number of objects in one group is more, less, greater than, fewer and/or equal to the number of objects in another group.
- Identify “first” and “last” related to order or position.

Operations Standards

Prekindergarten children will:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of addition and subtraction by using objects or fingers to solve simple story problems. (i.e. If we have 3 apples and add 2 more, how many do we have all together?)
- Continue simple patterns using objects. (i.e. red bead, blue bead, red bead)

Measurement Standards

Prekindergarten children will:

- Identify things about objects you can measure, such as height or weight. Describe them using correct vocabulary. (i.e. small, big, short, tall, empty, full, heavy and light).
- Sort objects into categories: count the number of objects in each category. (No more than 10 objects in any one category.)

Geometry Standards

Prekindergarten children will:

- Correctly name shapes: square, circle, triangle, rectangle.
- Describe the position of objects in the environment using terms such as: up, down, top, bottom, in front of, behind, next to, over, under.

What can YOU do? Math Activities for you and your child

- Put an item like a raisin box on the table, and have children place an item from a collection in different positions in relation to that item (i.e. in, on, in front of, behind, next to, over, under etc.).
- Talk about characteristic of items in each of the collections (hardest, softest, biggest, smallest)
- Make patterns and have your child continue them (i.e. cotton ball, clothes pin, cotton ball, clothespin). Have your child give you patterns to solve and let them tell you whether or not you are correct.