What Your Child is Expected to Learn in Kindergarten (2017-18)

**SCIENCE**

**The Nature of Science**
- collaborates with a partner to collect information
- makes observations of the natural world and knows that they are descriptors collected using the five senses
- keeps records as appropriate—such as pictorial records—of investigations conducted
- recognizes that learning can come from careful observation

**Earth and Space Science**
- explores the Law of Gravity by investigating how objects are pulled toward the ground unless something holds them up
- recognizes the repeating pattern of day and night
- recognizes that the Sun can only be seen in the daytime
- observes that sometimes the Moon can be seen at night and sometimes during the day

**Physical Science**
- sorts objects by observable properties, such as size, shape, color, temperature (hot or cold), weight (heavy or light) and texture
- recognizes that the shape of materials such as paper and clay can be changed by cutting, tearing, crumpling, smashing, or rolling
- observes that things that make sound vibrate
- investigates that things move in different ways, such as fast, slow, etc.

**Life Science**
- recognizes the five senses and related body parts
- recognizes that some books and other media portray animals and plants with characteristics and behaviors they do not have in real life
- observes plants and animals, describes how they are alike and how they are different in the way they look and in the things they do

**Ideas for Helping Your Child at Home**
- Observe the night sky and keep a journal about observations.
- Bake cookies to observe how the color and shape change after cooking.
- Talk about observations your child makes about the natural world.
- Investigate objects around the house that will make noise when they vibrate.
- Discuss characteristics and behaviors of real animals vs. ones encountered in books and TV.
ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading
- identifies patterns in spoken words, such as rhymes, syllables, and individual sounds
- applies letter sounds to decode simple words
- reads common sight words
- reads emergent-reader books with purpose and understanding
- asks questions about books (literature and nonfiction) that are read aloud or independently
- retells key ideas and details from literature or nonfiction read together or independently
- states the main topic of an informational text and reasons an author gives to support this idea
- relates what happens at the beginning and end of the story
- identifies connections between individuals, events, or ideas in literature and nonfiction
- states the roles of the author and the illustrator
- identifies the parts of a book (cover, title, etc.) and different types of text (storybook, poem, informational book)
- demonstrates understanding of the basic concepts of print (left-to-right, top-to-bottom, etc.)
- understands how the images in a book relate to the words on the page
- compares and contrasts the adventures of characters in familiar stories (literature) or between two nonfiction books on the same topic

Writing
- uses drawing, dictating, and writing to express ideas
- shares an opinion about a topic or book in writing (“My favorite book is …”)
- works with adults and peers to add details to writing
- participates in shared explorations of books or topics and writes about the topic
- answers questions about a topic through writing
- uses digital tools (with guidance) to produce writing

Speaking & Listening
- participates in class conversations and follows rules for discussion
- asks questions to help get more information
- describes details about people, places, and things; describes illustrations or other visual displays
- speaks audibly and expresses ideas clearly

Language
- prints upper and lowercase letters legibly
- uses grammar correctly when speaking and writing (instruction will focus on nouns, verbs, and prepositions)
- uses capital letters (first word, letter l) and end punctuation appropriately
- spells phonetically (the way words sound)
- uses strategies to learn and apply new vocabulary for speaking, reading, and writing

Mathematics

Counting and Cardinality
- counts to 100 by ones and by tens
- counts forward beginning from a given number within the known sequence (instead of having to begin at 1)
- reads and writes numerals to 20 or more
- understands the relationship between numbers and quantities
- counts to tell the number of objects
- understands the last number names the number of objects counted
- compares numbers (is greater than, is less than, or equal to)
- compares two numbers between 1 and 10 in written form

Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- understands addition as putting together and adding to, and understands subtraction as taking apart and taking from
- solves word problems involving decomposing and recomposing (splitting) by using objects and/or drawings
- solves word problems related to addition and subtraction involving unknown numbers
- uses objects, drawings, and equations with symbols
- for any number from 1 to 9, finds the number that makes 10 when added to the given number

Number and Operations in Base Ten
- composes and decomposes numbers from 11 – 19 into ten ones and some further ones

Measurement and Data
- describes measurable attributes such as length or weight
- directly compares two objects with a measurable attribute in common to see which has “more of”/“less of” the attribute
- classifies objects into given categories; counts the number of objects in each category and sort the categories by count
- expresses the length of an object as a whole number of length units and understand the length measurement is the number of same-size length units that span it with no gaps or overlaps

Geometry
- describes objects in the environment using names of shapes
- describes the relative position of these objects using terms such as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, and next to
- correctly names shapes regardless of their orientation or overall size

Science

Ideas for Helping Your Child at Home

Writing
- Read to and with your child using a variety of texts.
- Provide writing tools: paper, crayons, pens, pencils, chalkboard/ whiteboard.
- Encourage discussions at meal times, in the car, etc.
- Help your child follow simple oral directions.
- Involve your child in family chores.
- Allow your child to create “original” drawings and writings that convey understanding of main idea.

Math
- Has your child use manipulatives to count sets up to 20.
- Have your child use two different kinds or colors of manipulatives to show all of the different combinations for numbers through 20. (For example, 5 is 5 red chips and 0 yellow chips, 4 red and 1 yellow, 3 red and 2 yellow and so on.)
- Talk about geometry in our environment – for example, shapes of flowers, bee hives, pictures, baseballs, and so on.
- Ask questions that require comparing numbers such as: “Who has more buttons on their clothes today, you or your brother?”

Social Studies

American History
- examines primary sources through active engagement
- recognizes the importance of United States symbols, holidays, celebrations and notable historical figures
- develops awareness of chronological thinking and how change takes place over time

Geography
- uses positional and directional words to identify location
- knows personal information: first and last name, phone number, street address, city or town and state
- identifies basic landforms, bodies of water and seasonal weather changes

Economics
- describes different kinds of jobs in a community
- identifies the difference between needs and wants
- recognizes currency comes in different forms

Civics and Government
- explains the purpose of rules and laws at home, school, and community
- demonstrates characteristics of being a good citizen
- participates in fair decision making to resolve conflicts

Ideas for Helping Your Child at Home

- Discuss family rules and why they are important.
- Create chores and responsibilities for your child at home to earn money.
- Talk to your child about saving and spending money.
- Create a map of your home or neighborhood with your child.

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