

Science

Kindergarten presents the initial opportunity for young learners to become engaged in the study of science through their natural curiosity about the world. Kindergarten students will be guided in the process of scientific inquiry through purposeful observations, raising questions, as well as making sense of their observations, investigations, meaning-making practices, and demonstrating their understanding through various activities.

Your child will be studying Physical Science, Earth Science, and Life Science through the following units:

- Be a Scientist
- Push and Pull
- Plants and Animals

Social Studies

Using the context of “Myself and Others,” Kindergartners learn about the Social Studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics.

The Social Studies disciplines will be covered in the following units:

- Who am I?
- Where am I?
- How do I get what I need and want?
- How do I get along with others?

Helping at home...

- ◆ Read with your child every day. Ask your child to explain his or her favorite parts of the story. Share your own ideas. To find books for your child to read, visit www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf.
- ◆ Encourage your child to tell you about his or her day at school. Keep paper, markers, or crayons around the house for your child to write letters or words or draw a picture about his or her day. Have your child describe the picture to you.
- ◆ Play word games like “I Spy,” sing songs, and make silly rhymes together.
- ◆ Play “Write the next number.” You write a number then your child writes the next number.
- ◆ Ask your child questions that require counting as many as 20 things. For example, ask, “How many books do you have about wild animals?”
- ◆ Ask your child questions that require comparing numbers. “Who is wearing more bracelets, you or your sister?” (Your child might use matching or counting to find the answer.)
- ◆ Explore nature. Discuss the difference between living and non-living things.
- ◆ Introduce new words when you share a conversation with your child.
- ◆ When you ask your child to complete a task, have him or her repeat the directions back to you to make sure he or she has listened and understood.

KINDERGARTEN

Clawson Public Schools Curriculum Guide



Grade Level Content

A Guide for Families

Education in Michigan is changing. With the adoption of the Common Core State Standards your child will be expected to know and be able to do the same things as children not only across the state, but the country as well. This change will prepare your child for success in their future education as well as college or the workforce upon high school graduation.

This guide is to inform you of what your child should know and be able to do in Kindergarten. It will also provide helpful tips for you to do with your child to help him or her achieve these goals.

It is important to note that the information in this guide is NOT the complete set of standards; rather, this information is designed to highlight a select number of skills that your child should know and be able to do in Kindergarten. To view a complete set of standards, visit the Michigan Department of Education website at www.michigan.gov/mde.

Some of the tips and activities were derived from the National PTA website. For more information visit www.pta.org.

English Language Arts and Literacy

Learning new language skills is a priority in Kindergarten. Practice with language activities such as rhyming and singing songs is a powerful step toward learning to read and spell correctly. Your child will also begin to experiment with writing to share information, ideas, and feelings. Reading and Writing instruction is delivered in a workshop format in Kindergarten. Your child will be...

- Naming upper/lower-case letters, matching those letters with their sounds, and printing them
- Comparing the experiences of characters in stories, such as fairy tales and folktales
- Retelling familiar stories and talking about stories read to them
- Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened
- Stating an opinion about a topic or book in writing (e.g., "My favorite book is . . .")
- Taking part in classroom discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking)
- Speaking clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas, including descriptions of familiar people, places, things, and events
- Asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud
- Understanding and using question words
- Learning to recognize, spell, and properly use words that hold language together (e.g., a, the, to, of, from, I, is, are)

Mathematics

In Kindergarten, one of the most important skills your child should develop is the ability to add and subtract small numbers and solve word problems. This will rely on gaining some fundamentals early in the year, such as counting objects to tell how many there are. Addition and subtraction will continue to be a very strong focus in math through 2nd grade. Kindergarteners will be...

- Comparing two groups of objects to tell which group, if either, has more; comparing two written numbers to tell which is greater
- Acting out addition and subtraction word problems and drawing diagrams to represent them
- Adding with a sum of 10 or less; subtracting from a number 10 or less; and solving addition and subtraction word problems
- Adding and subtracting very small numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., $3 + 1$)
- Correctly naming shapes regardless of orientation or size (e.g., a square oriented as a "diamond" is still a square)

