



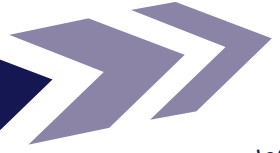
Parent Curriculum Guide

Kindergarten

OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS

ISD  279

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE



This curriculum guide gives parents information about what students are expected to learn in Kindergarten.

- The first section lists important Lifelong Learning Skills, skill level expectations for Kindergarten and tips about how parents can help build these skills.
- The next section is organized by subject area: mathematics, reading, communication, health, science, social studies, art, physical education, music.

Each subject includes a list of academic standards that teachers focus on with their students, most of which are determined by the state of Minnesota. Academic standards are statements that describe what students should learn and be able to do at each grade level. The bold statements are reporting standards used on student report cards, followed by bulleted statements giving examples of what students will be learning. At the end of each subject are some tips about what parents can do at home to support their students' learning.



Thank you for being an active partner  
in your child's learning!

**Problem Solver**

- solves problems creatively
- thinks before acting

**Resourceful**

- makes the best choice for learning
- learns by working with others

**Responsible**

- follows class rules
- respects others

**Self-Directed**

- works to reach goals
- checks work and makes improvements

**Skilled Communicator**

- uses an appropriate voice level
- is a respectful listener

- encourage your child to solve everyday problems (work out an argument between siblings and friends, discuss how to learn from mistakes)
- encourage your child to be an independent thinker (expose your child to a variety of resources to learn more about an area of interest)
- provide opportunities for your child to take on daily/ weekly household responsibilities (make the bed, empty the dishwasher, pick up his or her toys)
- help your child set goals (learn to tie shoes, read for 10 minutes a day, shoot a basketball)
- encourage your child to express ideas and feelings in a variety of ways (face-to-face conversations, write thank you notes, phone/video call)

**NUMBERS AND OPERATIONS****Understands how numbers and quantities are related**

- counts forward and backward to at least 20
- reads, writes, and represents numbers to 31
- finds 1 more and 1 less than a given number
- compares and orders numbers from 0-20
- recognizes that a number can be used to represent how many objects are in a set

**Uses a variety of strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems**

- draws pictures or shows objects to represent adding or subtracting

**ALGEBRA****Uses algebra strategies to solve problems**

- recognizes, creates, completes, and extends patterns using shape, color, size, etc.

**GEOMETRY AND MEASUREMENT****Uses geometry and measurement skills to solve problems**

- recognizes basic two- and three- dimensional shapes such as square, circle, triangle, rectangle, trapezoid, hexagon, cube, cone, cylinder, sphere
- sorts objects using characteristics such as shape, size, color, thickness

- explore family resources at The Math Learning Center
  - [mathlearningcenter.org](http://mathlearningcenter.org)
  - access using your Osseo student log-in, obtain information from your child's teacher
- connect mathematical problems to your everyday life, for example when cooking, shopping, or driving
- have your child count objects at home
- have your child count backwards when washing hands, waiting at a stoplight, walking down steps, etc.
- read numbers on a calendar
- have your child practice writing numbers
- have your child use real world objects to add and subtract
- ask your child to look for patterns in everyday life
- ask your child to find and name shapes in everyday life
- have your child sort coins
- have your child help sort laundry by color
- sing counting songs with your child

**Reads grade level materials independently**

- reads a variety of grade level materials, both fiction and non-fiction
- accurately reads grade level materials with expression and appropriate pacing

**COMPREHENSION/LITERATURE****Uses comprehension strategies to understand fiction materials**

- selects a story for independent reading and enjoyment
- asks and answers questions about details in a story
- retells stories including main idea and details
- identifies characters, setting, and events in a story

**Uses comprehension strategies to understand non-fiction materials**

- describes connections between people, events, ideas, or information
- retells main idea and facts from the material
- understands why the author wrote the piece
- compares and contrasts two different pieces on the same topic

**VOCABULARY/WORD ANALYSIS****Uses vocabulary strategies to make sense of readings**

- develops awareness of words with similar meanings
- sorts common objects into categories
- asks and answers questions about unknown words in a reading

**Demonstrates awareness of sounds and spoken words**

- recognizes and produces rhyming words
- hears and pronounces beginning, middle, and end sounds of words

**PHONICS/WORD RECOGNITION/CONCEPTS OF PRINT****Uses phonics, word recognition, and concepts of print to make sense of printed materials**

- recognizes upper and lower case letters
- produces consonant and vowel sounds
- reads high frequency words
- understands how to hold a book, where to find the title, reading left to right, etc.

- explore resources by visiting Benchmark Universe
  - you can access this at [clever.com](http://clever.com) using your Osseo student login
- visit the local library and the website: [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org)
- go to the public library and check out books of interest with your child
- read with and to your child everyday
- ask your child to retell a story they've read
- ask questions about stories to build understanding
- play rhyming games
- practice high frequency words with your child
- look for words around you (cereal boxes, signs, magazines, etc.)
- have your child practice identifying and naming uppercase and lowercase letters
- have your child practice all letter sounds
- have your child practice reading skills through games



## COMMUNICATION

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

#### WRITING

##### **Writes effectively for a variety of purposes**

- uses the writing process including drawing, dictating, and writing
- writes opinions, informational reports, and personal stories

##### **Uses punctuation, grammar, and spelling correctly when writing**

- writes upper and lower case letters
- capitalizes the first word of sentences
- writes letters for sounds and spells simple words using knowledge of letters and sounds

#### SPEAKING, VIEWING, LISTENING, MEDIA, AND TECHNOLOGY

##### **Communicates knowledge and ideas about a range of subject areas to an audience in a variety of ways**

- communicates with other children and adults about various topics in small and large groups
- understands and uses different types of print including digital and other media formats
- communicates using a variety of formats (spoken, written, digital, and multimedia)
- uses appropriate technology tools to communicate learning

- have your child write in a journal using pictures and letters
- have your child write cards to friends and family members using pictures, letters, or words
- have your child practice writing uppercase and lowercase letters (using pencils, finger paint, sand, etc.)
- help your child use technology to communicate to friends and family members
- engage in a family conversation every day at the dinner table



## HEALTH

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

##### **Understands and demonstrates health skills and concepts to make healthy choices**

- uses personal safety (bus, fire, pedestrian)
- understands concepts of disease prevention and health promotion (washing hands, brushing teeth, physical activity, etc.)
- learns about nutrition and making healthy food choices (learns food groups, serving sizes, etc.)

- teach your child safety at home
- create and share family emergency plans with your child
- have your child practice drills at home and have him or her check smoke detectors
- have your child wear proper safety equipment (seat belts, bike helmets, etc.)
- teach your child personal hygiene including washing hands and brushing teeth
- provide healthy meals for your child and have him or her try new foods
- make sure your child is active for at least 30 minutes daily outside of school
- visit [choosemyplate.gov](http://choosemyplate.gov) and use resources

## SCIENCE

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

### Understands and demonstrates science skills and concepts

#### TREES

- groups and sorts living and non-living things
- describes changes in weather and seasons over time
- names parts of plants

#### WOOD AND PAPER

- sorts objects by color, size, shape, or texture
- observes and describes properties of different things
- sorts objects into things found in nature and things made by people

#### ANIMALS

- observes and asks questions about animals
- names parts of animals
- identifies habitats for animals

- explore resources at <http://www.fossweb.com/>
  - access with classroom log-in information obtained from your child's teacher
- visit the Minnesota Zoo or Como Zoo with your child
- visit the Chanhassen Arboretum with your child
- have your child gather objects from around your home and neighborhood and sort them into different groups
- have your child look for animals and plants on a nature walk
- have your child cut out pictures of different objects and group them by season
- play "I Spy" using shape, texture, color, and size words with your child
- visit the Children's Museum with your child

## SOCIAL STUDIES

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

### Understands and demonstrates social studies skills and concepts

#### CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNMENT

- demonstrates qualities of a responsible citizen
- describes symbols, songs, and traditions that identify our nation and state
- identifies examples of rules in the school community

#### ECONOMICS

- identifies needs and wants
- distinguishes between goods and services

#### GEOGRAPHY

- compares and contrasts people, places, and events
- identifies a map and a globe as a representation of space
- identifies physical and human characteristics of places (climate, land, culture, population)

#### HISTORY

- compares how people lived in the past to how we live today
- compares and contrasts different family traditions

- talk with your child about rules and create family rules
- go on a scavenger hunt with your child and look for patriotic symbols and discuss their meanings
- go to different cultural events around the city to expose your child to different cultures
- have your child give you directions or draw a map to a familiar location
- with your child, explore Minnesota historical landmarks and discuss how things were different in the past
- visit the Kelly Farm with your child

## ART

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

### Understands and demonstrates art skills and concepts

- creates 2- and 3- dimensional artwork
- identifies color, line, shape, space, and texture in artwork
- identifies tools, materials, and techniques used in 2- and 3- dimensional artwork

- have your child explore art using markers, crayons, pencils, paint, chalk, play dough, and other materials
- have your child create costumes, masks, puppets, etc. and put on a play
- have your child use materials from around the house or nature to create an art project
- have your child find shapes, line, and textures in everyday life
- visit the Minneapolis Institute of Art or Walker Art Center with your child

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT THEM?

### Demonstrates competency in motor skills

- performs skills in the areas of body control, propelling, receiving, striking, and fitness
  - demonstrates different movement skills
  - demonstrates body management throughout
  - different tasks
  - demonstrates a variety of ball skills
    - underhand and overhand throw
    - dribbling with hands and feet
    - striking with hands and feet
    - receiving a variety of objects
  - demonstrates safe behaviors while engaged in physical activities

- ask your child questions about what he or she learned in physical education
- encourage your child to be active
- encourage your child to limit electronic time or find electronics that keep him or her physically active
- do family activities together and play together
- encourage healthy snacks for at school and home
- encourage your child to try new fruits and vegetables
- encourage your child to try new activities

### Demonstrates understanding of cognitive concepts

- understands the concepts of balance
- identifies safe behaviors in physical activities
- identifies appropriate rules and etiquette related to physical activities
- identifies appropriate player positions, player responsibilities, and activity strategies related to physical activities

### Achieves a healthy level of physical fitness

- learns the correct form for a variety of fitness skills
- shows where the heart is and what changes have taken place with the heart and body after exercising



**Participates in the learning of music and using music skills**

- identifies and uses singing voice
- experiences steady beat, divided beat and silent beat rhythms
- plays classroom instruments
- experiences music elements and vocabulary
- engages in expressing music with creativity

**Remains attentive during group instruction**

- encourage your child to listen to music from a variety of cultures and genres including pop, classical and folk
- encourage your child to experience the pulse of the music by moving, dancing, clapping, or drumming to the beat
- sing a variety of songs for fun and play, including commercials, folk songs, and silly songs with your child
- with your child, attend concerts in the community and those involving family and friends (Family Concerts by the Minnesota Orchestra are a good introduction to music listening)
- encourage your child to make up songs to accompany everyday tasks
- share songs that you enjoy from your childhood and sing them with your child

If you have any questions about this curriculum guide,  
contact your child's teacher.