



Baltimore County Public Schools

Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

2015–2016 Guide for Parents *PreKindergarten Standards*

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

A comprehensive language arts program includes direct instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, handwriting, and written language.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Listen attentively in a variety of situations.
- Classify information.
- Communicate ideas clearly when speaking.
- Recite nursery rhymes, finger plays, songs, and poems.
- Demonstrate phonological awareness skills.
- Identify some upper and lower case letters.
- Sequence and retell events or stories.
- Comprehend information in fiction and non-fiction texts.
- Communicate ideas through drawings, scribble, symbols, and letters.
- Use pictures to perform a task.

MATHEMATICS

The prekindergarten mathematics curriculum is aligned with the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards. Opportunities for enrichment and extension are embedded within the curriculum.

The prekindergarten curriculum focuses on two critical areas:

1. Representing and comparing whole numbers.
2. Describing shapes and space.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Verbally count to 10 by ones and develop rote counting to 20 by ones.
- Identify which number comes just after or just before a given number in the counting sequence to 10 with visual supports and manipulatives.
- Identify written numerals 0–10.
- When counting objects 1–10, say the number names in standard order, pairing each object with only one number name.
- Recognize that the last number name spoken, tells the number of objects counted.
- Begin to recognize that each successive number name refers to a quantity that is one larger.
- Recognize the number of objects in a set without counting.
- Represent a number by producing sets of objects with concrete materials, pictures, and/or numerals. (0–5, then to 10).

MATHEMATICS (Continued)

- Compare groups of objects up to 5, then to 10.
- Represent simple addition and subtraction problems with objects, fingers, mental images, drawings, sounds (e.g., claps), acting-out situations, or verbal explanations, up to 5.
- Work with three-dimensional shapes to gain foundations for geometric thinking.
- Decompose a quantity, less than or equal to 5, then to 10, into pairs in more than one way (e.g., by using objects or drawings).
- For any quantity 1–5, use objects or drawings to find the quantity that must be added to make 5.
- Describe and compare measureable attributes of objects, such as length or weight.
- Sort objects into categories and compare quantities.
- Identify, create, extend, and analyze repeating patterns.
- Identify and describe two dimensional shapes (circles, triangles, or rectangles, including a square which is a special rectangle).

SCIENCE

The science curriculum is centered on themes and units that reflect real-life experiences that are appropriate and meaningful.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Use the senses to observe and describe the environment.
- Investigate using simple tools and equipment.
- Compare objects and things in the environment.
- Observe and describe weather patterns.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The social studies curriculum is centered on themes and units that reflect real-life experiences that are appropriate and meaningful.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Identify likenesses and differences in self and families.
- Identify the tools and responsibilities of community workers.
- Identify the purpose for rules in the home and school.
- Demonstrate an awareness of technology in daily living.

HEALTH

Health instruction is designed to provide the functional knowledge and skills to enhance health and well-being.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to apply:

- Basic safety rules and practices.
- Age-appropriate emergency procedures.
- Healthful eating habits.
- Personal cleanliness skills.
- Good dental hygiene.

LIBRARY MEDIA

The library media program is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and the Standards for the 21st century learner.

With guidance from the library media specialist, students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Use the Internet, digital content, and technology tools to efficiently and effectively locate, explore, gather, evaluate, organize, synthesize, and communicate information.
- Listen to and discuss literature that provides examples of characters solving problems that reflect human experiences.
- Discover the pleasure of reading by listening to and viewing a variety of printed, media, and digital text.
- Practice safe and responsible use of library media center resources.

MUSIC

The elementary music program is a comprehensive program of instruction aligned to the Maryland Essential Learner Outcomes for Fine Arts.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Compare and contrast sounds with word association.
- Develop listening skills.
- Develop gross motor skills.
- Develop awareness of different uses of the voice.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The physical education program focuses on skill development in body and spatial awareness, fundamental and creative movement, basic skills, and rhythms and dance.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Use personal and general space safely in a physical activity setting to avoid injury.
- Identify different body parts and demonstrate a variety of ways they move.
- Demonstrate a variety of locomotion and non-locomotion movements.
- Show a variety of skill themes such as rolling, catching, and striking lightweight objects.
- Participate in kinesthetic activities that encourage language development and reading readiness.

VISUAL ARTS

The prekindergarten visual arts program focuses on exploring and discovery.

Students in prekindergarten should know and be able to:

- Identify shapes, colors, and lines.
- Manipulate art media, materials, and tools safely.
- Identify ideas expressed by artists.
- Use color, line, and shape to represent ideas from observation, memory, and imagination.
- Describe and share personal artworks.