



Baltimore County Public Schools

Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

2015–2016 Guide for Parents *Kindergarten Standards*

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

The elementary language arts program is aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). For more information, visit the curriculum Web page at [Parent Roadmap – Supporting Your Child in Kindergarten, English Language Arts](#).

Students in kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills.
- Read common words such as *the, of, you, are, she,* and *my*.
- Name and write upper- and lower-case letters.
- Match letters to sounds and use other methods to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing.
- Learn and use new words.
- Identify words that rhyme.
- With support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- With support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.
- Recognize the person, place, thing, or idea that an illustration shows.
- Participate in discussions by listening and taking turns speaking.
- Use a combination of drawing, speaking, and writing to describe an event, give information about a topic, or share an opinion.
- Take part in shared reading, writing, and research projects.
- Express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.

MATHEMATICS

The kindergarten mathematics curriculum is aligned with the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards. Opportunities for enrichment and extension are embedded within the curriculum. The kindergarten curriculum focuses on two critical areas:

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

Students in kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Count to 100 by ones and tens.
- Count forward beginning from a given number instead of starting at 1.
- Write numbers from 0–20 and represent a number of objects with a written numeral 0–20.
- Count to tell the number of objects.

MATHEMATICS (Continued)

- Identify whether the number of objects in one group is greater than, less than, or equal to the number of objects in another group.
- Compare two numbers between 1 and 10 presented as written numerals.
- Represent addition and subtraction by using objects, fingers, mental images, drawings, sounds, acting-out situations, verbal explanations, expressions, or equations.
- Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract (within 10) using objects or drawings to represent the problem.
- Decompose numbers less than or equal to 10 into pairs.
- For any number 1–9, find the number that makes 10 when added to the given number.
- Fluently add and subtract (within 5). *Fluency or knowing from memory develops with the use of reasoning strategies rather than through rote memorization.**
- Compose and decompose numbers from 11–19 into ten ones and more ones.
- Describe and compare measurable attributes of objects.
- Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category.
- Identify and describe shapes (circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, and spheres).
- Analyze, compare, create, and compose two- and three-dimensional shapes.
- Identify, create, extend, and analyze repeating patterns.

**Grade level fluency expectation.*

SCIENCE

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

Students in kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Observe, explore, and investigate in order to obtain information.
- Use equipment and simple tools to expand the senses and gather data.
- Identify, describe, and compare the properties of objects.
- Observe and describe the characteristics of living things.
- 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 kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Describe and compare characteristics of self, families, and others.
- Describe occupations and the requirements to perform them.
- Identify the purpose for rules in the home, school, and community.
- Demonstrate an awareness of geographical concepts.
- 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 kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Recognize that individuals have different backgrounds, likes, and abilities.
- Describe what a doctor, dentist, nurse, and police officer do to keep a person safe and healthy.
- Demonstrate an understanding of safety by listening to and following directions.
- Identify foods from a farm and in the supermarket, and create healthy snacks.

LIBRARY MEDIA

The library media program is aligned with the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards and the Standards for the 21st Century Learner.

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

- Read, listen to, and discuss literature that provides examples of characters solving problems.
- Discover the pleasure of reading by listening to and viewing a variety of printed and digital texts.
- Make connections between their experiences and printed, media, and digital texts.
- Identify and use a variety of forms of printed, media, and digital content to learn about a subject.
- Use the Web-based Online Public Access Catalog from school and home to locate library and Internet resources to solve problems, answer questions, and select resources that support learning and personal interests.

MUSIC

The music program is a comprehensive program of instruction aligned to the Maryland Essential Learner Outcomes for Fine Arts. Music content and skills are sequentially developed from prekindergarten through Grade 5.

Students in kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Compare and contrast sounds.
- Develop listening skills.
- Identify the different uses of the voice.
- Identify similar and different sounds.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The physical education program focuses on developing physically literate students. The content includes skill development in body and spatial awareness, fundamental and creative movement, rhythms and dance, tumbling and gymnastics, and fitness.

Students in kindergarten should know and be able to:

- Demonstrate a variety of locomotion movements while maintaining balance.
- Move creatively using a variety of levels, pathways, and speeds.
- Perform basic skills such as throwing, catching, and striking.
- Follow directions for safety in group settings.
- Interact positively with others by turn-taking and sharing equipment.

VISUAL ARTS

The kindergarten visual arts program focuses on exploring and discovery.

Students in kindergarten should know and be able to:

- See patterns and details in the environment.
- Control tools and materials to make intended lines, shapes, colors, and textures that express an idea.
- Look at art as the way artists express ideas.

SPECIAL NOTE: Technology is integrated into all subject areas to enhance opportunities for collaboration, creativity, and innovation. Effective technology integration prepares students to connect problem-solving, critical-thinking, and communication skills to their intellectual growth.