

A Guide for Parents and Families: South Carolina Kindergarten Curriculum Standards

All kindergarten children in South Carolina schools have learning standards. The standards guide instruction and help parents support their children's education. Some examples of South Carolina kindergarten standards are:

Mathematics

Students should be able to:

- Count objects from 1 to 10, state how many are in the set and choose a number that matches the set.
- Compare a set of 10 or fewer objects as having more, fewer (less than) or the same number of objects as another set.
- Combine two sets of objects and count the results up to 10.
- Compare sizes (larger/smaller/same) of circles, triangles, squares and rectangles.
- Use words to describe the location of objects (near, far, up, down, below, above, beside, next to, between, over and under).
- Compare two objects according to attributes: length (shorter, longer); height (taller, shorter); weight (heavier, lighter); or temperature (hotter, colder).
- Identify a ruler, scale, clock, calendar and thermometer and what these instruments measure.
- Use real object graphs, picture graphs and tables to show data.

English Language Arts

Students should be able to:

- Hold a book or printed material correctly.
- Point out the front cover, back cover and title page of a book.
- Know that words are read from left to right and from top to bottom on a page.
- Know that printed words have meaning.
- Know the difference between letters and words.
- Demonstrate that he/she understands stories by using the pictures as clues and predicting what will happen.
- Retell familiar stories.
- Identify who is in a story and where the story takes place.
- Identify places where words are found, such as books, magazines, newspapers, and the Internet.
- Listen to many types of literature including stories and poems.
- Follow simple one- or two-step direction.
- Act out stories and plays.
- Begin conversations.
- Talk with others about what he/she is learning.
- Print his/her name.
- Draw pictures and/or use letters to tell stories about experiences, people, things and events.
- Respond to stories read aloud by talking to others, drawing pictures, and writing letters or words.
- Ask "how" and "why" questions.
- Gather information about a topic of interest from a variety of sources.
- Share what he/she learns about something with others.

Science

Students should be able to:

- Use the five senses (sight, smell, hearing, touch and taste) to gather information about objects or events.
- Compare and sort/group objects, including arranging them in sequential order.
- Observe and describe how living things change as they grow and identify their need for food, water and air to survive.
- Name major body parts and their uses (example: eyes for seeing, ears for hearing).
- Use the senses to describe earth materials such as rocks, soil and water.
- Describe the natural flow of water (downhill) and ways to conserve water.
- Compare and sort soil samples by a single attribute (such as color or texture).
- Compare the physical properties of a variety of materials.
- Observe, describe and sort objects made of different materials, such as paper, wood, fabric and metal.
- Observe and describe water as a solid or a liquid.
- Classify materials that float/sink in water.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students should be able to

- Describe different types of homes and communities.
- Describe consequences of breaking rules and laws.
- Tell how to be a good family member, schoolmate, neighbor and citizen.
- Discuss how people make a living.
- Name ways people can change and take care of the environment.
- Explain needs and wants of families.
- Name a variety of jobs.
- State how people live and work together as a family.
- Describe tools that different types of workers use.

(Source: South Carolina Education Oversight Committee, 2004)