

High Expectations

Kindergarten

Your Kindergartner's Academic Success Begins with You

Parent and family involvement in student academic success, at every stage, can help open the door to opportunities for students and increase the options available to them in the future.

Part of being an engaged parent is knowing about key academic milestones and what to do at each stage of your child's academic development. The following information is specific to your kindergartner.

Academic Skills

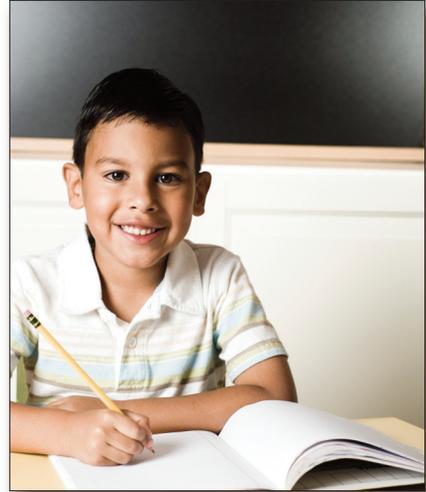
- Demonstrate all reading behaviors such as: following words on a page from left to right, top to bottom; holding a book correctly; understanding word-to-word correlation, for example, understanding that the word "you", means "you".
- Recognize the name and sound of all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- Read at a kindergarten level including: 100 sight words (high frequency words such as the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, does). In addition, read simple "consonant-vowel-consonant" words such as cat, rug, bat, mit.
- Classify objects and count objects up to 30 and group in tens and ones. For example, 15 is one ten and 5 ones.
- Understand addition as putting together and adding to and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.
- Identify and describe shapes.
- Count to 100 by 1's, 5's and 10's.
- Write independently 2-3 sentences on the same topic.

Activities to do at Home

- Read with your child, at least 30 minutes every day. Ask your child to explain his or her favorite parts of the story. Ask your child to identify common words by sight and follow the words on the page with their finger as you read.
- Write all of the letters of the alphabet on a piece of paper and have your child identify each letter as they trace them.
- Ask your child to identify groups of objects around the house and count them. For example, ask them to identify the number of crayons they have and then classify them in groups by color. Group these items in tens and ones. For example, 14 is one ten and 4 ones.
- Write stories with your child. Have your child stretch out the words in the stories by saying the word slowly like c-a-t.

Ways to Create a High Expectations Culture in Your Home

- Making academic success a family priority.
- Set the bar high and encourage your child to pursue education after high school.
- Commit to be actively engaged in your child's education at every stage – from birth through postsecondary – and take ownership for being a partner in your student's success.



Note: Every child develops at his/her own pace. These are recommended age specific guidelines for academic skill development.

The above Academic Skills are based on the Common Core Standards. Please talk with your child's teacher to get more specific information about each of these skills. A full list of common core standards by grade level is available at www.azed.gov.



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