

PVSchools Parents' Guide to Student Success: Kindergarten

Helping Your Child Learn at Home

Being involved in your child's academic success can increase his/her opportunities and options for the future. What can you do to help them? Learn some key academic benchmarks and what or how you can support your child in meeting them is important. Here are some ideas for supporting and supplementing your child's learning.

- Read aloud to your child and talk about books each day.
- Draw attention to the printed word and provide opportunities to use print meaningfully in many different ways.
- Establish daily routines for waking up and bedtime.
- Studies have shown that exercise helps further develop the areas of the brain that affect learning and memory. Give your child time to exercise by giving them the opportunity to hop, dance, throw balls, and practice balance. Limit the amount of "screen time".
- Help your child learn to follow directions by playing simple games and following simple instructions.
- Point out ways you use numbers in your daily life and how it makes your life easier.
- Praise your child for his/her learning.

Arizona State Standards

The AZ State Standards are a state-led effort designed to improve educational outcomes for students:

- are aligned with college and work expectations
- are clear, understandable, and consistent;
- include rigorous content and application of knowledge
- build on strengths and lessons of current state standards
- prepares students to succeed in a global economy and society
- are evidence-based

Key Shifts for Students

English Language Arts (ELA) / Literacy

1. Read as much non-fiction as fiction
2. Learn about the world by reading
3. Read more challenging material closely
4. Discuss reading using evidence
5. Write non-fiction using evidence
6. Increase academic vocabulary

Mathematics

1. **Focus:** Building on foundational skills that matter most to understanding arithmetic
2. **Coherence:** Making math make sense by building onto foundational skills from grade to grade.
3. **Rigor:** With equal intensity apply conceptual understanding, procedural skills, and fluency

Resources

Arizona Department of Education

<http://www.azed.gov/>

Arizona K-12 Academic Standards

<http://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/>

Move on When Reading

<http://www.azed.gov/mowr/>

English Language Learners

<http://www.azed.gov/english-language-learners/>

Common Core State Standards Initiative

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

Parent Roadmaps to Common Core Standards

<http://cgcs.schoolwires.net/domain/36>

National Parent Teacher Association

<http://www.pta.org/>

Expect More Arizona

<http://www.expectmorearizona.org/>

Educational Student Websites

ConnectED: <https://learn.pvschools.net/>

FROST: PVSchools Tutoring, frost@pvschools.net
PVSchools Tutoring, # 602-449-2399

Kahn Academy: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

ABCYA: <http://www.abcya.com/>

IXL: <https://www.ixl.com/>

PBS: <http://www.pbs.org/>

Reading Rockets: <http://www.readingrockets.org/>

Starfall: <http://www.starfall.com/>

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English Language Arts / Literacy

A sample of reading standards includes:

Reading Literature / Informational Text

- Ask and answer questions about key details in a story, retell familiar stories, and identify characters, settings, and major events
- Identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic
- Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding
- Ask and answer questions about unknown words.
- Name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling a story

Reading Foundations

- Understand the basic features of print. Follow words from left to right, top to bottom.
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds
- Know and apply grade level phonics and word solving skills in sounding out words

Writing

- Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing
- Compose opinion and informative pieces and supply some information about the topic.
- Participate in shared research and writing projects

Speaking and Listening

- Participate in conversations about Kindergarten topics and texts with peers in small and larger groups
- Recall information from experiences or gather information from sources to answer questions

Language

- Correctly use English grammar when writing and speaking
- Correctly use standard English conventions.
- Clarify the meanings of multiple-meaning words based on Kindergarten reading and content

Math Standards

A sample of math standards includes:

Counting and Cardinality

- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Write numbers from 0 to 20
- Understand the relationship between numbers and quantities

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Represent addition and subtraction with manipulatives
- Solve addition and subtraction word problems
- **Fluently** add and subtract within 5

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Put together and take apart numbers to create numbers 11-19

Measurement and Data

- Communicate how two objects are the same and how they are different
- Sort objects into categories and count the objects in each category

Geometry

- Correctly name two dimensional (2D) shapes
- Describe and compare two and three-dimensional shapes
- Use simple shapes to form larger shapes

Science Standards

A sample of science standards includes:

- Inquiry processes, observations, and hypothesis
- History & Nature of Science
- Science in Personal & Social Perspectives
- Life & Physical Science
- Earth & Space Science

FOSS (Full Option Science System) Kits

- Animals Two by Two
- Materials and Motion
- Trees and Weather

Social Studies Standards

A sample of social studies standards includes:

American History

- Retell personal events to show an understanding of how history is the story of events, people, and places in the past
- Recognize that Native Americans are the original inhabitants of North America

World History

- Recognize that early civilizations improved their lives through advancements (e.g., domestication of animals, tools, farming methods, calendars)

Civics/Government

- Recognize national symbols and monuments
- Recognize the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem
- Recognize the significance of national holidays

Geography

- Recognize the differences between maps and globes

Economics

- Discuss different types of jobs that people do.
- Match simple descriptions of work with the names of those jobs

Transitioning to 1st Grade

In first grade your child will see an increase in complexity in reading and writing.

Ways to help for Reading and Math in First Grade Include:

- Support his/her learning of solving addition and subtraction problems within 20, including word problems
- Read stories with your child and practice retelling with details in a meaningful sequence