

**DIOCESE OF DES MOINES**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS**

**READING – LITERATURE**  
**GRADE – KINDERGARTEN**

**KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS:** Students will be able to:

1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
3. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

A kindergarten student will:

1. With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
2. With prompting and support, retell familiar stories, including key details.
3. With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.
4. Employ the full range of research-based comprehension strategies, including making connections, determining importance, questioning, visualizing, making inferences, summarizing, and monitoring for comprehension.

**CRAFT AND STRUCTURE:** Students will be able to:

1. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
2. Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text relate to each other and the whole.
3. Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.
2. Recognize common types of texts.
3. With prompting and support, name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling the story.

**INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS:** Students will be able to:

1. Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
2. Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of evidence.
3. Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or compare the approaches authors take.

A kindergarten student will:

1. With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear.
2. With prompting and support, compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories.

**RANGE OF READING AND LEVEL OF TEXT COMPLEXITY:** Students will be able to:

1. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

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**READING – INFORMATIONAL TEXT  
GRADE – KINDERGARTEN**

**KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS:** Students will be able to:

1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
3. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

A kindergarten student will:

1. With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
2. With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
3. With prompting and support, describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.
4. Employ the full range of research-based comprehension strategies, including making connections, determining importance, questioning, visualizing, making inferences, summarizing, and monitoring for comprehension.

**CRAFT AND STRUCTURE:** Students will be able to:

1. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
2. Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text relate to each other and the whole.
3. Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

A kindergarten student will:

1. With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.
2. Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.
3. Name the author and illustrator of a text and define the role of each in presenting the ideas or information in a text.

**INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS:** Students will be able to:

1. Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
2. Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of evidence.
3. Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or compare the approaches authors take.

A kindergarten student will:

1. With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the text in which they appear (e.g., what person, place, thing, or idea in the text an illustration depicts).
2. With prompting and support, identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.
3. With prompting and support, identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).

**RANGE OF READING AND LEVEL OF TEXT COMPLEXITY:** Students will be able to:

1. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

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**READING – FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS  
GRADE – KINDERGARTEN**

**PRINT CONCEPTS**

A kindergarten student will:

Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.

- a. Follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page.
- b. Recognize that spoken words are represented in written language by a specific sequence of letters.
- c. Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.
- d. Recognize and name all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

**PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS**

A kindergarten student will:

Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

- a. Recognize and produce rhyming words.
- b. Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.
- c. Blend and segment onsets and rimes of single-syllable spoken words.
- d. Isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in three-phoneme words (CVC).
- e. Add or substitute individual sounds in simple one-syllable words to make new words (bag – bug or bag – rag).

**PHONICS AND WORD RECOGNITION**

A kindergarten student will:

Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis in decoding words.

- a. Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary or many of the most frequent sounds for each consonant.
- b. Associate the long and short sounds with common spellings for the five major vowels.
- c. Read common high-frequency words by sight.
- d. Distinguish between similarly spelled words by identifying the sounds of the letters that differ.

**FLUENCY**

A kindergarten student will:

Read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding

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**ENGLISH - WRITING**  
**GRADE – KINDERGARTEN**

**TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES:** Students will be able to:

1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion pieces in which they tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book (e.g., *My favorite book is . . .*).
2. Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.
3. Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.

**PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF WRITING:** Students will be able to:

1. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
2. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
3. Use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

A kindergarten student will:

1. With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
2. With guidance and support from adults, explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.

**RESEARCH TO BUILD AND PRESENT KNOWLEDGE:** Students will be able to:

1. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
2. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.
3. Draw evidence from literacy or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of books by a favorite author and express opinions about them).
2. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

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**ENGLISH – SPEAKING AND LISTENING  
GRADE – KINDERGARTEN**

**COMPREHENSION AND COLLABORATION:** Students will be able to:

1. Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on each other's ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
3. Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about *kindergarten topics and texts* with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
  - a. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topic and texts under discussion).
  - b. Continue a conversation through multiple exchanges.
2. Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.
3. Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.

**PRESENTATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS:** Students will be able to:

1. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
2. Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
3. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.
2. Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.
3. Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.
4. Recite familiar stories, poems, nursery rhymes, and lines of a play.

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**ENGLISH - LANGUAGE  
GRADE – KINDERGARTEN**

**CONVENTIONS OF STANDARD ENGLISH:** Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
  - a. Print many upper- and lowercase letters.
  - b. Use frequently occurring nouns and verbs.
  - c. Form regular plural nouns orally by adding /s/ or /es/.
  - d. Understand and use questions words (e.g., *who, what, when, where, why, how*).
  - e. Use the most frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., *to, from, in, out, off, on, by, with*).
  - f. Produce and expand complete sentences in shared language activities.
2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
  - a. Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I.
  - b. Recognize and name end punctuation.
  - c. Write a letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel sounds (phonemes).
  - d. Spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships.

**VOCABULARY ACQUISITION AND USE:** Students will be able to:

1. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.
2. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
3. Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; demonstrate independence in gather vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.

A kindergarten student will:

1. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *kindergarten reading and content*.
  - a. Identify new meanings for familiar words and apply them accurately (e.g., knowing *duck* is a bird and learning the verb *to duck*).
  - b. Use the most frequently occurring inflections and affixes (e.g., *-ed, -s, re-, un-, pre-, -ful, -less*) as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word.
2. With guidance and support from adults, explore word relationships and nuances in word meanings.
  - a. Sort common objects into categories to gain a sense of the concepts the categories represent.
  - b. Demonstrate understanding of frequently occurring verbs and adjectives by relating them to their opposites.
  - c. Identify real-life connections between words and their use.
  - d. Distinguish shades of meaning among verbs describing the same general action by acting out the meanings.
3. Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts.