



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Learning is important in pre-kindergarten. At this age, children have a natural curiosity about the world around them and are eager to learn. Language development leads to reading development, so it is important for children to see and discuss print in the world around them, in illustrated and written stories and in open-ended discussions. These opportunities allow them to explore language, which is critical in developing reading skills. This information is a snapshot of learning in Pre-K English language arts (ELA). For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Identify their first name.
- Understand the right way to hold a book.
- Understand that print has meaning.
- Recognize familiar signs, symbols and print in their surroundings and community. For example, the red sign with white letters means STOP.
- Name a majority of letters.
- Connect some letters to sounds – T makes the sound /t/ and B is /b/, for example.
- Begin to recognize rhyme.
- Ask and answer questions that show interest in reading and writing.

What to do at home:

- Make time for conversations that allow your child to have a voice and explore new information.
- Explore different kinds of printed material, such as labels, comics, books, etc.
- Read real-life and make-believe stories to your child.
- Identify common themes in print in the world around your child and discuss what they mean. For example, your child could explain that the golden “M” represents McDonald’s.
- Provide opportunities for your child to attempt writing and reading. Start with the letters in your child’s first name.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look around, do you see things that are alike or different? What are they, and how are they alike and different?
- What do you see when you look outside?
- What do you like to do?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What fruit would you like to eat for lunch?
- Do you think you will need a jacket today? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the day? Why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Young children should have the opportunity to explore books. As you read together, allow your child to flip through the pages and discuss what they see. Use the following questions as a guide as you talk about the books you are reading together.

BEFORE READING

- What do you see on the cover?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- Who is in the book?
- What has happened so far?

AFTER READING

- Did you like reading this book? Why or why not?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!

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MATH PK

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Learning is particularly important in pre-kindergarten because at this age, children have a natural curiosity about the world around them and a willingness to learn and be taught. Take advantage of this natural curiosity by encouraging them to make guesses, use their reasoning skills, take risks and solve problems. Children in Pre-K are developmentally ready to learn mathematical concepts like quantity, patterns, measurement and data. Play is a developmentally appropriate method for young learners to explore the world and make sense of their environment. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for pre-kindergarten. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know number names and be able to count to 20.
- Count the number of objects in a group up to 10.
- Recognize and be able to repeat patterns such as red, yellow; red, yellow; red, yellow.
- Identify common shapes such as triangles and circles.
- Compare two objects. (For example, a circle and an oval both have curved lines, but the oval is flatter than a circle.)
- Describe, sort and compare real-world objects.

What to do at home:

- Count common household objects (toys, coins, lamps, apple slices, etc.).
- Create simple patterns with sounds, movements and everyday objects, such as stomp, clap; stomp, clap; stomp, clap.
- Identify circles, squares, rectangles and triangles from everyday life. (For example, the sun is round, a flag is a rectangle, etc.)
- Identify objects as same or different and as more or less. (Use familiar things such as seasonal clothing items, things seen on a walk, etc., to classify the items.)
- Give your child opportunities to develop and apply all of the skills listed above with activities such as helping to put away the groceries or folding laundry.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you notice about this object or group of objects? What do you wonder about them?
- What else would you like to learn about them?
- When you look around, what do you see that is alike? What do you see that is different?
- What do you see when you look outside?
- What do you like to do?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- How many types of fruit would you like to eat for lunch? Which ones will you choose and why?
- How many buttons do we need to close on your jacket today? Why?
- What was the best part of the day and why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE DISCUSSION

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What do you wonder about it?
- What do you think will happen next?

DURING DISCUSSION

- How can you understand more about this through playing or a game?
- What can you count and compare?
- Can you find patterns around us?

AFTER DISCUSSION

- What other places might we find these things?
- What other items could you count?
- Could this be figured out a different way? How?



MUSIC P K

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Children in Pre-K should have fun with their singing voices and are learning how to tell the difference between how their voices are used for singing, talking, whispering and calling. Encourage your child to sing along with you, but don't force it. Give them opportunities to hear you sing and listen to different kinds of age-appropriate music (pop, classical, rock, hip-hop, country, etc.) to get them comfortable with singing. Find repetitive songs ("Old MacDonald," "The Itsy Bitsy Spider," etc.) and rhymes to sing or say aloud together.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Learn to use their singing, talking, whispering and calling voices.
- Begin to understand musical comparisons, such as loud/soft, fast/slow, high/low.
- Practice a steady beat by clapping, patting or stepping to the beat.
- Understand how to work with others musically (moving and singing in groups with partners, for example).

What to do at home:

- Ask questions about the songs your child is learning at school and ask them to teach them to you.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Ask your child questions about music, such as "Do you think this song is fast or slow?" and "Do you like this song?"
- Clap, pat or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Sing lullabies to a baby, toy, doll or pet.

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. An easy song to start with is "Down by the Bay." Change the animals and rhyming words as you sing the song.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, talk about the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

Join the conversation!

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES



YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

In physical education (also known as PE), children will explore how to safely balance and move their bodies by participating in fun, child-centered activities. They will have movement opportunities that include singing, dancing, playing and other creative activities.

They will learn locomotor skills (how to hop, jump, gallop, jog, side-slide and skip, for example), directions and levels, tempos and patterns of movement and basic skills like how to throw, catch, kick, dribble and strike. The focus will be on having fun while moving their bodies, not competition.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to use locomotor skills (hop, gallop, jog, step-slide, and skip) while maintaining their balance.
- Throw a ball or other object underhand and overhand without stepping with the opposite foot.
- Kick a ball from a stationary position.

What to do at home:

- Help your child learn to cross the midline, which is an important part of child development. If you draw a line down the middle of your body, starting at the head, this is your midline. Crossing that line with either side of your body, such as when doing toe touches, is crossing the midline.
- Try toe touches. Ask your child to reach out to the side with both arms straight, like a letter "T." Ask your child to touch their right hand to their left toe, come up to a standing T, then touch their left hand to their right toe. Repeat 10 times.



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between physical education and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are different ways you can move your body?
- What activities close to home could we try as a family, like biking, hiking and canoeing?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What did you learn about in PE class today?
- What is your favorite activity in PE class? Why?
- What makes physical activity enjoyable for you?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science to physical activity using a nature scavenger hunt. Walk, jog, skip or gallop as you search for items on your list.
- Connect spoken language to the nature scavenger hunt by asking your child to use descriptive words to tell you about the objects they found. For example, your child could look at a leaf and say, "The leaf is pointy, brown and crunchy." Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences because it will help them learn to write in complete sentences.
- Ask your child to find a book or information about one item they found on the scavenger hunt.

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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Science is particularly important in pre-kindergarten because at this age, children have a natural curiosity about the world around them and are eager to learn. Pre-K students should be encouraged to make observations and describe how they are interacting with their surroundings. Provide positive responses when they say things like “A plastic spoon feels different than a metal spoon,” “I am warmer when I put on a coat” and “A puddle splashes when I jump in it.” This information is a snapshot of learning in science for pre-kindergarten. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Show their curiosity about the natural world (plants, animals, etc.) while playing and using their senses (sight, sound, smell, touch and taste).
- Begin to participate in simple investigations like predicting what might happen next and testing their observations. (For example, students might roll a toy car down a ramp and test what makes the car go faster or slower.)
- Start putting items that are important in their world (toys, pets and foods, for example) into categories based on things they observe about them.
- Talk about major features of the Earth’s surface (streams, hills, etc.) found in the natural world around them.

What to do at home:

- Ask questions about the things your child is interested in and what they are observing about the world. (For example, if your child says, “Look at the puppy!” ask them what color the puppy is or what made them notice it.)
- Describe where to find familiar plants and animals in your neighborhood or area.
- Talk about things your child notices about the different seasons.
- Encourage questions and make time for problem-solving to help your child find answers to questions. (For example, if your child notices ice melting in their cup, you could ask them why they think this is happening and how to make the melted ice solid again.)

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SCIENCE

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Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look around, what things do you see that are alike and different?
- What do you see when you look outside?
- What do you like to do?

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Fostering Communication

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Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What fruit would you like to eat for lunch? Why?
- Do you think you will need a jacket today? Why or why not?
- What was your favorite part of the day and why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, leaves change color, some animals have fur and others do not, etc.) and add words to the picture that describe the things they notice and wonder about.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Does it feel hot when we sit in the sun and not in the shade?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be changed to work better. (For example, if you asked your child what kinds of things could block the sun from making us feel hot, your child could design and build a structure to block the sun.)

Join the conversation!

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SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Children in Pre-K have a natural curiosity about the world around them and are eager to learn. At this age, they are ready to begin learning about the meaning of citizenship, economics, geography and history. Pre-K students enjoy talking about what they are learning in social studies at home, in their community and at school. This information is a snapshot of learning in Pre-K social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Explain why rules and responsibilities are important.
- Identify the United States flag as a symbol of our country.
- Discuss what it means to be a citizen.
- Describe how the people who work in a school (teachers, administrators, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, etc.) are needed in the school community. This introduces children to the ways community members are impacting their lives.
- Understand and be able to explain that a map is a drawing of a place.
- Describe family customs and traditions, such as serving a favorite dessert on birthdays or going to a relative's house for a holiday meal.
- Identify basic needs all people have in common, such as food, clothing, safe drinking water and housing.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to identify people at school such as teachers, counselors, principals, bus drivers, etc., and describe what they do. Afterwards, ask your child to draw a picture or role-play one of them doing their job.
- Talk about family traditions and ask your child to draw a picture to represent one that is important to them.
- Cut a round object such as an orange peel that can be flattened out and ask your child to talk about the changes that happen during the process. This sets the stage for learning how places are changed and distorted to create flat maps.
- Describe symbols that stand for companies or teams, like the yellow "M" for McDonald's, to help your child learn to recognize symbols like the U.S. flag.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you were going to spend the whole day outside, what activities would you do? Why?
- If you drew everything that came into your head, what would you draw now?
- What sounds do you like best and why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is your favorite cartoon and why?
- What one thing do you do now that you usually need an adult to help you with but you would like to try to do all by yourself?
- What was your favorite thing about today?

Fostering Comprehension

Young children should have the opportunity to explore books. As you read together, allow your child to flip through the pages and discuss what they see. Use the following questions as a guide as you talk about the books you are reading together.

BEFORE READING

- What do you see on the cover?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- Who is in the book?
- What has happened so far?

AFTER READING

- Did you like reading this book? Why or why not?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!

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VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Children in pre-kindergarten are noticing the shape, size and color of objects in the world around them and seeing strangeness, differences and beauty. In addition, they are learning through touch, feeling, hearing and motion.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Engage in self-directed creative play with art materials like Play-Doh and pipe cleaners.
- Use a variety of art-making tools (crayons, pencils, etc.) and share materials with others.
- Create and talk about the artwork they have made.
- Know where art is displayed or saved (in a museum collection, local art fair, walls of school hallways, etc.).
- Recognize art and tell the difference between images (representations of real objects) and the objects themselves (for example, a photo of a dog, a painting of a dog and the dog itself).

What to do at home:

- Ask questions about the art they made at school, such as “Why did you choose this color?” and “What does this mean?”
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Be creative and use fabric, paper, beads, food, etc., to create art.
- Ask questions about consumer art (logos, food packaging, etc.) such as “Why do you think they chose that color? How would you feel if it was a different color?”

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

Join the conversation!

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LANGUAGE ARTS

K

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Kindergarten is when children begin to grow academically, socially and emotionally in a more structured learning environment. Kindergartners are building their verbal communication skills and beginning to understand written language in digital and print formats. Age-appropriate technology can support literacy skills while children explore print in magazines, books, signs, menus and on products. This information is a snapshot of learning in kindergarten English language arts (ELA). For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Name and write all letters.
- Identify the sounds of letters.
- Identify the separate sounds in a simple three-letter word such as *cat, sit, hen, lot*.
- Read common words found in books such as *the, I, a, see, are*.
- Ask and answer questions about a story or topic that has been read aloud.
- Participate in a discussion by taking turns listening and speaking.
- Begin writing by sounding out words.
- Learn and use new words.
- Become interested in books and writing.

What to do at home:

- Write letters on cards and ask your child to help you put them in alphabetical order.
- Give your child a word and ask them to respond with a word that rhymes, such as *cat* or *rat*.
- Read rhyming books.
- Read simple, predictable stories with your child and ask them to notice common words like *me, I, is, it, like*.
- Point out and find the meaning of unfamiliar words you and your child find in books and other places. Use these words correctly in conversation and ask your child to do the same.
- Encourage your child to spend time looking through books and exploring with writing materials like pencils, pens, markers, etc.

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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you wonder about?
- What do you notice when you look outside?
- What book do you want to read today? Why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is your favorite food? Why?
- Tell me about a time when you did the right thing today.
- What do community helpers like principals, firefighters and nurses do for people?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Kindergarten-age children are developing early reading skills and an enjoyment of reading. Explore books, comics and other types of print together, and encourage your child to talk with you about what you are reading. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What does this book remind you of?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?

AFTER READING

- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book and why?

Join the conversation!

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HEALTH - 2

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN - SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In these grades, children will learn skills and behaviors to help them be and stay healthy. These are the first steps toward developing a healthy lifestyle.

Health education in kindergarten through second grade will focus on learning communication, decision making, and self-management skills as they relate to nutrition, injury prevention, dental hygiene, handwashing, sun safety, social interaction and healthy relationships.

Children in kindergarten through second grade are learning to limit sugary drinks, try a variety of foods and plan a nutritious breakfast.

Accidental injury is the leading cause of death among children. It is critical that adults teach children how to be safe when in vehicles, on bikes, in contact with potentially dangerous or poisonous materials, around fire and walking in traffic. This information should be repeated often, and students should have an opportunity to repeat it and use play and role-play to show their understanding of it.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know how to place foods in the five food groups (fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy and protein) and how to relate them to the United States Department of Agriculture's recommendations.
- Understand how to stay safe and avoid danger in a variety of settings.
- Recognize and communicate their feelings in a positive manner.
- Understand how healthy behaviors such as good nutrition, physical activity, plenty of sleep, use of sunscreen, positive relationships with other students, etc., lead to good health.

What to do at home:

- Help your child plan a nutritious breakfast by identifying their likes and dislikes and how those choices connect to overall health.
- Help your child search for hazardous household items such as bleach and motor oil. Afterwards, brainstorm ways the family can stay safe from these hazards.
- When your child is emotionally overwhelmed, help them learn how and when to ask for help and how to come up with a plan to calm down.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support health learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Why is it important to learn to express your thoughts and feelings?
- Do you think that everyone feels emotions like anger, fear, happiness, sadness and surprise? What makes you think that?
- What is a technique you use to calm down?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What do we have in our home that keeps us safe? (Discuss smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers. Call the fire department for a free smoke alarm if you don't have one.)
- What is our family's emergency plan in case of a fire? (Include a smoke alarm, two ways out of each room and the family's meeting place after everyone is out of the house. Teach your child to be prepared, not scared, and practice the plan as a family.)

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects strengthens a student's overall knowledge. Connections may also be made between school learning and real-world situations. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to find connections, too.

- Connect reading to health by reading books like "Big Smelly Bear," "Little Pea" and "Good Enough to Eat" that support good health habits.
- Connect music to health by listening to songs like "Germ Attack," "Rinse and Spit Rap" and "Milk Makes Your Bones Grow Big" that promote healthy habits.



MATH

K

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Kindergarten is when children are beginning to grow academically, socially and emotionally in a structured learning environment. Families play an important role as they support and reinforce positive learning behaviors and become involved in school activities. In kindergarten, children are beginning to understand concepts that will become the building blocks for success in mathematics in later grades, including quantity, patterns, measurement and data. Explore these concepts through playful hands-on activities and by talking to children about what they notice and wonder about. Play continues to be a developmentally appropriate method for young learners to explore the world and make sense of their environment. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics in kindergarten. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Count numbers in order to 100 by 1's and 10's.
- Separate a small group of objects such as snacks, clothing or utensils into at least two equal sets.
- Identify pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters.
- Recognize, repeat and extend patterns. (For example, students might track and identify daily and seasonal weather patterns and make predictions to extend the pattern.)
- Arrange up to six objects such as pencils and crayons according to length.
- Use smaller shapes to form a larger shape (build a house out of triangles, squares and rectangles, for example).

What to do at home:

- Give your child a group of foods from snack or mealtime (carrot sticks, slices of bread, etc.) and ask them to separate them into two equal groups.
- Ask your child to tell you which number is one more or one less when working together on counting.
- Collect random objects such as shoes, toys and books and ask your child to sort them into groups based on color, size and shape.
- Ask your child to identify, name and describe shapes from inside your house and in other familiar places. (For example, windows are rectangles, bowls are round, etc.)

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



OKLAHOMA
Education



MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you wonder about?
- What patterns do you see when you look outside?
- What book do you want to read today?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's math communication skills with questions like these:

- What food would you like more of? Which food would you like less of? Why?
- What patterns did you discover around you today?
- What do community helpers do for people?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What do you wonder about it?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- What do you think will happen next?
- How much is that?
- What else do you need to figure it out?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- Where else would we find this information?
- What would happen if we changed something about the math problem?
- Do you think it will always work this way? Why or why not?

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MUSIC

K

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Singing and movement are the heart of the kindergarten music curriculum. Activities in music should give students opportunities to practice and learn carefully selected, age-appropriate songs that reflect the background and experiences of the entire class. Encourage your child to sing along with you, and make sure singing is fun. Your child's singing voice is still developing, so be positive and enthusiastic. Give your child opportunities to listen to several kinds of age-appropriate music (pop, classical, rock, hip-hop, country, etc.) and find songs like "The Wheels on the Bus" and "Down by the Bay" to sing together.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Practice their singing voice.
- Understand musical comparisons, such as loud/quiet, fast/slow, high/low, etc.
- Keep a steady beat by clapping, patting or stepping to the beat.
- Begin to learn about musical sounds (timbre), phrase, form and different meters (skipping/marching).
- Work cooperatively, moving and singing with partners and a large group.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to tell you about the songs they are learning at school.
- Ask your child's music teacher to suggest songs to sing at home.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Ask your student questions about music, such as "Do you think this song is fast or slow?" and "Do you like this song?"
- Clap, pat or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Encourage your child to sing and dance at home with the family as the audience. Clap for each performance.
- Sing lullabies together to a baby, toy, doll or pet.

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. An easy song to start with is "Down by the Bay." Change the animals and rhyming words as you sing the song.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, talk about the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

K

FOR FAMILIES

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

In kindergarten, children will explore and enjoy dancing and using their imaginations when they play. They will be learning to move safely using a variety of locomotor skills (hop, jump, jog and skip, for example) and patterns in multiple directions, levels and speeds.

Kindergarten students are continuing to develop manipulative skills like throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling, volleying and striking. They are also learning to follow directions and work with classmates in small- and whole-class activities.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to hop, jump, gallop, jog, side-slide and skip while maintaining their balance.
- Step with the opposite foot when throwing a ball or other item underhand and overhand.
- Catch large balls thrown well by others.

What to do at home:

- Help your child learn how to catch slow-moving objects like a scarf or tissue. Ask your child to practice following the object with their eyes as it is thrown into the air. If the object is above the waist, fingers should point up when the object is caught. If it is below the waist, fingers should point down when the object is caught.
- Once your child has mastered throwing and catching slow-moving objects like a scarf or tissue, try a beanbag or a rolled-up pair of socks. When your child is confident in catching those, gently toss a large ball to them. Practicing a skill with progressions will help children develop confidence and competence with basic skills.



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between PE and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are different ways you can move your body?
- What activities close to home could we try as a family, like biking, hiking and canoeing?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What did you learn about in PE class today?
- What is your favorite activity in PE class? Why?
- What makes physical activity enjoyable for you?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science to physical activity using a nature scavenger hunt. Walk, jog, skip or gallop as you search for items on your list.
- Connect spoken language to the nature scavenger hunt by asking your child to use descriptive words to tell you about the objects they found. For example, your child could look at a leaf and say, "The leaf is pointy, brown and crunchy." Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences because it will help them learn to write in complete sentences.
- Ask your child to find a book or information about one item they found on the scavenger hunt.

Join the conversation!

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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Kindergarten is when children are beginning to grow academically, socially and emotionally in a structured learning environment. Families play an important role in that growth as they model positive learning behaviors and become involved in school activities. Science can encourage this natural curiosity and help it grow. Ask your child questions like “What happens if you push or pull an object harder?”, “Where do animals live, and why do they live there?” and “What is the weather like today, and how is it different than yesterday?” This information is a snapshot of learning in science for kindergarten. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Identify patterns and changes in local weather and describe how weather forecasts help us to prepare for and respond to severe weather.
- Understand how different strengths or directions of pushes and pulls change the motion of an object. (For example, students might observe what happens when a soccer ball is kicked in one direction, and then is kicked harder in the opposite direction by another player.)
- Explain what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive and describe the relationship between their needs and where they live.

What to do at home:

- Draw what the weather looks and feels like several days in a row.
- Kick a soccer ball and talk about how a harder kick makes the ball go farther.
- Walk around your neighborhood or a local park and name the animals and plants you see, then talk about why the neighborhood or park is a good place for them to live.



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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you wonder about?
- What patterns do you see when you look outside? (For example, trees are moving away from the direction of the wind.)
- What book do you want to read today? Why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is your favorite food and why?
- What rule have you followed today?
- What do community helpers do for people?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, leaves change color, some animals have fur and others do not, etc.) and add words to the picture that describe the things they notice and wonder about.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Does it feel hot when we sit in the sun and not in the shade?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be changed to work better. (For example, if you asked your child what kinds of things could block the sun from making us feel hot, your child could design and build a structure to block the sun.)

Join the conversation!

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SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Kindergarten is when children are beginning to grow academically, socially and emotionally in a more structured learning environment. Families play an important role in this growth as they model positive learning behaviors and become involved in school activities. Through activities focused on citizenship, economics, geography and history, kindergartners are beginning to understand the idea of fairness and are learning how to speak up for themselves and others. This information is a snapshot of learning in kindergarten social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Understand why rules and responsibilities are important.
- Identify the United States flag and the Statue of Liberty as symbols of our country.
- Understand the purpose of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Know the difference between a need and a want to begin learning how to use money responsibly.
- Be able to explain how a globe is a model of the Earth.
- Explain how we honor people and events of the past (for example, by establishing a national holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.).
- Identify basic cardinal directions (north, south, east and west).

What to do at home:

- Point out familiar symbols, such as the swoosh for Nike or Rumble for the Oklahoma City Thunder, and talk about how they are alike and different from the way we see the Statue of Liberty as a symbol of the United States.
- Ask your child to talk about the roles and responsibilities of each member of your family.
- Help your child point to Oklahoma on a map of the United States and work together to locate other places on a globe.
- Talk about the cause and effect relationship between work and earning money (for example, you have to do your chores to get your allowance).
- Visit businesses (the bank, grocery store, etc.) and organizations (the library, YMCA, etc.) in the community.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you could grow anything in the yard, what would it be and why?
- Pretend you're a chef. What would you tell me about your restaurant and what foods you would serve?
- Where would you like to travel and why? How would you get there?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What's your superhero name, and what powers do you have?
- If you could learn a new language, what would it be?
- If you were a photographer for a day, what would you take pictures of and why?

Fostering Comprehension

Kindergarten-age children are developing early reading skills and an enjoyment of reading. Explore books, comics and other types of print together, and encourage your child to talk with you about what you are reading. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What does this book remind you of?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?

AFTER READING

- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book and why?

Join the conversation!

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VISUAL ART

K

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Children in kindergarten are exploring imaginative play with various materials. They are able to experiment with different media (crayon, paint, paper, etc.) to create art and explain their creation process. They are understanding the world through seeing, touching, hearing and motion, and are beginning to understand artistic expression.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Use various approaches to art-making, such as creating a self-portrait with crayons or Play-Doh.
- Explain the process for making art. (For example, to create a collage of an owl, students will need to decide what supplies to use and come up with steps to follow.)
- Explore art terms such as line, color, form, shape, texture, value and space. (For example, students could describe the lines they see on a picture of a turtle after using their fingers to draw them in the air.)
- Explain what an art museum is.
- Identify images in their environment and what they represent (the school mascot, for example).
- Identify and interpret art by describing details of a given work. (For example, in a work of art depicting a young girl, students might be asked to describe how old the girl is, what she is doing, what colors she is wearing, etc.)

What to do at home:

- Ask questions about the art they made at school, such as “Why did you choose this color?” and “What does this mean?”
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Be creative and use fabric, paper, beads, food, etc., to create art.
- Ask questions about consumer art (logos, food packaging, etc.) such as “Why do you think they chose that color?” and “How do you think we could make it better?”

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

1

FOR FAMILIES

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

Children in first grade will build on the skills learned in kindergarten to grow more confident reading and writing on their own. Many children begin the year with basic reading and writing skills. At first they read simple stories with common words and then move on to more complex stories with longer sentences and more challenging vocabulary. Their writing skills are also developing throughout the year, beginning with simple sentences and moving to more detailed sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 1. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Read words with short and long vowels like *cat*, *rope*, *week*, *boat*.
- Write words with correct letter formation.
- Write sentences using capital letters and punctuation, including detail words (colors, sizes or numbers, for example).
- Learn and use new words.
- Describe or retell a story that has been read aloud or on their own.
- Read grade-level texts aloud accurately and at the same pace as a conversation.
- Begin to use books and technology to answer questions and find information.
- Read more challenging books than in kindergarten.

What to do at home:

- Read a variety of books and ask your child how they can tell if it's a make-believe story or if it provides facts and information about something real.
- Read to your child, ask them to read to you or take turns reading pages.
- Encourage your child to explore magazines, newspaper articles and kid-friendly websites to find new information.
- Encourage your child to keep a notebook and write about their interests in different formats of their choosing (stories, lists, poems or songs, for example).

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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Education



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are you interested in knowing more about?
- What else does that make you think of?
- Where do you think we can learn more about these things?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Who did you play with today? What did you play?
- What was your hardest rule to follow today? Why was it hard?
- What was your favorite part of the day? Why?
- Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw or showed today?

Fostering Comprehension

Children who are on their way to becoming confident readers need time to read alone and with others. Take time as a family to talk about books, magazines and other types of print with young readers. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What do you think will happen?
- Why did you pick this book?

DURING READING

- What has happened so far?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?

AFTER READING

- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What did you learn from the book?
- Does it remind you of any other books you have read?

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HEALTH - 2

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN - SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In these grades, children will learn skills and behaviors to help them be and stay healthy. These are the first steps toward developing a healthy lifestyle.

Health education in kindergarten through second grade will focus on learning communication, decision making, and self-management skills as they relate to nutrition, injury prevention, dental hygiene, handwashing, sun safety, social interaction and healthy relationships.

Children in kindergarten through second grade are learning to limit sugary drinks, try a variety of foods and plan a nutritious breakfast.

Accidental injury is the leading cause of death among children. It is critical that adults teach children how to be safe when in vehicles, on bikes, in contact with potentially dangerous or poisonous materials, around fire and walking in traffic. This information should be repeated often, and students should have an opportunity to repeat it and use play and role-play to show their understanding of it.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know how to place foods in the five food groups (fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy and protein) and how to relate them to the United States Department of Agriculture's recommendations.
- Understand how to stay safe and avoid danger in a variety of settings.
- Recognize and communicate their feelings in a positive manner.
- Understand how healthy behaviors such as good nutrition, physical activity, plenty of sleep, use of sunscreen, positive relationships with other students, etc., lead to good health.

What to do at home:

- Help your child plan a nutritious breakfast by identifying their likes and dislikes and how those choices connect to overall health.
- Help your child search for hazardous household items such as bleach and motor oil. Afterwards, brainstorm ways the family can stay safe from these hazards.
- When your child is emotionally overwhelmed, help them learn how and when to ask for help and how to come up with a plan to calm down.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support health learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Why is it important to learn to express your thoughts and feelings?
- Do you think that everyone feels emotions like anger, fear, happiness, sadness and surprise? What makes you think that?
- What is a technique you use to calm down?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What do we have in our home that keeps us safe? (Discuss smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers. Call the fire department for a free smoke alarm if you don't have one.)
- What is our family's emergency plan in case of a fire? (Include a smoke alarm, two ways out of each room and the family's meeting place after everyone is out of the house. Teach your child to be prepared, not scared, and practice the plan as a family.)

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects strengthens a student's overall knowledge. Connections may also be made between school learning and real-world situations. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to find connections, too.

- Connect reading to health by reading books like "Big Smelly Bear," "Little Pea" and "Good Enough to Eat" that support good health habits.
- Connect music to health by listening to songs like "Germ Attack," "Rinse and Spit Rap" and "Milk Makes Your Bones Grow Big" that promote healthy habits.



MATH

1

FOR FAMILIES

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

In first grade, children are becoming more independent. Their counting skills are improving, and they are beginning to learn addition and subtraction. As first-graders use math tools, ask questions and develop problem-solving strategies, they are gaining a deeper understanding of mathematical ideas by working in a classroom group, in smaller groups and on their own. Play is a developmentally appropriate method for young learners to explore the world and make sense of their environment. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for Grade 1. For a complete set of mathematics standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Count forward from any number up to 100 by 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems up to 10.
- Identify coins and their values.
- Create and complete repeating and growing patterns. (For example, when we count forward, numbers get bigger by one, and we use this pattern frequently.)
- Identify trapezoids (four-sided shapes with one pair of parallel sides like a lampshade, table or clock) and hexagons (six-sided shapes like a honeycomb).
- Tell time to the hour and half-hour.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child what time it is, what day of the week it is, what day tomorrow is and what day yesterday was.
- Hand your child a few coins of the same value and ask them to tell you the total amount.
- Create math problems about things happening at home. (For example, ask your child, "If we started dinner with 6 pieces of bread but have eaten 3, how many are left?")
- Identify patterns found in the real world. (For example, ask your child, "If the clock chimes once at one o'clock and twice at two o'clock, what will happen at three o'clock?")
- Separate objects into equal groups. (For example, ask your child to cut a pizza into slices so every family member has the same number of slices.)

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!





MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are you interested in knowing more about?
- What else does that make you think of?
- Where do you think we can learn more about these things?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What patterns did you see today? Where did you see them?
- Did the day go quickly or slowly today? What made it seem that way and why?
- How much more _____ do you need? How much do you have right now? How do you know?
- Did you get to listen to someone else's math idea today? What was it, and did it make sense to you?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What do you wonder about it?
- What do you think will happen?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- What has happened so far in this problem?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What information do we already know?
- How can that help you solve the problem?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- Could this have been solved in other ways? How?
- Where else would you see situations like this?

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MUSIC

1

FOR FAMILIES

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

Children in first grade enjoy singing and are able to “match pitch,” meaning they can hear a note and sing it the same way. They are learning about musical rhythm and melody and are growing more comfortable making up and changing songs, playing instruments and working with classmates on songs and performances.

Encourage your child to sing with you, and make sure singing is fun. Your child’s singing voice is still developing, so be positive and enthusiastic. Give your child opportunities to listen to several kinds of age-appropriate music (pop, classical, rock, hip-hop, country, etc.). Find songs with lots of repetition or clapping games, such as “This Old Man” to sing together.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Sing and match pitch consistently.
- Understand how the concept of musical beat is related to musical notes, such as quarter notes, quarter rests, etc.
- Understand melody, beginning with *mi-so-la* or *do-re-mi* and use the hand or body signs that go along with the melody.
- Understand musical sound (timbre), phrase, form and different meters (skipping/marching).
- Work cooperatively, singing and dancing with partners and a large group.

What to do at home:

- Ask about the songs your child is learning at school and ask them to teach them to you.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Go to short, age-appropriate concerts or musical performances together.
- Clap, pat or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Encourage your child’s musical interest by suggesting they practice an instrument (the ukulele, for example).
- Sing lullabies to a baby, toy, doll or pet.

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. An easy song to start with is "Down by the Bay." Change the animals and rhyming words as you sing the song.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, talk about the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1

FOR FAMILIES

YOU ARE YOUR child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

In first grade, children enjoy dancing and using their imaginations when they play. They are improving their locomotor skills and are learning how to stay safe and respect other people's personal space.

First-graders will practice throwing, catching, dribbling, volleying and striking equipment (a scarf, beanbag, balloon or large ball, for example) while working individually, with partners and with small groups. Teachers will use cues to break down the skills into smaller, more understandable parts and will teach skills from easiest to most difficult to encourage proper development, competence and confidence.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to hop, jump, gallop, jog, side-slide and skip with good form.
- Catch balls and other objects of various sizes they toss themselves or that are thrown well by others.
- Use a jump rope to jump forward (with the rope moving over the front of the body and up the back) and backward (with the rope moving over the back of the body and up the front).

What to do at home:

- Clap, pat or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Ask your child to hop three times on one foot, then switch to the other foot and hop three times. Next, ask your child to hop two times on one foot, then switch. Finally, ask your child to hop one time and switch to the other foot. Tell your child the cue for skipping is "Step, hop, step, hop." With the basics down, they'll be skipping in no time!



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between PE and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are different ways you can move your body?
- What activities close to home could we try as a family, like biking, hiking and canoeing?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What did you learn about in PE class today?
- What is your favorite activity in PE class? Why?
- What makes physical activity enjoyable for you?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science to physical activity using a nature scavenger hunt. Walk, jog, skip or gallop as you search for items on your list.
- Connect spoken language to the nature scavenger hunt by asking your child to use descriptive words to tell you about the objects they found. For example, your child could look at a leaf and say, "The leaf is pointy, brown and crunchy." Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences because it will help them learn to write in complete sentences.
- Ask your child to find a book or information about one item they found on the scavenger hunt.

Join the conversation!

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SCIENCE

1

FOR FAMILIES

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

In first grade, children are becoming more independent as their reading skills improve and they are able to focus for longer periods of time. Building on skills learned in kindergarten, first-graders are continuing to understand more about the world around them and are active learners who are doing science to learn science. By observing the world, first-graders can come up with possible answers to questions such as “What happens when materials vibrate?”, “What are some ways plants and animals meet their needs so they can survive and grow?”, “How are parents and their offspring alike and different?” and “What objects are in the sky and how do they seem to move?” First-graders will be active learners who are doing science to learn science. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Investigate the relationship between sound and vibration and the connection between light and our ability to see objects.
- Increase their understanding of how plants and animals use the outer parts of their body to help them survive, grow and meet their needs.
- Learn how parents help their offspring survive through adaptation (for example, when a mother animal hears its offspring cry, it provides food) and study how young plants and animals are similar to, but not exactly the same as, their parents.
- Observe, describe and predict patterns in the movement of objects in the sky (the moon, stars, sun, etc.).

What to do at home:

- Help your child explore the sounds made by everyday objects and instruments, and ask them to identify the different sounds. (Examples of vibrating materials that make sound include a stretched rubber band and a plastic container with a lid.)
- Go on nature walks. Ask your child to describe parts of plants and animals and how they might help them survive. (For example, your child could point out that a rose has sharp thorns that hurt, which might keep an animal from eating them.)
- Go to the zoo or watch videos of baby animals and their parents and describe how they interact. Ask your child how the baby animals and parents look alike and different.
- Observe the sun, moon and stars often and ask your child to describe the differences in their appearance or location from observation to observation.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are you interested in knowing more about?
- What else does that make you think of?
- Where do you think we can learn more about these things?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Who did you play with today? What did you play?
- What was your hardest rule to follow today? Why was it hard?
- What was your favorite part of the day and why?
- Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw and/or showed today?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, sometimes we see shadows and sometimes we don't, animals live in different places, etc.). Then, ask them to add words and phrases to the picture that describe the things they notice and wonder about and what might cause them or how they work.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Do you notice that dirt is carried to a new place after it rains a lot?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be modified to work better. (For example, if you asked your child what could help keep the dirt in its place, your child could design and build a structure to hold the dirt in place.)

Join the conversation!

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SOCIAL STUDIES

1

FOR FAMILIES

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

In first grade, children are becoming more independent as their reading skills improve and they are able to focus for longer periods of time. At this stage, they are ready to learn more about citizenship, economics, geography and history. They enjoy everyday tasks like cooking and taking photos, and school activities such as dressing up in career-related uniforms. First-graders ask many “what if?” questions but also need structured learning activities. This information is a snapshot of learning in first-grade social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know the main reasons why we have a government with rules and laws with consequences for when they are broken.
- Explain the need for money, how we earn money, how money and credit can be used to meet needs and wants, and the costs and benefits of spending and saving.
- Compare the manmade and geographical features of urban and rural communities.
- Use the cardinal directions of east, west, north and south to locate specific places on a map.
- Understand the importance of people and places from history. (For example, Washington, D.C., is the capital city for the United States.)
- Begin to understand how to put events in time order.

What to do at home:

- Read a story with your child and ask them to repeat or act out the highlights using the correct sequence of events.
- Use cardinal directions east, west, north and south in familiar places. (For example: “Turn west after you pass the park” or “Go to the south entrance of the store.”)
- Discuss family rules and the consequences for breaking them.
- Start a savings account for your child and ask them to notice when and why the balance goes up and down.
- Help your child locate the seven continents and five oceans on a map or globe.
- Ask your child to describe geographic and manmade features they see in urban and rural areas.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you could build a treehouse for you and your friends, how would you design it?
- If you could ask an animal any question, what question would you ask and what animal would you ask?
- Would you rather visit a beach or go to the mountains? Why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you wrote a book, what would it be about? Why?
- If you designed clothes, what would they look like?
- What makes you laugh?

Fostering Comprehension

Children who are on their way to becoming confident readers need time to read alone and with others. Take time as a family to talk about books, comics and other types of print with young readers. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What do you think will happen?
- Why did you pick this book?

DURING READING

- What has happened so far?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?

AFTER READING

- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What did you learn from the book?
- Does it remind you of any other books you have read?

Join the conversation!

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VISUAL ART

1

FOR FAMILIES

FIRST GRADE

What to expect:

Children in first grade are using their imaginations and working with others through play to make things with a variety of materials. They are able to experiment with different tools (scissors, paintbrushes, rolling pins, cookie cutters, stencils, etc.) and materials such as crayon, paper/cardboard, etc., and can describe the choices they are making when they are creating art. They are starting to understand that humans have made art throughout history for a variety of reasons.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Practice using common tools and materials to make art (for example, using a ruler to draw straight lines, using a stencil, etc.).
- Use art terms such as line, color, form, shape, texture, value and space to describe personal artistic choices.
- Show respect for their own artwork and artwork created by others by using positive descriptive words, such as “I like the colors you used on your sky,” “Your coloring is very neat,” etc.
- Put the pieces they have created in a safe space to create a personal collection.

What to do at home:

- Ask questions about the art your child made at school, such as “Why did you choose this color?”, “How did you feel when you made this?” and “What does this mean?”
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Be creative and use fabric, paper, beads, food, etc., to create art.
- Ask questions about consumer art (logos, food packaging, etc.), such as “Why do you think they chose that color?” and “How do you think we could make it better?”

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

Join the conversation!

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LANGUAGE ARTS

2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

Children in second grade are beginning to ask more difficult questions as their learning continues to grow. They are increasingly independent listeners, speakers, readers and writers. In second grade, children are reading more difficult books and writing longer stories. They can read a variety of texts, including newspapers, comics and stories, and are able to focus their writing on a central topic and include details such as people, places, dates and events. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 2. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Become an increasingly confident reader.
- Identify the main parts of a story, including details about the characters, where the story takes place (the setting) and what happens in the beginning, middle and end (plot).
- Read a book and describe the main idea and details about the people, places and things in it.
- Explain how and why something happens in a story read aloud or on their own.
- Write a paragraph about a topic and include supporting details such as important people, places, dates or events.

What to do at home:

- Listen to your child read aloud.
- Help your child learn the meaning of new words by looking at the sentences around them and thinking about what makes sense.
- Discuss why an author may have written a book and what happened in the story.
- Talk with your child about the information they learned from a book about real people, places and things.
- Learn and use new words in conversations with your child and discuss their meanings.
- Encourage your child to write stories or observations about the world.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you notice or wonder about in your community?
- What new words or things have you discovered today?
- What is the most exciting adventure you could take? What would you do on the adventure?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class? Why?
- What was the best thing that happened today? What was the worst?
- What challenged you today? What did you have trouble understanding?

Fostering Comprehension

As children continue to strengthen their reading skills, they benefit from reading independently and with adults. Sharing a variety of print materials – books, comics, etc. – helps them explore new words and ideas. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What do you think will happen?
- What kind of book is this?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?
- What do you notice about the characters?

AFTER READING

- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!

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HEALTH - 2

FOR FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN - SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In these grades, children will learn skills and behaviors to help them be and stay healthy. These are the first steps toward developing a healthy lifestyle.

Health education in kindergarten through second grade will focus on learning communication, decision making, and self-management skills as they relate to nutrition, injury prevention, dental hygiene, handwashing, sun safety, social interaction and healthy relationships.

Children in kindergarten through second grade are learning to limit sugary drinks, try a variety of foods and plan a nutritious breakfast.

Accidental injury is the leading cause of death among children. It is critical that adults teach children how to be safe when in vehicles, on bikes, in contact with potentially dangerous or poisonous materials, around fire and walking in traffic. This information should be repeated often, and students should have an opportunity to repeat it and use play and role-play to show their understanding of it.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know how to place foods in the five food groups (fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy and protein) and how to relate them to the United States Department of Agriculture's recommendations.
- Understand how to stay safe and avoid danger in a variety of settings.
- Recognize and communicate their feelings in a positive manner.
- Understand how healthy behaviors such as good nutrition, physical activity, plenty of sleep, use of sunscreen, positive relationships with other students, etc., lead to good health.

What to do at home:

- Help your child plan a nutritious breakfast by identifying their likes and dislikes and how those choices connect to overall health.
- Help your child search for hazardous household items such as bleach and motor oil. Afterwards, brainstorm ways the family can stay safe from these hazards.
- When your child is emotionally overwhelmed, help them learn how and when to ask for help and how to come up with a plan to calm down.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support health learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Why is it important to learn to express your thoughts and feelings?
- Do you think that everyone feels emotions like anger, fear, happiness, sadness and surprise? What makes you think that?
- What is a technique you use to calm down?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What do we have in our home that keeps us safe? (Discuss smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers. Call the fire department for a free smoke alarm if you don't have one.)
- What is our family's emergency plan in case of a fire? (Include a smoke alarm, two ways out of each room and the family's meeting place after everyone is out of the house. Teach your child to be prepared, not scared, and practice the plan as a family.)

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects strengthens a student's overall knowledge. Connections may also be made between school learning and real-world situations. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to find connections, too.

- Connect reading to health by reading books like "Big Smelly Bear," "Little Pea" and "Good Enough to Eat" that support good health habits.
- Connect music to health by listening to songs like "Germ Attack," "Rinse and Spit Rap" and "Milk Makes Your Bones Grow Big" that promote healthy habits.



MATH

2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In second grade, children are developing their math skills by applying new knowledge to what they already know. They are learning how to make a plan for solving a problem by trying different approaches when the problem seems difficult or they do not know the solution. At this age, children are beginning to understand how numbers and tools like rulers and scales come together to create learning experiences. They can explain how to solve a problem and why the solution works. Play continues to be a developmentally appropriate method for young learners to explore the world and make sense of their environment. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for Grade 2. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Read and write numbers to 1,000.
- Add and subtract one- and two-digit numbers. (For example, $9 - 4 = 5$, $25 + 19 = 44$, etc.)
- Create and describe increasing and decreasing patterns of shapes and numbers (the number of skips in a game or rings in a tree, for example).
- Read and write time on a traditional and digital clock.
- Write and draw fractions for halves, thirds and fourths.
- Use a ruler to measure lengths to the nearest inch and centimeter.

What to do at home:

- Create math problems about things happening at home. (For example, ask your child, "If we started dinner with 10 slices of pizza but have eaten 3, how many are left?")
- Determine the value of coins up to one dollar.
- Write two different three-digit numbers on a piece of paper and ask your child which one is greater or less than the other.
- Ask your child to tell you what time it is.
- Practice using a ruler to measure household items, such as school binders and a TV screen.
- Ask your child to help measure ingredients while cooking or baking.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you notice or wonder about in your community?
- What new words or new things have you discovered?
- What math problems do you see around us? What problems could you make from what you see?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class? Why?
- Did you get a chance to listen to other people's ideas in math class today? Did they make sense to you?
- Did you learn something that challenged you today, or was there something you didn't understand?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What does it make you wonder about?
- Where do we see this occur around us?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- What do you think needs to happen next?
- Is there any other way to find the answer?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- What would have made this problem easier to solve?
- Is there an easier way to do it? How?

Join the conversation!

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MUSIC

2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

Children in second grade enjoy singing and can “match pitch,” meaning they can hear a note and sing it the same way. They are learning about musical rhythm and melody and are singing, making up and changing songs, playing instruments and working with classmates on songs and performances. Encourage your child to sing with you.

At this grade level, children are learning more about music concepts and rapidly adding to their music knowledge. They are problem-solving, playing instruments, singing and dancing. They enjoy learning new songs and musical patterns as new concepts are introduced in class.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Learn the five notes of the most-used music scale (*do re mi so la*).
- Have a greater understanding of rhythms and notes.
- Understand common musical meters (skipping, marching, etc.).
- Learn terms for the speed of music (tempo), the loudness and softness of music (dynamics) and other music concepts.
- Make up or change songs while singing or playing instruments.
- Dance and move alone in a personal space, with partners in a shared space and with a group.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to sing a round (a song where one person sings ahead of or behind the other) together. Popular rounds include “Make New Friends” and “Are You Sleeping?”
- Encourage your child to sing the National Anthem at sports events and sing “Happy Birthday” to others.
- Sing lullabies together to a baby, toy, doll or pet.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Go to short, age-appropriate concerts or musical performances together.
- Clap or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Encourage your child’s musical interest by suggesting they practice an instrument like a ukulele or piano.

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, talk about the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

Join the conversation!

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

2

FOR FAMILIES



YOU ARE YOUR child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In second grade, children are comfortable moving their bodies. They are mastering the underhand and overhand throw and most locomotor skills, including skipping. Second-grade students need plenty of time to practice manipulative skills like kicking, dribbling, volleying and striking.

At this grade level, children enjoy dance and some imaginative play. They are able to work safely and independently in PE.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to skip, hop, jump and perform other motor skills with good form. (Students at this level may not be developmentally ready to leap.)
- Use a jump rope to jump forward and/or backward with good form.
- Dribble with hands and feet by controlling the ball and traveling with it.

What to do at home:

- To help your child learn to jump rope, coach them to start with the rope handles pointing at their stomach. Next, they will move the handles out to the sides of their body and make a big circle overhead. When the rope hits the floor, your child should jump over.
- If your child is having difficulty jumping rope, cut a one-foot section of a pool noodle and place the rope through the middle of the noodle. The weight of the pool noodle makes the rope easier to turn. When the noodle hits the floor, your child should jump over it.



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between PE and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What are different ways you can balance your body?
- What types of activities require balance?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with peers and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Why do you need balance to participate in physical activities?
- How can you participate in balance activities at home?
- What equipment would you need to participate in balance activities at home?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science and nutrition with physical activity by visiting a pumpkin patch or a fresh fruit orchard.
- Ask your child to use descriptive words to tell you about the visit. For example, "The peach was soft and round."
- Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences because it will help them write in complete sentences.
- Ask your child to find a book, information or recipe to connect to the food item.

Join the conversation!

@okside



SCIENCE 2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In second grade, children are beginning to ask bigger questions as their knowledge of the world grows. Science education plays an important role in language and literacy skill development by exposing students to words connected to classroom observations. In second grade, science education helps children come up with answers to questions like “How does land change, and what things cause it to change?” “How are materials (what something is made of) similar and different from one another, and how do their properties (color, texture, flexibility) relate to how they are used?” and “What do plants need to grow?” This information is a snapshot of learning in science for Grade 2. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Develop an understanding of what plants need to grow and how they depend on animals to move seeds from place to place and for pollination.
- Compare the variety of life in different habitats (locations).
- Develop an understanding of observable properties of materials by studying and classifying different materials. (Investigations could include ice and snow melting or frozen objects thawing.)
- Understand that wind and water can change the shape of the land and compare possible solutions that could slow or prevent such change.
- Use information and models to identify and represent shapes and kinds of landforms (plains, hills, mountains, etc.) and bodies of water.
- Use maps to locate where water is found in liquid and solid ice forms on Earth.

What to do at home:

- Grow plants in a box garden or in planters and ask your child to discuss the things that will help the plants grow.
- Go on a nature walk and write down the different plants, insects and animals you see. Then go to a different neighborhood or park and write down whether or not the same plants, insects and animals are present.
- Go on a scavenger hunt in the kitchen and ask your child to put all the bowls, utensils, pots and pans in groups based on similarities and differences.
- Notice how things change in the yard after a windy day or a strong rain. Ask your child to describe the differences and how the wind or water might have caused the change.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you notice and wonder about in your community?
- What new words or new things have you discovered?
- How can you solve the problems you see?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class? Why?
- What was the best thing that happened today? What was the worst?
- Did you learn something that challenged you today or was there something you didn't understand?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, sometimes we see shadows and sometimes we don't, animals live in different places, etc.). Then, ask them to add words and phrases to the picture that describe the things they notice and wonder about and what might cause them or how they work.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Do you notice that dirt is carried to a new place after it rains a lot?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be modified to work better. (For example, if you asked your child what could help keep the dirt in its place, your child could design and build a structure to hold the dirt in place.)

Join the conversation!

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SOCIAL STUDIES

2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In second grade, children are beginning to ask more in-depth questions as their learning continues to grow. By asking questions about the world around them, new and exciting learning experiences take shape as they learn about citizenship, economics, geography and history. At this age, students are interested in how things work and do well with hands-on tasks. Second-graders also enjoy learning through games. Their listening skills are growing, which means they are better able to join in class discussions. This information is a snapshot of learning in second-grade social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to summarize the five key individual rights and liberties protected under the First Amendment.
- Understand the roles of national leaders, including the President of the United States, members of Congress and justices of the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Describe the relationship between taxes and the community services they pay for, such as roads and bridges.
- Point out the state of Oklahoma, its major cities and the states bordering it on a map.
- Point out landforms and bodies of water in the world around them and on a map.
- Describe how people make changes in the environment to meet community needs (for example, building a drain to help with flooding).
- Understand and give examples of the concept of supply and demand (for example, when less gasoline is produced, it becomes more expensive).

What to do at home:

- Talk about community services like fire stations and schools paid for by taxes.
- Ask your child to find examples of First Amendment rights in current events.
- Discuss ways people can make changes in the environment (by building a dam, for example).
- Visit bodies of water like ponds, lakes and rivers and landforms like plateaus, valleys and hills.
- Discuss ways people pay for goods and services (for example, with cash, credit or trade).

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you notice or wonder about in your community?
- Where is your favorite place to spend time? Why?
- If you could change any rule, what rule would you change and why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is your favorite outfit or shoes and why?
- If you could have any meal for your birthday, what would it be?
- What is your favorite game to play with other people? Why?

Fostering Comprehension

As children continue to strengthen their reading skills, they benefit from reading independently and with adults. Sharing a variety of print materials – books, comics, etc. – helps them explore new words and ideas. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What do you think will happen?
- What kind of book is this?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?
- What do you notice about the characters?

AFTER READING

- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!

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VISUAL ART

2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

Children in second grade are learning about art with others while creating their own art. They are trying various materials such as crayon, paint, paper/cardboard and modeling materials, and techniques such as cutting lines and curves, measuring with a ruler, using stencils, etc. In addition, they are able to describe works of art using the elements of art (color, line, shape, etc.) and principles of design (contrast, proportion, emphasis, etc).

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Use different materials and tools to make art about topics that interest them (using paper, scissors and glue to create a collage, for example).
- Understand and practice safe ways to use and clean art tools and studio spaces.
- Discuss and think back on the choices they made in creating a piece of art.
- Create original works of art using traditional (pastels, clay, etc.) and non-traditional (leaves, recycled items, etc.) materials.
- Describe the appearance and subject of works of art while pointing out various artistic elements (line, color, form, etc.) and design principles (balance, contrast, repetition, etc.) used by the artist.

What to do at home:

- Ask questions about the art your child made at school, such as “Why did you choose this color?”, “How did you feel when you made this?” and “What does this mean?”
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Ask your child to design cards for special occasions like birthdays and holidays, then print them at a local copy shop.
- Ask questions about consumer art (logos, food packaging, etc.) such as “Why do you think they chose that color?” and “How do you think we could make it better?”

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

Join the conversation!

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LANGUAGE ARTS

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

What to expect:

Children in third grade are beginning to use their reading skills to understand an entire text or story. They enjoy many types of reading materials, including newspapers, magazines, books, poems, comics, etc. Third-grade students will be able to use elements of stories like character (who), setting (where) and plot (what happened) in conversations about what they are reading. Their writing is becoming increasingly clear and focused, stays on topic and includes relevant details such as important people, places, dates, facts and events. Third-graders also will be able to use different kinds of writing for different purposes. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 3. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Read words in a text aloud accurately and at the same pace as a conversation.
- Grow their vocabulary by learning new words, parts of words and words with similar meanings.
- Identify different types of text (fiction and biography, for example).
- Summarize different types of text by identifying the main events or topics and important details.
- Write for different purposes, using important details and staying focused on a topic.
- Describe who is telling the story, where it takes place and what is happening.
- Use information from graphs, charts and headings in a text to better understand and write about a topic.

What to do at home:

- Discuss facts and opinions in commercials, news stories and other everyday situations.
- Ask your child what kind of text they are reading (fiction, nonfiction or poetry) and to explain how they know.
- Use difficult or unusual words in conversations to build your child's vocabulary.
- Keep a journal together. Have your child write about anything they're interested in, and respond by writing something back to your child. Use different sentence types to ask a question or show excitement.
- Help your child identify a topic of interest and look for ways to find information about it.



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Education



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What is the craziest word you have ever heard?
- What movie or book character do you wish you went to school with and why?
- How would the world be different if animals could talk?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What food would be served at your favorite meal?
- How did you show kindness to someone today?
- What is your favorite outdoor activity to do with family or friends? Why?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What made you pick this book?
- How is this book like another one you have read or a movie you have seen?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- What has happened so far in the story?
- What pictures do you see in your mind as you read?
- What words can I help you understand?

AFTER READING

- What was the most important event in the story? Why?
- What lesson do you think the author wants the reader to learn? What makes you think that?
- If you could give this book a different title, what would it be? Why?

Join the conversation!

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HEALTH

3-5

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE - FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In these grades, children are building on their knowledge about nutrition, physical activity, preventing substance abuse, mental health, dental hygiene, preventing injuries, self-care and healthy relationships.

At this age, students are ready to start practicing health skills. These include how to analyze and access valid information, communicate, resolve conflict, say no, make decisions, set goals and practice self-control and self-management.

Third- through fifth-graders are able to understand how family, culture, peers, media and technology can influence their health habits and behaviors.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Recognize potentially dangerous situations and use good decision-making skills to avoid risky behaviors (riding a bike without a helmet, for example).
- Understand how nutrition labels are a valid source of health information.
- Show that they understand refusal skills (saying no) in situations that could affect their health and safety.
- Define health goals, then set personal health goals and track progress toward meeting them.
- Use conflict resolution skills and calming techniques that help keep interactions with peers positive.

What to do at home:

- Talk about what cyberbullying (repeated, unwanted use of mean words or behaviors online) means, its importance and possible consequences.
- Help your child practice how to remove themselves from digital drama in a respectful way and discuss how to steer online conversations in a positive direction.
- Help your child take a break from technology and put devices away at bedtime or mealtimes.
- Talk about what to do if your child is being bullied online – step away, block the person and report the behavior to a trusted adult.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support health learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Why should you never take medicine without an adult's permission?
- What is the difference between prescription and over-the-counter medicine?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Have you ever felt peer pressure (when a friend tries to get you to do something you don't want to do)? What can you tell me about that?
- What would you say if someone asks you to do something unsafe or unhealthy?
- Who do you chat with online?
- How do people treat each other in the games and on the sites you're using?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects strengthens a student's overall knowledge. Connections may also be made between school learning and real-world situations. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to find connections, too.

- Connect writing to health education by keeping a weekly food and exercise journal. Ask your child to reflect on how they could change their habits to be more consistent with national recommendations or guidelines.
- Connect fine arts to health education by acting out scenarios that give your child the opportunity to practice saying no. Pretend to persuade your child to do something unhealthy (drink a sugary beverage, for example), and ask them to notice their feelings, state a boundary (say no) and use a refusal skill (politely decline, explain why it is not a nutritious choice, etc.).



MATH

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

In third grade, students will build on the skills learned in first and second grade and apply what they know to more difficult mathematical tasks. Three of the most important third-grade math topics are multiplication, division and fractions, all of which are building blocks for many skills students will learn in later grades. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for Grade 3. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Read and write numbers up to 100,000.
- Know multiplication and related division facts for whole numbers up to 10, such as $3 \times 5 = 15$ and $15/3 = 5$.
- Read and write fractions.
- Classify angles as acute (\sphericalangle), right (\perp), obtuse (\sphericalangle) and straight (—).
- Find a shape's perimeter (its total distance or the length around it).

What to do at home:

- Create your own multiplication and division games with numbered cubes, dominoes or playing cards.
- Allow your child to help measure ingredients while cooking or baking.
- Identify fractions around the house. For example, if a four-drawer dresser has socks in one drawer, then $1/4$ of the dresser has socks in it.
- Ask your child to identify the shapes and types of angles in road signs. (For example, a traffic light is a rectangle.)
- Use a ruler to measure the sides of four-sided objects in daily life (a tabletop, cell phone, etc.) and add all the sides together to find the perimeter.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!



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MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What geometric shapes do you see in your neighborhood, and where do you see them?
- If you had a million dollars, what would you buy first? Why?
- What patterns do you hear in your favorite song?
- How many candies could go around the edges of this brownie?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What shapes of food does your favorite meal include?
- I think we could solve the problem this way, but what other ways could we do it?
- Where could we use multiplication and division facts at the grocery store today?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What does it make you wonder about?
- What do you need to be able to solve it?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- What have you experienced before that is similar to this problem?
- Can we use that thinking here?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- Could this problem have been solved a different way?
- Are there other places we might see something similar to this?

Join the conversation!

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MUSIC

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

Children in third grade enjoy singing and can “match pitch,” meaning they can hear a note and sing it the same way. They are learning about musical rhythm and melody and are singing, making up and changing songs, playing instruments and working with classmates on songs and performances.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Learn musical pitches (*a b c d e f g*).
- Have a greater understanding of rhythms and syncopation (rhythms that are not on the beat).
- Understand the difference between a marching meter like “Boomer Sooner” and a waltzing meter (“My Favorite Things” from “The Sound of Music,” for example).
- Sing and learn about minor tonality (songs that sound sad or spooky).
- Learn various tempos (the speed of music), dynamics (the loudness and softness of music) and other music concepts.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to sing a round (a song where one person sings ahead of or behind the other) together. Popular rounds include “Make New Friends” and “Are You Sleeping?”
- Encourage your child to sing the National Anthem at sports events, sing with you at worship services and sing “Happy Birthday” to others.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Go to short, age-appropriate concerts or musical performances together.
- Clap or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Encourage your child’s musical interest by suggesting they practice an instrument like a ukulele or piano.

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together. Consider purchasing a new or used instrument (ukulele, guitar, etc.) and finding free online tutorials to help your child get started.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. If there's a song your child really loves, encourage them to write a new verse, following the phrase and rhyming of the original verses.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, talk about the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

In third grade, children will focus on developing their movement skills. They will continue to improve their locomotor and manipulative skills and be able to do them at the same time (throwing a ball while hopping, for example). Their movement patterns in gymnastics and dance will also become stronger.

Third-graders are able to identify and name the cues of skills and apply them in their movement. For example, when performing the overhand throw, students may state the cues of “point, step, turn, follow-through” as they point with their non-throwing arm, step with the opposite foot, turn or rotate their torso to generate power as they release the object and finish by following through toward the target. With practice, this motion of the overhand throw becomes more fluid and accurate.

At this age, children have developed their knowledge of fitness and can name physical activities (jumping jacks, leg lifts, squats, etc.) that improve fitness. Third-graders understand and practice exercising safely and are able to follow rules and procedures for games and activities and work cooperatively with their peers.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to use objects while engaging in locomotor skills (for example, dribbling while walking or jogging or catching a ball while jumping) at different speeds.
- Develop more mature patterns of manipulative skills like throwing, catching, dribbling, volleying and striking with short-handled implements like bats.
- Use simple strategies and tactics in both chasing and fleeing activities.
- Learn age-appropriate dance steps selected by the teacher.

What to do at home:

- Go to a sporting event or a performance that includes dance or ballet.
- Look for opportunities for physical activity in your community.
- Encourage your child to participate in physical activities for enjoyment and self-expression.
- Dance together!
- Exercise together as a family. (Go on a hike at a state park, walk around the zoo or fly a kite together, for example.)

YOU ARE YOUR child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between PE and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What chores around the house could be a workout for the whole family, like yard work or a [car wash workout](#)?
- What outdoor activities in the area could we try out as a family, like kite flying or a walk around the [farmers' market](#)?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Increase vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What are three physical activities that you really enjoy? Why?
- What do you need to participate in those activities? Think about equipment and space.
- How can you change those activities so you can do them at home or at school?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect math with physical activity by having the whole family create and play a game together. Establish a scoring system to keep track of points for each player.
- Connect science with physical activity by planting a garden or taking a walk around the zoo.

Join the conversation!

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SCIENCE 3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

In third grade, children are learning about the natural and physical world around them while beginning to observe, experiment and share what they have learned. Third-graders will discover answers to questions such as, “What is typical weather in different parts of the world during different times of year?”, “How are organisms like plants and animals different?”, “How are plants, animals and environments of the past similar to or different from the ones of today?”, “What happens to organisms when their environment changes?” and “How do pushes or pulls such as gravity or magnetism on an object affect that object?” This information is a snapshot of learning in science for Grade 3. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Organize and use data such as temperature, precipitation and wind direction to predict what kind of weather will happen in a specific place during a specific season.
- Be able to describe the similarities and differences in the life cycles of plants and animals.
- Understand inherited traits (eye color, stem length, etc.) and how living things can adapt to their environment.
- Explain how differences in characteristics among members of the same species may provide advantages in finding mates, reproducing and survival. (For example, plants with thorns may be less likely to be eaten by predators.)
- Plan and conduct investigations on the effects of forces on moving objects.
- Develop an understanding of how changes in the environment make an impact on organisms. (For example, an animal without sufficient water will be forced to move to new territory in order to survive.)
- Determine the cause and effect relationships of magnetic interactions. (For example, students will examine how the distance between objects affects the strength of the force.)

What to do at home:

- Talk about what causes a swing or seesaw to move or come to a complete stop.
- Discuss the weather forecast each day, including temperature, wind and precipitation.
- Take a nature walk and notice living things and how they are able to survive in their environment.
- Visit a zoo or farm and identify how the animals and their offspring are alike and different.
- Look for things a magnet will attract or stick to.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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Education



SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- When I kick a ball, is it possible to keep it moving without stopping? Why or why not?
- What differences do you notice between the seasons in temperature, clouds, rainfall, temperature, etc.?
- What animals could live outside close to where we live? What animals couldn't? Why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What food would be served at your favorite meal?
- How did you show kindness to someone today?
- What is your favorite outdoor activity to do with family or friends? Why?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, adult butterflies look different from young caterpillars, some objects are difficult to see in the dark, etc.), then add short descriptive sentences to the picture that describe the object, situation or scenario they drew and how what they know about science might be connected to it.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Do you notice that magnets interact with objects differently?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be modified to work better. (For example, after asking your child how magnets can be used to sort recyclable items, your child could research examples of how a magnetized recycling program has been engineered to work.)

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SOCIAL STUDIES

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

Students at this age are growing more independent and are learning more complex material. Third-graders are beginning to apply skills from earlier grades to learn about their state. Their social studies focus this year will be on Oklahoma's natural resources, local and state governments, important economic activities and the cultures that have settled in the state. This information is a snapshot of learning in third-grade social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know the most important elected leaders of Oklahoma.
- Describe the historical importance of Oklahoma's state seal and flag.
- Understand how the development of Oklahoma's major economic activities (including oil and gas, agriculture and livestock, aviation, tourism, tribal enterprises and the military) have contributed to the growth of the state.
- Be able to identify and locate Oklahoma's major landforms, bodies of water and cities on a map.
- Describe the cultures of the American Indian tribes and nations living in present-day Oklahoma.
- Explain how the weather and environment affect the economy of Oklahoma.
- Be able to identify state and local landmarks (the State Capitol building, for example) and contributions of notable Oklahomans including Will Rogers, Wilma Mankiller, Ralph Ellison, etc.
- Understand that tribal governments have the right to self-government called sovereignty.

What to do at home:

- Be sure your child knows the names of your mayor, local state representative, state senator and city officials.
- Visit the State Capitol or local government offices.
- Visit local businesses important to your community such as the bank, hospital, etc.
- Visit local landforms and bodies of water.
- Visit local landmarks, museums, festivals or other community celebrations.
- Read books about Oklahoma or biographies about famous Oklahomans.
- Celebrate Oklahoma's birthday on November 16.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you could grow up to be famous, what would you want to be famous for and why?
- If you could give \$100 to a charity, which one would you choose and why?
- If you could make a photo book of Oklahoma, what pictures would you include and why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What food would be served at your favorite meal?
- How did you show kindness to someone today?
- What is your favorite outdoor activity to do with family or friends?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What made you pick this book?
- How is this book like another one you have read or a movie you have seen?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- What has happened so far in the story?
- What pictures do you see in your mind as you read?
- What words can I help you understand?

AFTER READING

- What was the most important event in the story? Why?
- What lesson do you think the author might want the reader to learn? What makes you think that?
- If you could give this book a different title, what would it be? Why?

Join the conversation!

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VISUAL ART

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

Children in third grade are making art in a variety of ways (painting, drawing, collaging, etc.) using different materials and supplies (scissors, watercolor resist, etc.). The art they are creating may be of places and things from the world around them, and they are able to understand how to share their work with others as part of an exhibit or digitally on school websites or social media. Third-graders are able to tell how works of art from different times, places and cultures are alike and different.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Gain knowledge of available resources, tools and technologies to investigate an idea through the art-making process. (For example, a student might investigate the process of printmaking by printing from a flat surface like glass or silkscreen.)
- Understand and practice how to make art safely.
- Add to or change art they have made after thinking or talking about their original creation. (For example, during printmaking lessons, after printing their work for the first time, students may see areas to change. Understanding how the ink picks up certain details may cause them to alter their design before printing again.)
- On their own or with a group, create works of art or maps of places that are part of their everyday life (for example, a map of their neighborhood that includes their drawings).
- Explore ways people have created artwork using whatever materials are available, such as found art objects like leaves, seashells, broken electronics, discarded glass, plastic bottles, driftwood, etc.

What to do at home:

- Display your child's artwork at home and take pictures of it to share with family.
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Ask your child to design cards for special occasions like birthdays and holidays, then share them with friends and family.
- Draw a map of where you live (bedroom, apartment, house, etc.), school or neighborhood. After it is finished, look at blueprints online or street maps and talk about how you could make changes to improve the first draft of your map.

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



OKLAHOMA
Education



VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

Children in fourth grade will read a variety of more challenging texts of different types (books, comics and journals, for example). Fourth-grade students are able to answer questions using information from a book and their own experiences. Their writing will continue to include more details and words. They will read and write using contractions (*can't, aren't, don't*, etc.) and abbreviations (*Dr.* and *Feb.*, etc.), words that sound or are spelled alike (*there* and *their*, for example), and words that follow the same spelling patterns, such as *receive* and *deceive*. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 4. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Identify the main points of longer stories, paying attention to key details such as important people, places, facts and sequence of events.
- Compare various texts to identify the type of writing in each (myths, articles and biographies, for example).
- Develop first drafts, then edit and revise them to create clear and organized writing.
- Determine if the author created a piece to persuade, inform or entertain the reader.
- Identify word parts to determine the meaning of words. (For example, the word *unable* means “not able” because of the prefix *un*.)

What to do at home:

- Compare facts and opinions while watching or reading news stories. Talk about how to confirm that facts are true.
- Ask questions about what your child is reading. Include questions that may not have a single right answer, such as “Why do you think the character made that decision?”
- Pick a word each day and ask everyone in the family to use it in conversation (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/word-of-the-day> is a great resource).
- Make sure your child has opportunities to write in different styles that interest them (poetry and personal narrative, for example).
- Help your child identify a topic that interests them and make a plan for how to find information about it.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What five words do you think describe you best? Why?
- If you had to give everyone in your family new names, what would they be? Why did you choose the names?
- If you could be a character in any book, who would you be? Why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is the most exciting adventure you could take? Who would you take on the adventure?
- What was your favorite part of the day and why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Flip through the book and chapter titles. What do you think the book will be about?
- How is this book like another one you have read or a movie you have seen?
- What type of book did you choose (fiction, biography, graphic novel, etc.)? Why?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen in the next chapter?
- Who is the main character? Who are the supporting characters?
- What words can I help you understand?

AFTER READING

- Could this story take place in today's world? Why or why not?
- What lesson do you think the author wants the reader to learn? What makes you think that?
- If you were one of the characters in the book, how would you have ended the story? Why?

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HEALTH

3-5

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE - FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In these grades, children are building on their knowledge about nutrition, physical activity, preventing substance abuse, mental health, dental hygiene, preventing injuries, self-care and healthy relationships.

At this age, students are ready to start practicing health skills. These include how to analyze and access valid information, communicate, resolve conflict, say no, make decisions, set goals and practice self-control and self-management.

Third- through fifth-graders are able to understand how family, culture, peers, media and technology can influence their health habits and behaviors.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Recognize potentially dangerous situations and use good decision-making skills to avoid risky behaviors (riding a bike without a helmet, for example).
- Understand how nutrition labels are a valid source of health information.
- Show that they understand refusal skills (saying no) in situations that could affect their health and safety.
- Define health goals, then set personal health goals and track progress toward meeting them.
- Use conflict resolution skills and calming techniques that help keep interactions with peers positive.

What to do at home:

- Talk about what cyberbullying (repeated, unwanted use of mean words or behaviors online) means, its importance and possible consequences.
- Help your child practice how to remove themselves from digital drama in a respectful way and discuss how to steer online conversations in a positive direction.
- Help your child take a break from technology and put devices away at bedtime or mealtimes.
- Talk about what to do if your child is being bullied online – step away, block the person and report the behavior to a trusted adult.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support health learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Why should you never take medicine without an adult's permission?
- What is the difference between prescription and over-the-counter medicine?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Have you ever felt peer pressure (when a friend tries to get you to do something you don't want to do)? What can you tell me about that?
- What would you say if someone asks you to do something unsafe or unhealthy?
- Who do you chat with online?
- How do people treat each other in the games and on the sites you're using?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects strengthens a student's overall knowledge. Connections may also be made between school learning and real-world situations. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to find connections, too.

- Connect writing to health education by keeping a weekly food and exercise journal. Ask your child to reflect on how they could change their habits to be more consistent with national recommendations or guidelines.
- Connect fine arts to health education by acting out scenarios that give your child the opportunity to practice saying no. Pretend to persuade your child to do something unhealthy (drink a sugary beverage, for example), and ask them to notice their feelings, state a boundary (say no) and use a refusal skill (politely decline, explain why it is not a nutritious choice, etc.).



MATH

4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fourth grade, math continues to build on the skills developed in third grade. One of the main areas of study in fourth grade is using arithmetic to solve problems. In this grade, students will learn more difficult multiplication and division problems and add and subtract fractions and decimals. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for Grade 4. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know multiplication and related division facts for whole numbers up to 12, such as $11 \times 12 = 132$ and $132/11 = 12$.
- Multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1,000.
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators. (For example, $1/4 + 3/4 = 1$.)
- Read and write decimals to the hundredths place. (For example, thirty-eight hundredths is the same as 0.38.)
- Create patterns that grow and define the rule. (The pattern 2, 10, 50, 250, for example, follows the rule of multiply by 5.)
- Name, describe and classify shapes. For example, a four-sided shape with every side the same length is a square or rhombus.

What to do at home:

- Create multiplication games with numbered cubes, playing cards or dominoes.
- Ask your child to multiply a speed limit that ends in zero by 10, 100 or 1,000 when you pass the sign on a roadway.
- Encourage your child to help measure ingredients while cooking or baking, then ask them to double or triple the recipe measurements.
- Ask your child to identify the place value of numbers behind the decimal point. (For example, in 3.2, the 2 is in the tenths place, while in 49.75, the 5 is in the hundredths place with a value of .05.)
- At the grocery store, ask your child to identify the values of each number in the item prices.
- Ask your child to keep a running record of the different shapes and angles in your neighborhood on a tablet, notepad or phone.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What is your favorite food that is cut into pieces? What size pieces should we cut it into? What is the shape of the pieces?
- In the whole world, what is the tallest animal? The shortest? How would you find out?
- How long do you think it takes astronauts to travel to the moon?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's math communication skills with questions like these:

- Is it okay to have a different way to solve a problem than your friend? Why or why not?
- What adventure would you take if you had \$100,000? What would you be able to do? Who would you take with you, and would that affect what you could do?
- How did you help someone using math today?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What does it make you wonder about?
- What do you need to start working on it?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- What do you think needs to happen next?
- What other information would be helpful to solve this problem?
- What words can I help you understand?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- How did you feel while working on this problem?
- How could we have solved it a different way?
- Where else would we see something similar to this?

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MUSIC

4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

Singing, movement, playing instruments and working with other children are the heart of the fourth-grade music curriculum. Activities should give students opportunities to practice and learn carefully selected, age-appropriate songs that reflect the background and experiences of the entire class.

In fourth grade, students will have a complete understanding of the music scale (*do re mi fa so la ti*) and begin to learn about real note names (*a b c d e f g*). Students may want to learn to play an instrument such as a recorder or ukulele and will have a growing understanding of rhythm (beat) and meter.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Have a greater understanding of rhythms and syncopation (rhythms that are not on the beat).
- Expand meters beyond a marching meter like “Boomer Sooner” and a waltzing meter (“My Favorite Things” from “The Sound of Music,” for example).
- Identify different distances between the pitches on a music scale (for example, a step between *do* and *re* and a half step between *mi* and *fa*).
- Use real note names (*a b c d e f g*) on the music staff (the five lines and four spaces that Western-European music is traditionally written on).

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to sing a round (a song where one person sings ahead of or behind the other) together. Popular rounds include “Make New Friends” and “Are You Sleeping?”
- Encourage your child to sing the National Anthem at sports events, sing with you at worship services or sing “Happy Birthday” to others.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Go to short, age-appropriate concerts or musical performances together.
- Clap or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Encourage your child’s musical interest by suggesting they practice an instrument like a ukulele or piano.

You are your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together. Consider purchasing a new or used instrument (ukulele, guitar, etc.) and finding free online tutorials to help your child get started.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. If there's a song your child really loves, encourage them to write a new verse, following the phrase and rhyming of the original verses.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, talk about the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

Join the conversation!

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fourth grade, children will make progress with all fundamental motor patterns, such as jumping to catch a pop fly ball in kickball. They will work toward mastery when they use locomotor and manipulative skills at the same time (throwing a ball while hopping, for example) and are able to come up with dance and gymnastics sequences.

Fourth-graders are able to use strategies like dodging and faking when playing tag games and in similar activities when on offense (as the chaser) and defense (when being chased).

It is appropriate for physical education teachers to assess students' fitness in fourth grade, and students can set personal goals based on the results. At this age, students are able to follow rules and procedures and use conflict-resolution skills.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Combine locomotor skills (walk, hop, grapevine, etc.) to create and perform a dance on their own, with a partner or in a group.
- Use manipulative skills (throwing, catching, dribbling, etc.) during games with small groups to ensure all students are engaged and have multiple opportunities to practice the skills in a game setting.
- Use fitness assessments to learn what they are doing well and identify areas of opportunity, then come up with ways to make progress.
- Learn about the health benefits of physical activity.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to invent a game with items around the house and play it together.
- Go to a sporting event or a performance that includes dance or ballet.
- Look for opportunities for physical activity in your community. (Ride bikes through your neighborhood, walk through a local park, etc.)
- Encourage your child to participate in physical activities for enjoyment and self-expression.
- Dance together!
- Find a video game that includes physical activity and play together as a family.

YOU ARE YOUR child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between PE and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What chores around the house could be a workout for the whole family, like yard work or a [car wash workout](#)?
- What outdoor activities in the area could we try out as a family, like kite flying or a walk around the [farmers' market](#)?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What are three physical activities that you really enjoy? Why?
- What do you need to participate in those activities? Think about equipment and space.
- How can you change those activities so you can do them at home or at school?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect math with physical activity by having the whole family create and play a game together. Establish a scoring system to keep track of points for each player.
- Connect science with physical activity by planting a garden or taking a walk around the zoo.

Join the conversation!

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SCIENCE 4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fourth grade, students are discovering answers to more difficult questions about the world around them. These include: “What are waves, and what do they do?”, “How can water, ice, wind and plants change the land?”, “What features of Earth can you see with maps?”, “How do internal and external parts support plants and animals?”, “What is energy, and how is it related to motion?”, “How is energy transferred?” and “How can energy be used to solve a problem?” This information is a snapshot of learning in science for Grade 4. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](http://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Understand how fast rocks break down and how they move from place to place.
- Use data from maps to describe patterns in Earth’s features.
- Use a model to describe patterns of seismic, water and sound waves and how they can cause objects to move.
- Begin to understand how parts of plants and animals support their survival, growth, behavior and reproduction. (For example, our heart pumps blood to our bodies.)
- Develop a model to describe how an object can be seen when light reflected from its surface enters the eye.
- Be able to explain the relationship between the speed of an object and the energy of that object. (For example, the faster a ball moves, the more energy it has.)
- Understand how energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat and electric currents or from object to object when they collide.

What to do at home:

- Talk about why it might be harder to see at night or in a dark room compared to in daylight or a brightly lit room.
- Look at different plants growing outside. Discuss parts of the plants (stems, roots, flowers, etc.) that help them grow or survive.
- When you’re driving, ask your child why the windows on the side of the car facing the sun are warmer than the other car windows.
- Toss a ball outside and talk about how to make it go shorter and farther distances.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What kind of material would we use to build a house that could withstand an earthquake?
- What would happen if we dropped a rubber duck or other floating object into a bowl of water? Why?
- What would happen to the land if it rained nonstop for a year?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is the most exciting adventure you could take? Why?
- Who would you take on the adventure? Why?
- What was your favorite part of the day and why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, adult butterflies look different from young caterpillars, some objects are difficult to see in the dark, etc.), then add short descriptive sentences to the picture that describe the object, situation or scenario they drew and how what they know about science might be connected to it.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Do you notice that magnets interact with objects differently?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be modified to work better. (For example, after asking your child how magnets can be used to sort recyclable items, your child could research examples of how a magnetized recycling program has been engineered to work.)

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SOCIAL STUDIES

4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

What to expect:

At this age, children are understanding more, taking on more responsibility for organizing their schoolwork and asking questions to guide their learning. In fourth grade, students will learn about the physical, cultural, political, economic and historic development of the United States, including early European contact with American Indians. This information is a snapshot of learning in fourth-grade social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to identify and locate major U.S. landforms, bodies of water and unique natural features on a map.
- Be able to identify and locate states and major U.S. cities on a map.
- Describe natural resources in the United States and how they impact the economy of each region in industries like fishing, farming, ranching, manufacturing and oil and gas.
- Explain how Americans interact with their environment in a variety of areas, including housing, industry, transportation, bridges, dams, tunnels, canals, etc.
- Describe the races and ethnicities of the people of the United States.
- Explain the reasons for key European expeditions to what is now the United States and their impact on the development and culture of each region.
- Know the major American Indian tribal nations and their ways of life.
- Know and discuss instances of cooperation and conflict between American Indian groups and European settlers.

What to do at home:

- Explore natural resources such as rivers, lakes, plants, etc., in your community.
- Notice cultural influences in your community, such as how names of streets might reflect people or events important to local culture.
- Play games or put together puzzles that identify states, U.S. cities and transportation routes.
- Create opportunities for your child to experience conflict and cooperation. (For example, explain that you will give them extra time with friends if they help clean up after meals.)
- Ask your child to point out on a map the city where a favorite professional sports team is located.
- Work together to draw a map of your house, school or community.
- Read books about places, resources, monuments and landmarks in the United States.
- Discuss ways your community is similar to and different from others in the United States.
- Visit local landmarks, museums, festivals or other local celebrations.



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What natural resources are present in your community? How do they affect your area?
- If you opened a store, what would you sell and why?
- If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is the best part about getting older? Why?
- If you could create a new class at school, what would it be and why?
- If you could create a new color, how would it look and what would you call it?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Flip through the book and chapter titles. What do you think the book will be about?
- How is this book like another one you have read or a movie you have seen?
- What type of book did you choose (fiction, biography, graphic novel, etc.)? Why?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen in the next chapter?
- Who is the main character? Who are the supporting characters?
- What words can I help you understand?

AFTER READING

- Could this story take place in today's world? Why?
- What lesson do you think the author wants the reader to learn? What makes you think that?
- If you were one of the characters in the book, how would you have ended the story? Why?

Join the conversation!

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VISUAL ART 4

FOR FAMILIES

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fourth grade, your child is better able to understand and think about the art they and others are creating. They will use art vocabulary such as the elements of art (line, shape, etc.) and principles of design (balance, contrast, etc.) to compare and determine the quality of a given work of art. Their abilities are growing in drawing, painting, sculpture, graphics and other forms of creative expression. They will work with many kinds of materials (crayon, paint, soft pencils, etc.) to make art.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Brainstorm and work with classmates to create artworks that are meaningful to everyone who made them.
- Learn about new techniques that could be used to make art (for example, mixing materials such as sand or foam into acrylic paint to create textures on canvas).
- Understand and practice how to make art safely.
- Make changes to their artwork after hearing the opinions of classmates. (For example, a student who is painting the ocean might learn from a student who has visited the ocean that the blue near the horizon is darker than the blue near the shoreline. This might cause the student to rethink their color choice and mix a darker shade of blue.)
- Use what they know about art resources, tools and technologies to learn more about an idea through the process of making art (for example, by exploring texture through leaf rubbings).
- Tell how works of art from different times, places and cultures are alike and different.
- Experiment with new ways to make art (swirling oil paint into water and placing a paper on the surface of the water to see what happens, for example).

What to do at home:

- Display your child's artwork at home and take pictures of it to share with family.
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Ask your child to design cards for special occasions like birthdays and holidays, then share them with friends and family.
- Ask questions about the furniture in your home or another place familiar to your child, such as "Why do you think it was made this way?" and "What would you change?"

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

Children in fifth grade will read a variety of more challenging texts of different types (books, newspapers and poems, for example). They will read for different purposes, such as to find information or for fun. Fifth-graders are focusing on elements of writing including style, structure and the author's purpose for writing. They can explore words with multiple meanings and make educated guesses about what words mean based on how and where they are used. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 5. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to tell the difference between fact and opinion, providing reasons to support specific points.
- Create stories with well-thought-out characters, descriptive settings and clear and interesting plots.
- Use word parts to determine the meaning of words. (For example, the word *unable* means “not able” because of the prefix *un*.)
- Use sentences of different lengths with correct structure when working on a longer piece of writing.
- Provide facts, examples and details from a piece of writing to support ideas and draw conclusions.
- Edit and revise first drafts to create clear and organized writing.

What to do at home:

- Encourage your child to read several pieces of information on a topic and discuss the differences between them.
- Work together to write a paragraph on a topic your child is interested in, including key details, facts and information.
- Pick a word each day and ask everyone in the family to use it in conversation (<https://www.nytimes.com/column/learning-word-of-the-day> is a great resource).
- Ask your child to find and discuss interesting words in the books they are reading. Consider words with several meanings (*bark*, for example) or more descriptive words, such as *saunter* instead of *walk*.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you were in a play, what would your character be like?
- If you could end your favorite movie a different way, how would you change it? Why?
- How would you explain eating spaghetti to someone who has never done it before?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think we should have for breakfast tomorrow? Why?
- What goals can you set to make tomorrow better than today?
- What was your favorite part of the week? Why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Is this the type of book you usually choose? Why or why not?
- By looking at the cover, what do you think the author's reason for writing the book might be?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- Will you read a short section to me with feeling in your voice?
- What do you do when you don't understand what you just read?
- How can you find out the meaning of words you don't understand?

AFTER READING

- Give a summary of the book in 10 words.
- What problem did the main character face? What was the solution?
- What message is the author sharing with the reader? Why do you think that?

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HEALTH

3-5

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE - FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In these grades, children are building on their knowledge about nutrition, physical activity, preventing substance abuse, mental health, dental hygiene, preventing injuries, self-care and healthy relationships.

At this age, students are ready to start practicing health skills. These include how to analyze and access valid information, communicate, resolve conflict, say no, make decisions, set goals and practice self-control and self-management.

Third- through fifth-graders are able to understand how family, culture, peers, media and technology can influence their health habits and behaviors.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Recognize potentially dangerous situations and use good decision-making skills to avoid risky behaviors (riding a bike without a helmet, for example).
- Understand how nutrition labels are a valid source of health information.
- Show that they understand refusal skills (saying no) in situations that could affect their health and safety.
- Define health goals, then set personal health goals and track progress toward meeting them.
- Use conflict resolution skills and calming techniques that help keep interactions with peers positive.

What to do at home:

- Talk about what cyberbullying (repeated, unwanted use of mean words or behaviors online) means, its importance and possible consequences.
- Help your child practice how to remove themselves from digital drama in a respectful way and discuss how to steer online conversations in a positive direction.
- Help your child take a break from technology and put devices away at bedtime or mealtimes.
- Talk about what to do if your child is being bullied online – step away, block the person and report the behavior to a trusted adult.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support health learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Why should you never take medicine without an adult's permission?
- What is the difference between prescription and over-the-counter medicine?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Have you ever felt peer pressure (when a friend tries to get you to do something you don't want to do)? What can you tell me about that?
- What would you say if someone asks you to do something unsafe or unhealthy?
- Who do you chat with online?
- How do people treat each other in the games and on the sites you're using?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects strengthens a student's overall knowledge. Connections may also be made between school learning and real-world situations. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to find connections, too.

- Connect writing to health education by keeping a weekly food and exercise journal. Ask your child to reflect on how they could change their habits to be more consistent with national recommendations or guidelines.
- Connect fine arts to health education by acting out scenarios that give your child the opportunity to practice saying no. Pretend to persuade your child to do something unhealthy (drink a sugary beverage, for example), and ask them to notice their feelings, state a boundary (say no) and use a refusal skill (politely decline, explain why it is not a nutritious choice, etc.).



MATH

5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fifth grade, students will practice more complex math with fractions, decimals and larger numbers using the four basic operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Fifth-grade math also emphasizes real-world situations to help students strengthen their skills and solve problems that occur in their daily lives. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for Grade 5. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Divide multi-digit numbers with remainders. (For example, 432 divided by 11 can be expressed as $39 \frac{3}{11}$.)
- Add and subtract decimals and fractions with like and unlike denominators. (For example, $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{4}$ can be calculated as $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{2}{8} = \frac{3}{8}$.)
- Describe and find the volume of three-dimensional shapes. (For example, a cube with dimensions of 4 inches wide by 3 inches deep and 4 inches tall would have a volume of 48 inches because $4 \times 3 \times 4 = 48$.)
- Construct and analyze double-bar and line graphs and use ordered pairs like x,y where x represents horizontal distance and y represents vertical distance on coordinate grids.
- Find the mean (average), median (midpoint or middle number), mode (number that occurs the most) and range (difference between the highest and lowest number) from a set of numbers.

What to do at home:

- Cook with children using recipes that include fractions, then ask them to double or triple the recipe ingredients.
- Pour the same liquid into containers of different sizes and discuss what your child observes and how to measure the volumes.
- Ask your child to keep track of how many times people do something (leave a room or make baskets in a basketball hoop, for example), then ask them to create a graph of that data and explain it to you.
- Give your child five numbers – for example, 26, 30, 32, 32, 35. Ask your child to use the data to find the mean, or average (31); median, or middle number (32); mode, or number that occurs the most (32); and range, the difference between the highest and lowest number ($35 - 26 = 9$).

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What would happen if houses were shaped like pyramids? How big would they have to be for our family to live comfortably?
- Who do you think knows the largest number in the world, and how did they figure it out?
- If we didn't have coins or bills to use for money, what would we do?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Where did you see examples of math today? Do you think everyone agrees what you saw is math?
- What went well in math today? What didn't go as well? What can you do to make tomorrow better than today?
- What was your favorite part of math class this week and why?
- How did you help someone using math today?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What does it make you wonder about?
- What do you need to be able to start on the problem?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- Is there other information that would make this problem easier?
- What do you do when your strategy doesn't work?
- What resources can you use to understand math you aren't familiar with?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- Does your answer make sense?
- Where else would we see something similar to this?
- What problems did you have with this?
- What was the solution to your challenges?

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MUSIC

5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

Students' musical understanding is growing in fifth grade. They can now use the skills and concepts they have learned in previous grades with more complex songs and music. They will begin singing in parts (where one group of students is singing a melodic line and the other group is singing a harmonic line). Fifth grade is also the year when students may learn to play an instrument in the school band or orchestra.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Understand most rhythmic combinations.
- Understand the eight pitches of the Western-European music scale with syllables (*do re mi fa so la ti*) and real note names (*a b c d e f g*).
- Understand major and minor modes (music that sounds happy and music that sounds sad or spooky).
- Sing in two parts (where one group of students is singing a melodic line and the other group is singing a harmonic line).
- Learn about various meters beyond a marching meter like “Boomer Sooner” and a waltzing meter (“My Favorite Things” from “The Sound of Music,” for example).
- Explore intervals (*do* to *mi* is a third because they are three steps apart, *do* to *so* is a fifth, etc.) and chords such as an I chord (a chord made up of three pitches, based on the first pitch of the scale *do mi so*).

What to do at home:

- Share your favorite music with your child by singing karaoke together.
- Encourage your child to sing the National Anthem at sports events and sing “Happy Birthday” to others.
- Listen to music together in the car and at home.
- Go to age-appropriate musical performances (concerts, symphonies, etc.) together.
- Clap or move to the beat of a song. Dance together!
- Encourage your child's musical interest by suggesting they practice an instrument like a ukulele or piano.
- Use a cell phone, iPad, laptop or other electronic device to experiment with music creation apps.

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support music learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together. Consider purchasing a new or used instrument (ukulele, guitar, etc.) and find free online tutorials to help your child get started. Music composition apps and computer programs like GarageBand, Chrome Music Lab or BeepBox allow children to experiment with creating their own music compositions.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. If there's a song your child really loves, encourage them to write a new verse, following the phrase and rhyming of the original.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, share the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fifth grade, children will use the concepts and principles they have learned about movement to improve their performance, fitness and game strategy.

They now have strong ability to combine locomotor and manipulative skills in small group games and dances and are able to use the FITT (frequency, intensity, time and type) principle to come up with a personal fitness plan. Students are continuing to develop responsibility as they participate in physical education activities in safe and respectful ways.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Throw and catch using correct patterns while moving in small-group activities such as 3 vs. 3 ultimate frisbee.
- Use basic offensive and defensive strategies in small-group games such as 3 vs. 3 soccer or when practicing tasks.
- Combine more than one locomotor skill (walk and side-slide, for example) to create and perform a dance on their own, with a partner or in a group.
- Know the components of health-related fitness (muscular strength, muscular endurance and cardiovascular endurance) and describe activities related to each component.

What to do at home:

- Do stretches, push-ups or curl-ups or go for a jog together.
- Go to a sporting event or a performance that includes dance or ballet.
- Look for opportunities for physical activity in your community.
- Encourage your child to participate in physical activities for enjoyment and self-expression.
- Dance together!
- Wear pedometers or step counters and challenge everyone in your family to get 10,000 steps a day.

YOU ARE YOUR child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support physical education learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps student be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between PE and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What chores around the house could be a workout for the whole family, like yard work or a [car wash workout](#)?
- What outdoor activities in the area could we try out as a family, like kite flying or a walk around the [farmers' market](#)?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What are three physical activities that you really enjoy? Why?
- What do you need to participate in those activities? Think about equipment and space.
- How can you change those activities so you can do them at home or at school?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect math with physical activity by having the whole family create and play a game together. Establish a scoring system to keep track of points for each player.
- Connect science with physical activity by planting a garden or taking a walk around the zoo.

Join the conversation!

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SCIENCE 5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fifth grade, students are able to answer more advanced scientific questions. These include: “When matter changes, does its weight change?”, “How much water can be found in different places on Earth?”, “Can new substances be created by combining other substances?”, “How does matter work its way through ecosystems?”, “Where does the energy in food come from, and what is it used for?”, “How do shadows or the amount of daylight and darkness change from day to day?” and “How does the appearance of some stars change in different seasons?” This information is a snapshot of learning in science for Grade 5. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](http://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Understand that the weight of matter remains the same when it changes form.
- Determine if mixing of two or more substances results in new substances.
- Understand how the geosphere (Earth’s surface), biosphere (living organisms), hydrosphere (water) and atmosphere interact with one another and be able to create a model showing these interactions.
- Create graphs to describe the amounts and locations of water on Earth.
- Understand that matter is made of particles too small to be seen and create a model showing this principle.
- Understand how plants get most of the materials they need to grow from air and water.
- Understand that animals’ food was once energy from the sun and create a model showing this principle.
- Recognize daily patterns of change in the length and direction of shadows, the amount of daylight and darkness, and the seasonal appearance of some stars in the night sky.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to cook with you and discuss how, when you mix two or more substances or ingredients together, they sometimes form something new.
- Go outside on clear nights and look at the stars. Ask your child to describe patterns they see and explain how the sky looks different in summer and winter.
- Talk about how the construction of a new house or building might change the ecosystem.
- Research your town’s local recycling program or facility.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



OKLAHOMA
Education



SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Do you think animals communicate? If so, how?
- What are the best things about nature?
- Does the night sky look the same every night of the year? Why or why not?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think we should have for breakfast tomorrow? Why?
- What goals can you set to make tomorrow better than today?
- What was your favorite part of the week and why?
- How did you help someone in need today?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, shadows change sizes throughout the day, the temperature usually gets cooler after a thunderstorm, etc.), then add short descriptive sentences to the picture that describe the object, situation or scenario they drew and how what they know about science might be connected to it.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Do you notice that drinks stay colder longer in certain kinds of cups?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be modified to work better. (For example, after asking your child about materials that keep drinks warm or cold, your child could try to design or make a container that keeps drinks cold for a long time.)

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SOCIAL STUDIES

5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

Students at this age are becoming more independent learners who can come up with questions to guide their learning. They are able to understand different points of view on a given topic and how issues are connected. Fifth-graders will learn about the history of the United States, beginning with the settlement of Virginia at Jamestown in 1607 through the ratification of the Constitution of the United States in 1788. This information is a snapshot of learning in fifth-grade social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Understand why the English made the decision to explore and settle in Jamestown, Virginia; Plymouth, Massachusetts and the other colonies.
- Compare the three colonial regions and how members of different social classes experienced daily life in each.
- Learn how and why significant events led to armed conflict between the colonies and Great Britain.
- Explain why the ideals of equality, inalienable rights and consent of the governed were established in the Declaration of Independence.
- Analyze the significant military and diplomatic events of the Revolutionary War and how key individuals and groups made contributions to them (for example, Benjamin Franklin convinced the French to support American independence).
- Examine the issues and events that led to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787.
- Determine the main purposes of the U.S. government in the Preamble and Constitution and understand the liberties protected in the Bill of Rights.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to compare exploration of the past with exploration today. What and where do we explore today?
- Ask your child to write a personal declaration of independence from something in their life using Thomas Jefferson's format.
- Listen to songs and watch videos that help explain our system of government.
- Read the Bill of Rights together and look for examples of these protected liberties in current events.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you could change one rule or law, what would you change and why?
- If you could go back in time and interview someone, who would it be and what would you ask?
- What makes you feel brave?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What goals can you set to make tomorrow better than today?
- What activity or sport do you enjoy and why?
- How did you help someone in need today?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Is this the type of book you usually choose? Why or why not?
- By looking at the cover, what do you think the author's reason for writing the book might be?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- Will you read a short section to me with feeling in your voice?
- What do you do when you don't understand what you just read?
- What resources can you use to understand words you aren't familiar with?

AFTER READING

- How did the setting of the story affect the characters and plot?
- What was the theme of the book? What lesson do you think the author wanted the reader to learn?
- How would you rewrite the ending to the story? Why would you change it?

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VISUAL ART

5

FOR FAMILIES

FIFTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fifth grade, your child's ability in drawing, painting, sculpture, graphics and other forms of creative expression is growing, and they have greater confidence and skill with art media such as still life and collage. Students will also take greater satisfaction in creating art and be better able to express themselves, both in their own artwork and when discussing the artwork of others. They are also continuing to develop an understanding of why people create art and its importance throughout human history.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Use more than one of the ideas they have learned about art to come up with a new type of art or way to make art (for example, creating a photomontage with digital images, found objects and traditional art supplies such as paint and fabrics).
- Practice new approaches and techniques that could be used to make art (for example, gathering soil of several colors from different locations and using it to paint).
- Use materials and tools with care to show the importance of high-quality craftsmanship.
- Write artist statements using art vocabulary correctly to explain why they created a given work of art.
- Be able to explain how a museum or gallery exhibition presents an idea about a concept or topic, using information from the exhibition to do so.

What to do at home:

- Display your child's artwork at home and take pictures of it to share with family.
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Ask your child to design cards for special occasions like birthdays and holidays, then share them with friends and family.
- Ask questions about the design of furniture in your home or another place familiar to your child, such as "Why do you think it was made this way?" and "What would you change?"

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

Children in sixth grade will read a variety of more challenging texts of different types (books, journals and scripts, for example). At this age, students are able to understand how authors support their ideas. They can study the structures of sentences and paragraphs to determine how they help develop a piece of writing. Sixth-grade students can provide evidence including facts, examples and details to support their ideas and opinions. Their vocabulary is also expanding. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 6. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- State their ideas clearly in spoken presentations and in writing.
- Understand different text structures, such as description, compare/contrast, sequential, problem/solution and cause/effect.
- Include important points and details when summarizing a piece of writing.
- Edit and revise first drafts to create clear, organized writing, using appropriate punctuation, capitalization and grammar.
- Describe how setting, plot and theme (the central meaning of the text) support the author's work.
- Create essays and reports on a topic, including key details, facts and information.
- Support their opinion on a topic with evidence.
- Identify information as useful, correct and from reliable sources.

What to do at home:

- Discuss the point of view a story is told from and how it would change if another character told the story.
- Ask questions about what your child is reading or watching and ask them to provide examples to support their answers.
- Encourage your child to handwrite a thank you card to someone who has been kind or helpful to them.
- Ask your child to find and discuss interesting words in the books they are reading.
- Discuss how changing the word to one with a similar or opposite meaning would change the meaning or tone of a sentence.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Who is your favorite book character and why?
- What character in a book or movie makes you laugh the most?
- What if your favorite book got a new character from your favorite movie? Who would join the book and what would happen?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class? Why?
- What was the best thing that happened today? What was the worst?
- What is something that you didn't understand in school today? What steps did you take to figure it out?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by letting your child see you reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Have you made a list of books you have already read? Why would it be good to keep a list like that?
- How is this book like another book you have read or a movie you have seen?
- Why did you pick this book?

DURING READING

- As you are reading, what questions do you have for the author?
- How does this book remind you of a book you have already read or something you already know?
- How can you find out the meaning of words you don't understand?

AFTER READING

- How did the setting of the story affect the characters and plot?
- What was the theme of the book? What lesson do you think the author wanted the reader to learn?
- How would you rewrite the ending to the story? Why would you change it?

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MATH

6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

In sixth grade, the mathematical skills and understanding your child is developing will be key foundations for success in high school math and college and career readiness. These include working with ratios and rates and with the building blocks for algebra, variables and variable expressions. This information is a snapshot of learning in mathematics for Grade 6. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Develop stronger skills in addition and subtraction of whole numbers and in multiplication and division of fractions, decimals and mixed numbers.
- Make connections between real-world and mathematical problems involving ratios (a comparison of two or more numbers that indicates their sizes in relation to each other), area (the amount of flat space a shape takes up), mean (average), median (middle number or midpoint), mode (number that occurs the most) and range (difference between the highest and lowest number).
- Represent real-world situations and word problems as expressions, equations and inequalities. (For example, “Clara ran 10 miles, which is twice as far as Nina ran. How far did Nina run?” can be represented by $2x = 10$, with x being how far Nina ran.)
- Determine the likelihood or probability that events will occur. (For example, if you have 12 marbles in a bag and all 12 of them are green, it is certain – in other words, there is a 100% chance – you will pull a green marble from the bag.)

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to look at the same item at the store in two different sizes and determine which size is a better buy for the money.
- Pick out four items for sale at a store and ask your child to calculate the mean (average) cost of the four items and how the mean changes if an item is removed.
- Show your child how fast you are driving and ask how long it will take to get home at that rate of speed if you are 20 miles away.
- Ask your child to calculate how much money they would save when given a sale with a percentage of savings. (For example, ask your child, “If the shirt is 20% off and originally cost \$40, how much will we pay?”)

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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MATH

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Provide opportunities for your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Do you think there are fake numbers? Why or why not?
- What would happen if we didn't have the number zero?
- If you could give one gift to every child in the world, what gift would you give and why?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What goals can you set to help you understand math better?
- What is your favorite math concept and why?
- How can you make a positive difference for someone using math today?

Fostering Comprehension

Comprehension in math can be thought of as making sense of a problem or real-world situation. Children often have difficulty seeing how math connects to the real world or struggle to be sure their answer makes sense. Help your child with math comprehension by asking if their solution actually answers the problem. Asking children, "Does your answer make sense to you?" helps them stop and think deeply about the solution.

BEFORE YOU SOLVE

- What do you notice about this math problem?
- What does it make you wonder about?
- What do you need to know to tackle the problem?

WHILE YOU SOLVE

- How does this problem remind you of a problem you have already solved or something you already know?
- What resources can you use to understand ideas you aren't familiar with?

AFTER YOU SOLVE

- Could this have been solved a different way? Which way is more efficient?
- Where would we see this in the real world?
- Could you help solve it when we see it again?

Join the conversation!

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MUSIC

6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

In sixth grade, students are developing their own musical preferences and can make decisions about what they want to listen to. Singing, movement, playing instruments and working with other children continue to be the heart of the music curriculum. Activities should give students opportunities to practice and learn carefully selected, age-appropriate songs that reflect the background and experiences of the entire class.

Sixth-graders will continue to build on the foundations of their music learning from previous years but will be learning more difficult material. The most important goal of sixth grade is to sing alone and with others in unison (at the same time) and in parts. Students may also be able to learn to play an instrument in the school band or orchestra.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Sing songs with various rhythms and melodies.
- Be able to read music and sight-sing simple, short melodies.
- Sing in two (where one group of students is singing a melodic line and the other group is singing a harmonic line) and three parts (where one group sings the melody and two other groups are singing harmony).
- Learn about various meters.
- Explore intervals (*do to mi* is a third because they are three steps apart, *do to so* is a fifth, etc.) and chords such as an I chord (a chord made up of three pitches, based on the first pitch of the scale *do mi so*).

What to do at home:

- Share your favorite music with your child. Ask them what they think of it and who their favorite singers are. If they don't know, do research to find out.
- Encourage your child to sing the National Anthem at sports events and sing "Happy Birthday" to others.
- Go to age-appropriate musical performances (concerts, symphonies, etc.) together.
- Encourage your child's musical interest by suggesting they practice an instrument like a saxophone, trumpet, etc.
- Use a cell phone, iPad, laptop or other electronic device to experiment with music creation apps.

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MUSIC

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home.

Support your child's musical curiosity with questions like these:

- When you hear this song, what do you like about it? If you don't like it, why not?
- What voices and instruments do you hear?

If your child seems to have an interest in music, consider researching musical artists, then listening to them or watching their videos together. Consider purchasing a new or used instrument (ukulele, guitar, etc.) and find free online tutorials to help your child get started. Music composition apps and computer programs like Garageband, Chrome Music Lab or BeepBox allow children to experiment with creating their own music compositions.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's musical communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think this song is about?
- How do you know? Did the words in the song tell you? Or was it the speed of the music or the instruments used?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect music with physical activity. Put on a popular song and dance with your child or dance to YouTube videos together.
- Connect music with writing by changing words to a song or inventing new verses. If there's a song your child really loves, encourage them to write a new verse, following the phrase and rhyming of the original.
- Share music from your childhood or teen years. Ask your child what they think of the music. Depending on the song, share the musical history of the time (for example, the grunge era or early hip-hop) or events that were happening in the nation (for example, patriotic country songs from the early 2000s).

Join the conversation!

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

In sixth grade, students will use the concepts and principles they have learned about movement to build their capability and confidence in fundamental skills, including throwing, catching and striking with rackets, clubs or bats.

Sixth-graders are able to play cooperative and competitive games in small groups and are learning how lifelong activities (spending time outdoors, dancing, individual and team sports such as bowling and tennis, etc.) are important ways to stay healthy outside of school.


Sixth-graders can assess their health-related fitness, set reasonable goals and monitor their progress. They are also learning to identify positive and negative results of stress and how to deal with each in healthy ways.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Use what they have learned about movement to improve their performance in physical activities.
- Describe the components of health-related fitness and how each contributes to wellness. (For example, push-ups contribute to muscular strength, stretching contributes to flexibility, etc.)
- Come up with a personal fitness plan using data from their health assessments and fitness testing.
- Understand the importance of warming up and cooling down before and after physical activity.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to invent a game with household items and play it together.
- Go to a sporting event or performance that includes dance or ballet.
- Look for opportunities for physical activity in your community.
- Encourage your child to participate in physical activities for enjoyment and self-expression.
- Dance together!
- Find a video game that includes physical activity and play together as a family.



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime and physical activity. It is important to understand the differences between physical education and physical activity. In PE, students learn to be physically active; physical activity is when students practice what they learn in PE. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What chores around the house could be a workout for the whole family, like yard work or a [car wash workout](#)?
- What outdoor activities in the area could we try out as a family, like kite flying or a walk around the [farmers market](#)?

It's okay if you don't always have the answer to your child's questions. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What are three physical activities that you really enjoy? Why?
- What do you need to participate in those activities? Think about equipment and space.
- How can you change those activities so you can do them at home or at school?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect math with physical activity by having the whole family create and play a game together. Establish a scoring system to keep track of points for each player.
- Connect science with physical activity by planting a garden or taking a walk around the zoo.

Join the conversation!

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SCIENCE 6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

In sixth grade, students will build on ideas and knowledge from earlier grades to learn about the physical sciences, life sciences, earth science and space science. With coaching from teachers, they will use core science ideas and scientific and engineering practices to understand and explain their scientific observations. This information is a snapshot of learning in science for Grade 6. For a complete set of science academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Describe changes in the motion of particles (solids, liquids or gases) when thermal (heat) energy is added or removed.
- Identify relationships among energy transfers, type of matter, mass (amount of matter) and the change in kinetic (in-motion) energy. (For example, a small icicle freezes quickly, while a large body of water does not.)
- Describe how sound and light waves are reflected, absorbed or transmitted through different materials (light waves through a prism, for example).
- Gather evidence that all living things are made of one or more cells and understand that groups of cells work together to perform tasks.
- Understand how sensory receptors respond to stimuli and transmit signals to the brain, resulting in immediate behaviors or storage as memories.
- Use patterns in data to describe past geologic processes, such as slow plate movements, landslides, volcanoes, etc.
- Analyze and interpret weather data that can be used for detecting and predicting future weather conditions caused by the motion of air masses.

What to do at home:

- Ask your child to draw how water particles may be interacting with each other in ice versus in water.
- Talk about why some cups keep drinks hotter or colder than other cups.
- Discuss why the grass turns brown during drier months and why it needs to be mowed after it has rained for several days.
- Find a puddle outside, then go back after the sun has come out and ask your child to explain what happened to the puddle.
- Ride or watch a roller coaster. Discuss why sometimes the roller coaster moves faster and other times more slowly.

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SCIENCE

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- If you could invent something that would make life easier for people, what would you invent and why?
- What kind of container would keep your coffee the hottest for the longest period of time?
- What would the world's fastest runners look like in slow motion?
- Tell me something about science you don't think I already know.

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What goals can you set to help you become a better person?
- What is your favorite part of the year and why?
- How can you make a positive difference for someone today?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect science with writing and art by asking your child to draw pictures of the things they see in the world around them (for example, shadows change sizes throughout the day, the temperature usually gets cooler after a thunderstorm, etc.), then add short descriptive sentences to the picture that describe the object, situation or scenario they drew and how what they know about science might be connected to it.
- Connect science with engineering by asking your child what they notice and wonder about (for example, "Do you notice that drinks stay colder longer in certain kinds of cups?"), then discuss what causes the things they notice, how they work or how they could be modified to work better. (For example, after asking your child about materials that keep drinks warm or cold, your child could try to design or make a container that keeps drinks cold for a long time.)

Join the conversation!

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SOCIAL STUDIES

6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

Students at this age understand how to see the world from different points of view and are interested in learning new things. In social studies this year, they will explore how spatial patterns (the organization and placement of people and objects) form, change over time and relate to one another in the Western Hemisphere (North America, Central America, South America and the Caribbean). This information is a snapshot of learning in sixth-grade social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Be able to identify, locate on a map and describe major landforms and bodies of water in the Western Hemisphere.
- Understand the impact of natural disasters on human populations affected by them.
- Describe the major political and economic systems in the Western Hemisphere.
- Know the countries, major urban centers and regions in the Western Hemisphere.
- Analyze reasons for conflict and cooperation among groups, societies, countries and regions of the Western Hemisphere.
- Describe the major cultural regions of the Western Hemisphere and their general locations.
- Understand how world trade operates and how global economies are dependent on one another.
- Describe how geography impacts population location, growth and change.
- Understand what developed countries have in common and what developing countries have in common.
- Explain the impact of the distribution of major renewable and nonrenewable resources.

What to do at home:

- Plan a trip using a paper map, not GPS.
- Explore places in the Western Hemisphere with your child through virtual field trips.
- Ask your child to help you come up with a family plan to recycle and conserve energy and water.
- Ask your child to share examples of cooperation in your community (for example, a neighborhood organizes a day to make repairs, plant flowers and clean up a park).
- Ask your child to help you come up with a family plan if there is a natural disaster.
- Ask your child to find out where the products in your house were made.
- Create a map of the Western Hemisphere with your child.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support social studies learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



OKLAHOMA
Education



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Provide opportunities for your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- Where would you like to travel? How would you get there? What would you need?
- What makes a good leader? Why?
- If you had a magic wand, what would you create that would make the biggest difference in the world?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- How can you make a positive difference for someone today?
- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class? Why?
- Did you learn something that challenged you today, or was there something you didn't understand? Let's talk about it.

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help your child understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Have you made a list of books you have already read? Why would it be good to keep a list like that?
- How is this book like another book you have read or a movie you have seen?
- Why did you pick this book?

DURING READING

- As you are reading, what questions do you have for the author?
- How does this book remind you of a book you have already read or something you already know?
- How can you find out the meaning of words you don't understand?

AFTER READING

- How did the setting of the story affect the characters and plot?
- What was the theme or central meaning of the book? What lesson do you think the author wanted the reader to learn?
- How would you rewrite the ending to the story? Why would you change it?

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VISUAL ART 6

FOR FAMILIES

SIXTH GRADE

What to expect:

In sixth grade, your child's artistic abilities are continuing to grow. They will begin to tell the difference between art elements like texture, value and form and recognize the details that went into creating two- and three-dimensional artworks when looking at them from different angles. Sixth-graders will be able to think about whether their artwork communicates their intended meaning and revise it if needed. They are continuing to develop a deeper understanding of why people create art and its importance throughout human history.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Work with other students and use several of the group's ideas to come up with a new type of art or way to make art.
- Develop skills by using different materials and ways of making art. (For example, a student comfortable with colored pencils might try watercolors on their next project.)
- Understand that the way art materials are taken care of and cleaned can affect the environment.
- Draw a map of how to display works of art, keeping available exhibit space and the needs of viewers in mind.
- Study how a work of art's context (when, where and by whom it was created) can influence ideas, emotions and actions at the time of creation and in the future.
- Be able to tell how works of art capture the time, place, traditions, available materials, and supplies and culture in which they were created.

What to do at home:

- Display your child's artwork at home and take pictures of it to share with family.
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Ask your child to design cards for special occasions like birthdays and holidays, then share them with friends and family.
- Ask questions about the design of furniture in your home or another place familiar to your child, such as "Why do you think it was made this way?" and "What would you change?"

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



VISUAL ART

FOR FAMILIES

Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

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