Kindergarten Essential Standards

For students completing Kindergarten

More about the Standards

Essential standards are a carefully selected subset of the total list of the grade-specific and course-specific standards within ELA and Math that students must know and be able to do by the end of each school year to be best prepared to enter the next grade level. These standards are deeply emphasized in the learning environment throughout the school year and addressed in multiple Math and ELA units of study. Throughout the year, teachers provide support for students who haven't yet mastered these essential standards and extend learning for those who already have. Essential Standards do **not** represent all that is taught during the school year. They do, however, represent the **most critical standards** a student must know and be able to do in preparation for the next school year.



Recognize and name all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

Practice this standard by recognizing and naming all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

Example: Sing the "Alphabet Song". Practice saying the letter names with their sounds. A is for apple. Apple makes the sound /a/.

In real life, go on a simple "Alphabet Letter" Scavenger Hunt. Find objects in your house that start with each letter in the alphabet. Play "I Spy" alphabet letters while driving in the car.

Kindergarten

ELA Essential Standard



Recognize and name all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

Practice this standard by recognizing and naming all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

Example: Say the ABCs as fast and as slow as you can. Make up a silly rhyme, song or poem using the alphabet letters.

In real life, create your own ABC book out of 26 pieces of paper. Staple, hole punch with string or ribbon to bind your book. Write an uppercase and lowercase letter on each page of the book. Draw or cut pictures of things that start with each letter and glue into book.



Recognize and name all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

Practice this standard by recognizing and naming all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

Example: Write individual alphabet letters on sticky notes and place them all over your house or on every stair on the staircase.

In real life, go on a "letter hunt" and identify and say each uppercase and lowercase letter.

Kindergarten

ELA Essential Standard



Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.

Practice this standard by counting out syllables while sounding out words.

Example: Let's say the word, lion. How many syllables are in the word lion? (li-on)

In real life, find newspaper or magazine pictures and count/clap out the syllables as you say the words (Examples: ti-ger, bas-ket, mon-key).



Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.

Practice this standard by counting out syllables while sounding out words.

Example: Let's sound out the word, /b/ /a/ /t/. Let's stretch out our arm and chunk out the word. Touch your shoulder and make the letter sound of /b/, touch your elbow and make the letter sound of /a/ and touch your wrist for the letter sound of /t/. Slide all the sounds together.

In real life, play "I Spy" by sounding out objects that are found in the home. Say "I spy a /b//a//t/. Say the word, bat.

Kindergarten

ELA Essential Standard



Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.

Practice this standard by blending and sounding out words together.

Example: Let's sound out the word /c/ /a/ /t/. Let's blend it all together, cat.

In real life, sing the familiar verses of "Wheels on the Bus". The sounds in the words go

/c//a//t/; /c//a//t/. The sounds in the word go /c//a//t/. Can you guess the word?



Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary or many of the most frequent sound for each consonant.

Practice this standard by sounding out letters and sounds and blending them together.

Example: Create a simple sentence. I see a cat. What are the letter sounds in /c/ /a/ /t/?

In real life, use sidewalk chalk and practice spelling these words.

Kindergarten

ELA Essential Standard



Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary or many of the most frequent sound for each consonant.

Practice this standard by sounding out letters and blending them together.

Example: Create a simple sentence. This is a pan. What are the letter sounds in /p/ /a/ /n/? In real life, use play-dough to form letters to make words.



Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary or many of the most frequent sound for each consonant.

Practice this standard by sounding out each letter in a word.

Example: Create a simple sentence. I see a mat. What are the letter sounds in /m/ /a/ /t/?

In real life, go on a Scavenger Hunt in your home. Label and write the three-letter word for the objects on a post-it note or index card. (Example: Find a baseball cap. Write cap on a sticky note and stick on cap.)

Kindergarten

Math Essential Standard



Count to answer "how many?" questions about as many as 20 things arranged in a line, a rectangular array, or a circle, or as many as 10 things in a scattered configuration; given a number from 1-20, count out that many objects.

Practice this standard by arranging 1-20 objects in different ways and counting to find the total.

Example: Put 13 toy cars in a line and count how many cars are in the line. Move the toy cars into a circle and count again.

In real life: Put 9 legos in a line and count how many legos are in the line. Move the legos into a circle and count again.



Count to answer "how many?" questions about as many as 20 things arranged in a line, a rectangular array, or a circle, or as many as 10 things in a scattered configuration; given a number from 1-20, count out that many objects.

Practice this standard by scattering objects in a specific place and counting.

Example: Put 8 blueberries on a plate. Count the number of blueberries. Shake the plate and count the number of blueberries again.

In real life: Put 7 legos on the ground. Count the number of legos. Move the legos around and count the number of legos again.

Kindergarten

Math Essential Standard



Count to answer "how many?" questions about as many as 20 things arranged in a line, a rectangular array, or a circle, or as many as 10 things in a scattered configuration; given a number from 1-20, count out that many objects.

Practice this standard by placing an even number of an object in a rectangular array.

Example: Place 16 Post-its on a table in a rectangular array (8x2). Count the number of Post-its. Rearrange the Post-its into a line and count again.

In real life: Draw 12 dots in a rectangular array (6x2). Count the number of dots. Rearrange the dots into a line and count again.



Count to 100 by ones and by tens.

Practice this standard by counting out loud alternating back and forth with your student.

Example: Student starts saying "1", you say "2", student says "3" and so on up to 100.

In real life: Switch off who starts so that the student is practicing saying both even and odd numbers.

Kindergarten

Math Essential Standard



Count to 100 by ones and by tens.

Practice this standard by writing out and saying the multiples of ten up to 100.

Example: Write out with chalk the multiples of ten up to 100 and say the numbers out loud as you move from one to the next.

In real life: Write with chalk the multiples of ten up to 100 (10, 20, 30, etc.). After the ten numbers are written, start on 10, say the number and then jump to 20, say the number and jump to 30. Repeat these steps until you reach 100 and go back to the beginning to restart.



Count to 100 by ones and by tens.

Practice this standard by filling in the missing numbers on a hundreds chart.

Example: Use a hundreds chart with missing numbers on each line that will be filled in while counting out loud from 1 to 100.

In real life: Create or print out a hundreds chart. Cover up about 2 numbers per line. Start at 1 and fill in the missing numbers as you count to 100.

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Math Essential Standard



Understand the relationship between numbers and quantities; connect counting to cardinality (number of items in a set).

Practice this standard by counting on starting at a number other than 1.

Example: Start at 12 and count out loud 13, 14, 15 and so on. Count up at least 10 more numbers. Challenge yourself to get to 100.

In real life: Roll a die to figure out which number to start at. After starting with different single digit numbers, start to roll the die twice to get a double digit number. Count up at least 10 more numbers. Challenge yourself to get to 100.



Understand the relationship between numbers and quantities; connect counting to cardinality.

Practice this standard by adding two numbers and starting to count at the first number in the equation.

Example: Practice adding 4+3. Start at 4 and count 5, 6, 7 to find the answer is 7.

In real life: Use playing cards (numbers 1-9). Pick one card that will be your starting number. Pick another card and this one will be how much you are adding on to the starting number.

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Math Essential Standard



Understand the relationship between numbers and quantities; connect counting to cardinality.

Practice this standard by getting out a specific number of an item.

Example: Take out 3 crayons. Put them away. Now take out 12 crayons.

In real life: Have your student work with a large amount of an item (ex. Crayons, legos, blocks, etc.). Ask them to show you different amounts of that item, put it back in the pile, and ask for a new amount.

Learn more about the D105 Essential Standards by visiting the Summer Learning for All website.

https://bit.ly/D105CONNECT



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