

GRADE **K**



# A PARENT'S GUIDE TO **Kindergarten**



# Child Development

WE KNOW...

*“Stages of growth and development follow a reasonably predictable pattern. Children and adolescents do not proceed through each stage at the same pace. Children and adolescents progress through the various aspects of development at their own rate. Growth is uneven.”*

Source: Yardsticks: Child and Adolescent Development Ages 4-14, by Chip Wood



## Growth Patterns of Kindergarteners

- Need lots of physical activity, including free play
- Like to help, cooperate, follow rules, and be “good”; want adult approval
- Need routines, along with consistent rules and discipline; respond well to clear and simple expectations
- Like to copy and repeat activities
- Often see only one way to do things
- Occasionally reverse letters and numbers when writing; not able to consistently stay within lines; find it hard to space letters, numbers and words; using a finger as a separator helps
- Thrive on encouragement
- Learn best through discovery; love asking questions and trying out new games and ideas

# Kindergarten Experience

## Kindergarteners will . . .

### ART

- Be introduced to the art room and art materials
- Practice fine motor skills such as cutting and gluing
- Incorporate early literacy skills into visual art assignments
- Create using both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional materials

### MUSIC

- Experience a wide variety of vocal and instrumental sounds
- Share observations and opinions about personal musical experiences and musical selections
- Demonstrate and maintain a steady beat
- Sing, move to, listen to, and discuss music of various styles and by various composers, and from various cultures
- Explore singing, speaking, whispering, and shouting

### INNOVATION

- Be introduced to computer coding through a variety of resources
- Learn how to stay safe online by being safe, respectful, and responsible
- Learn about book care and check out procedures
- Learn to recognize their feelings as they use technology to determine when it is time for a break
- Understand how to balance media online and offline

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Develop knowledge, motor and social skills, and confidence needed to live a healthy, active lifestyle
- Understand the importance of physical activity in all environments (classroom, home, and community)
- Work on both locomotor and non-locomotor movements
- Practice exhibiting personal and social behavior that shows respect for themselves and others
- Develop ability to throw, catch, strike, kick and dribble
- Find fun and excitement in physical activity
- Improve ability to move at different speeds, in space and in distance
- Begin making healthy food and beverage choices

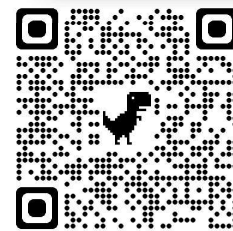
# End-of-Year Expectations

Kindergarten students will know how to . . .

	READING	WRITING
LITERACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and understand beginning reading material</li> <li>• Read at least 25 high frequency words</li> <li>• Identify and write letters and sounds</li> <li>• Track print from left to right and top to bottom while pointing to words</li> <li>• Decode simple words by looking at beginning, middle and ending sounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tell oral stories and participate in conversations around text and their own writing</li> <li>• Write stories using pictures and words</li> <li>• Link sounds to letters to write simple words</li> <li>• Write at least 20 words</li> </ul>
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Count to 100 by 1s and 10s</li> <li>• Identify and write numbers 1-20</li> <li>• Count objects with one-to-one matching for numbers 1-20</li> <li>• Automatically recognize common number patterns (ex. on dice and dominos)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add and subtract fluently using numbers 1-5</li> <li>• Sort and recognize 2- and 3- dimensional shapes by their attributes</li> <li>• Understand vocabulary terms, such as <i>greater than, less than, longer, shorter, heavier, lighter</i></li> </ul>
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in activities, discussions, and investigations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate understanding of key unit concepts of the following science units:                      Life Science: Needs of Plants and Animals                      Physical Science: Properties of Sound and Light                      Earth &amp; Space Science: Patterns (Weather, Day/Night)</li> </ul>
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand that time can be measured and that personal history can be shared through stories and pictures</li> <li>• Recognize that nations are represented by symbols and practices (ex. American flag, National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance)</li> <li>• Interact with people who are similar and different from them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the relationship between people, places and environment</li> <li>• Understand that models and maps represent places</li> <li>• Describe and differentiate between goods and services</li> </ul>

# Family Learning Activities

LITERACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read with and to your child every day.</li> <li>• Play games involving rhyming and identifying letters and letter sounds.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to retell stories.</li> <li>• Ask questions when reading with your child to support their understanding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask your child to put letters and pictures together to create simple stories.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to identify sight words in text and in isolation.</li> <li>• Help your child be responsible for any homework, reading, or projects.</li> </ul>
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to count numbers in order and count objects (ex. 1, 2, 3...100. How many beans are on the plate?).</li> <li>• Ask your child to read and write numbers on a calendar.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to sort common objects (coins, cereal, toys) by attributes such as size, color and shape.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play games and create simple addition and subtraction problems for your child using real life situations.</li> <li>• Ask your child about the length of certain objects. (ex. Which is shorter/longer? How do you know?)</li> </ul>
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observe changes in the seasons and discuss them with your child.</li> <li>• Have conversations. Take turns talking and listening.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the world (visiting parks, zoos, ponds, etc.) and look for living and nonliving things.</li> </ul>
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look for opportunities to discuss, explore and experience different cultures.</li> <li>• Discuss your child's goals and ways to reach them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share stories about family history, places and jobs.</li> <li>• Have play dates, visit parks, and encourage your child to socialize with peers.</li> </ul>



For district approved resources and additional family learning activities, scan this QR code to access the Forest Hills Learning Hub.  
[www.bit.ly/FHSDLearningHub](http://www.bit.ly/FHSDLearningHub)

Forest Hills curriculum is aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards.



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