

This document has been revised as of June 2017.

An Overview of Language Arts in Kindergarten (with prompting and support)

LITERATURE

- Asks and answers questions (who, what, when, where, why, how) about key details in stories
- Retells familiar stories
- Identifies characters, setting, and major events in a story

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Asks and answers questions (who, what, when, where, why, how) about key details in a text
- Identifies the main topic and retell key details of text

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Rhymes, matches words with beginning sounds, and blends sounds into words
- Recognizes, names, and produces sounds for all letters of the alphabet
- Recognizes basic features of print
- Develops beginning phonics skills
- Learns and applies reading strategies
- Builds sight word vocabulary

WRITING

- Uses a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to state an opinion
- Uses a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose an informational piece
- Uses a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate an event
- Spells simple words phonetically
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Takes part in conversations and follows rules for discussions
- Speaks audibly and expresses thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly
- Confirm understanding of a text read aloud by asking and answering questions

An Overview of Language Arts in Grade 1

LITERATURE

- Asks and answers questions (who, what, when, where, why, how) about key details in text
- Retells text and demonstrates understanding of the central message or lesson
- Describes characters, settings, major events, and important details in a story
- Explains differences between fiction and nonfiction texts

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Asks and answers questions about key details in a text
- Identifies the main topic of a text and retells key details
- Knows and uses various text features to locate key facts or information

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Uses phonics and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing
- Reads with sufficient fluency to support comprehension
- Increases sight word vocabulary

WRITING

- Writes opinion pieces
- Writes informative pieces
- Writes narrative pieces to include a beginning, middle, and end
- Plans, revises, and edits writing with guidance and support from peers and adults
- Uses conventional spelling for grade appropriate words
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Participates in conversations about topics and texts being studied
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when speaking
- Speaks clearly to express ideas and feelings
- Confirms understanding of a text read aloud by asking and answering questions
- Recounts or describes key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media

An Overview of Language Arts in Grade 2

LITERATURE

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of a text
- Summarizes stories and demonstrates understanding of the central message or lesson
- Describes how character in a story responds to major events and challenges
- Explains differences between fiction and nonfiction
- Compares and contrasts two or more versions of the same story

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of a text
- Uses text features to locate key facts or information
- Identifies the main topic of a text
- Compares and contrasts the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Expands upon phonics and word analysis skills to read grade appropriate and irregularly spelled words
- Reads with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

WRITING

- Writes opinion pieces supporting point of view
- Writes informative pieces to examine a topic and convey information
- Writes narrative pieces which include detail, sequence of events, and closure
- Plans, revises, and edits writing with guidance and support from peers and adults
- Participates in shared research and writing projects
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Participates effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one on one, in groups, and teacher led)
- Speaks clearly and uses descriptive details when telling a story or recounting an experience
- Recounts or describes key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when speaking
- Acquires and uses grade appropriate vocabulary

An Overview of Language Arts in Grade 3

LITERATURE

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of a text
- Summarizes text and demonstrates understanding of the central message or lesson
- Describes characters in a story including their traits, motivations, or feelings and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- Distinguishes their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters
- Compares and contrasts the themes, settings, and plots of stories

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of a text
- Determines the main idea of a text, recounts the key details and explains their support
- Uses text features and search tools to locate information
- Describes the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text
- Compares and contrasts the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Continues to develop phonics skills in order to read multi-syllabic words
- Reads with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

WRITING

- Writes opinion pieces on topics or texts supporting a point of view with reasons
- Writes informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic to convey ideas and information clearly
- Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details and clear sequences
- Plans, revises, and edits writing with guidance and support from peers and adults
- Conducts short research projects that build knowledge about a topic
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Engages effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on Grade Three topics and texts, building on one another's ideas
- Determines the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud
- Demonstrates command of grade appropriate conventions of standard English grammar and usage
- Acquires and uses grade appropriate vocabulary

An Overview of Language Arts in Grade 4

LITERATURE

- Asks and answers questions using details in a text to demonstrate understanding
- Summarizes text and demonstrates understanding of the central message or lesson
- Describes in depth character, setting or event drawing on specific details
- Compares and contrasts the point of view including the difference between first and third person
- Compares and contrasts the treatment of similar themes and topics

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Asks and answers questions using details in a text to demonstrate understanding
- Determines the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key detail; summarize the text
- Describes the overall structure of events or information in a text or part of a text
- Explains how an author uses reasons or evidence to support particular points in a text
- Integrates information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Knows and applies grade level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words
- Reads with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

WRITING

- Writes opinion pieces on topics or texts supporting a point of view with reasons and information
- Writes informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details and clear sequences
- Plans, revises, and edits writing with guidance and support from peers and adults
- Conducts short research projects that build knowledge about a topic
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Engages effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on Grade Four topics and texts, building on one another's ideas and expressing their own clearly
- Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media
- Differentiates between context that calls for formal and informal English
- Demonstrates command of grade appropriate conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking
- Acquires and uses accurately grade appropriate general academic and domain specific words and phrases

An Overview of Language Arts in Grade 5

LITERATURE

- Answers literal and inferential questions about a text using quotations
- Summarizes text and demonstrates understanding of the central message or lesson
- Analyzes characters thoughts, feelings, and actions
- Determines the theme or central message using key details
- Compares and contrasts two or more characters, settings, or events drawing on specific details
- Describes a narrator or speaker's point of view

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Summarizes by determining two or more main ideas of a text
- Explains how an author uses reasons or evidence to support particular points
- Describes the overall structure of concepts or information
- Integrates information from several texts on the same topic

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Knows and applies grade level phonics and word analysis skills
- Reads with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

WRITING

- Writes opinion pieces on topics or texts supporting a point of view with reasons and information
- Writes informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details and clear sequences
- Conducts research projects using several sources
- Uses evidence from literary or informational text to support writing
- Plans, revises, and edits with guidance and support from peers and adults
- Demonstrates command of conventions of standard English grammar and usage
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Adapts speech to a variety of context and tasks
- Acquires and uses accurately grade appropriate general academic and domain specific words and phrases
- Engages effectively in collaborative discussion
- Summarizes a written text read aloud

An Overview of Language Arts in Grade 6

LITERATURE

- Uses evidence to support text analysis
- Summarizes text and demonstrates understanding of the central message or lesson
- Analyzes characters' thoughts, feelings and actions
- Determines the theme or central message distinct from student's personal judgments
- Describes the narrator or speaker's point of view and how it influences the events
- Compares and contrasts texts in different forms or genres
- Analyzes how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Summarizes text, including a central idea
- Analyzes structure of text and how parts contribute to the whole
- Evaluates arguments and claims in texts
- Compares and contrasts one author's presentation of events with that of another
- Determines the theme or central message distinct from student's personal judgments
- Determines a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed

WRITING

- Writes arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- Writes informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content
- Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences
- Conducts research projects using several sources
- Draws evidence from text to support research
- Plans, revises, and edits with guidance and support from peers and adults
- Demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Engages effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on Grade Six topics and texts, building on one another's ideas and expressing their own clearly
- Interprets information presented in diverse media and formats and explains how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study
- Adapts speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate
- Acquire and use accurately grade appropriate general academic and domain specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression

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