

# Suffield Public Schools

## Kindergarten ELA

### Report Card Companion Document



## ELA

English Language Arts continues to be an essential aspect of every curriculum and each individual's educational process. Teaching language arts as distinct and specific classes is critically important to learn specific writing, reading, and listening skills, but it is also necessary for student success to take an interdisciplinary approach by applying language arts skills to other subjects. The Common Core provides students the opportunity to read stories and literature, as well as more complex texts that provide facts and background knowledge. Throughout ELA lessons, students will be challenged and asked questions that push them to refer back to what they've read. These questions all students to use critical-thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are required for success in college, career, and life. The following guide will help you gain a better sense of what each of the Common Core Standards requires students to achieve.



### READING: LITERATURE AND INFORMATIONAL TEXT

**Asks and answers questions about text-** Proficient readers can tell what happens in a text and which words and/or pictures help them to know. They make connections between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text. Proficient readers ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.

**Retells stories and identifies characters, setting, and major events in text-** Proficient readers can identify at least two elements of a story (ex. character, setting, major events). They identify the main topic and retell simple details of a text.

## READING: FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS



**Recognizes and names upper case letters-** Proficient readers recognize and name **all** uppercase letters of the alphabet including versions of g, a, and t.

**Recognizes and names lower case letters-** Proficient readers recognize and name **all** lowercase letters of the alphabet including versions of g, a, and t

**Recognizes and produces letter sounds-** Proficient readers recognize and produce **all** letter sounds of the alphabet.

**Identifies and produces rhyming words-** Proficient readers recognize and produce rhyming words.

**Reads high-frequency words-** Proficient readers can read **10-24** common high-frequency words by sight. (ex. the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, does).

**Demonstrates understanding of the organization and basic features of print-** Proficient readers demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print. They follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page. Proficient readers identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book. They recognize that spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters. Proficient readers recognize some common types of texts and name the author and illustrator.

**Blends and segments sounds in words-** Proficient readers can count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words. They are able to blend and segment onsets and rimes of single-syllable spoken words. Proficient readers can isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final sounds in three-phoneme words, and add or substitute individual sounds in one-syllable words to make new words.

**Uses effective reading strategies-** Proficient readers use **at least one** reading strategy to help them read and comprehend a text at their reading level.

## WRITING



**Draws and writes to tell information, an opinion, or an event with details and elaboration-** Proficient writers use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion and narrative pieces. The opinion pieces of a proficient writer include a stated opinion or preference about a topic. Narrative pieces include a single event or loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction.

## LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**Writes upper-case letters-** Proficient writers can write **all** uppercase letters of the alphabet.

**Writes lower-case letters -**Proficient writers can write and name all the lowercase letters of the alphabet.

**Uses appropriate writing conventions-** Proficient writers use capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing.

## SPEAKING AND LISTENING

**Participates effectively in classroom discussions and conversations-** Proficient communicators participate in collaborative conversations with classmates and adults about topics and texts. They are able to follow some of the rules for discussions and build on conversations by responding to the ideas of others through multiple exchanges. Proficient communicators share their understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood. They speak clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas.

## **How To Support Your Child**

# Ways a Parent Can Help with **READING**

- 1** **Let your child see you reading!**  
Have magazines and books in your home.
- 2** Help your child find appropriate word & reading games on the computer.  
Keep a dictionary on hand. Help your child look up new words they read or hear.
- 3** Read mysteries with your child and try to figure out the clues together.
- 4** Movie version coming out?  
Read the book together first, then talk about which you each liked better.
- 5** Set aside a time and place for your child to read -  
like a comfy chair and a reading light in a quiet place
- 6** Visit your public library regularly.  
Look for and read together the books that were your favorites when you were a kid.
- 7** Encourage your child to write -
- 8** Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading, such as:

## Additional Resources:

- [Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts](#)
- [Supporting Your Child's Reading- Ideas for Prek-5](#)
- [Fountas and Pinnell Instructional Level Expectations](#)
- [Instructional Level Comprehension Questions](#)