



The reading, writing, and communicating standards in preschool are aligned to the expectations within Colorado's Early Learning and Development Guidelines and the latest revision of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. They outline development expectations and indicators of progress for preschool age students in receptive and expressive language; understanding and obtaining meaning from stories and information from books and other texts; phonological awareness; concepts of early decoding; names and sounds associated with alphabetic knowledge; emerging skills to communicate through written representations, symbols, and letters; and asking a question to identify and define a problem and its possible solution.

Expectations for Preschool Students:

- **Oral Expression and Listening:** Attend to language during conversations, songs, stories or other learning experiences; comprehend complex and varied vocabulary; follow two- to three-step directions; participate in conversations of more than three exchanges with peers and adults; use language to express ideas and needs; understand the difference between a question and a statement; practice asking questions and making statements; and, speak in sentences of five or six words.
- **Reading for All Purposes:** Show interest in shared reading experiences and looking at books independently; recognize how books are read, such as front-to-back and one page at a time, and recognize basic characteristics such as title, author, and illustrator; identify and discriminate between words in language, separate syllables in words, and sounds and phonemes in language, such as attention to beginning and ending sounds of words and recognition that different words begin or end with the same sound; and, recognize patterns of sounds in songs, storytelling, and poetry through interactions and meaningful experiences.
- **Writing and Composition:** Experiment with writing tools and materials; recognize that writing is a way of communicating for a variety of purposes, such as giving information, sharing stories, or giving an opinion; use scribbles, shapes, pictures, and letters to represent objects, stories, experiences, or ideas; and, copy, trace, or independently write letters or words.
- **Research Inquiry and Design:** Differentiate between questions and statements; and, Identify problems and search for solutions by asking questions during collaborative explorations of the topic; begin to state facts about the topic.

Throughout Preschool You May Find Students:

- Demonstrating interest in different kinds of literature, such as fiction and nonfiction books and poetry, on a range of topics;
- Making predictions based on illustrations and beginning to identify key features of reality versus fantasy in stories, pictures, and events
- Retelling stories or information from books through conversation, artistic work, creative movement, or drama.
- Asking and answering questions and make comments about print materials.