

# 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 allow 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.



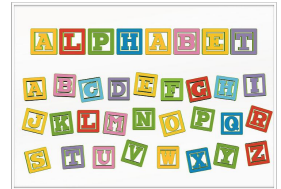
### READING: LITERATURE AND INFORMATIONAL TEXT

**Asks and answers questions about text-** When reading literature, proficient readers can explain what happens or is said in a text. They can use words, pictures, and sentences to help them understand what they are reading. When reading informational texts, proficient readers can explain what happens or is said in a text. They can use words, illustrations and sentences to help them understand what they are reading.

**Retells stories and identifies characters, setting, and major events in text-** When reading literature, proficient readers can explain what the story is mostly about. They can explain the problem the main character is facing. Proficient readers can explain how the character resolves it. They can explain how the author changes from the beginning to the end of the story. When reading informational

texts, proficient readers can state the main topic of the text. They can state the most information about the main topic that the author wants the reader to know.

## 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-** Can read **30-40** common high-frequency words by sight. (e.g., the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do)

**Demonstrates understanding of the organization and basic features of print-** Proficient readers recognize that words are written with specific letter sequences. They can point to the beginning, middle and end of a word. They recognize that the print (not the pictures) carries most of the meaning. Proficient readers recognize that words are separated by spaces (leaves spaces in between words when writing). They read words left to right (writes words left to right). They read words from left to right and from top line to bottom line (writes words the same). Proficient readers return to the first word of the next line when they come to the end of a sentence. They read the left page before the right page.

**Blends and segments sounds in words-** Proficient readers can demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes). They can count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words. They can blend and segment onsets and rimes of single-syllable spoken words. Proficient readers can isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in

three-phoneme (consonant-vowel- consonant or CVC) words. They can add or substitute individual sounds (phonemes) in simple, one-syllable words to make new words.

**Uses effective reading strategies-** Proficient readers use **multiple** reading strategies to read a text at grade level. They can read level D/E texts. Proficient readers can read and comprehend current literature and informational topics **in grade level text** complexity and proficiently.

## WRITING



**Draws and writes to tell information, an opinion, or an event with details and elaboration-** Proficient writers can use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion pieces in which they tell the reader the topic or name of the book, state an opinion or preference about the book. They can state the topic or name of the book. They can explain what they think about the topic or book. They can explain their thinking. They can create a picture to show their opinion. Proficient writers can use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic. They can explain what they are drawing or writing about. They can state 3 things they want their reader to know. They can draw a picture to match their words. They can add details to their picture. Proficient writers can use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened. They can decide if they want to write about a real or made up event. They can explain what happens first, next, then. They can include an ending. They can describe what happened or how the character feels in the story. Proficient writers revise and edit based on teacher feedback.

## 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** of the lowercase letters of the alphabet.

**Uses appropriate writing conventions**- Proficient writers capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I. They recognize and name end punctuation. Proficient writers write a letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel sounds (phonemes). They spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships.

## **SPEAKING AND LISTENING**

**Participates effectively in classroom discussions and conversations**- Proficient communicators can listen carefully to their classmates as they speak. They can look directly at them to show they're listening. They can stay on topic with the topic being shared. Proficient communicators help the idea grow by staying on topic. They can continue a conversation through a few exchanges.

**Speaks clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas**- Proficient communicators can use frequently occurring nouns and verbs. They form regular plural nouns orally by adding /s/ or /es/. They understand and use question words (who, what, where, when, why, and how). Proficient communicators use frequently used prepositions (to, from, in, out, on, off, for, of, by, with). They produce and expand complete sentences in shared language activities.

## 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](#)