



Grade-Level Benchmarks

Kindergarten

CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

Learning Habits

- participates actively and appropriately
- shows initiative and is a self-directed learner
- demonstrates self-confidence
- willingly takes on challenges
- remains focused, attentive, and engaged in lessons
- sets and reflects upon goals

Work Habits

- demonstrates neatness, thoughtfulness, and pride in work
- works independently and uses time wisely
- works cooperatively with others
- completes and turns in assignments on time
- organizes space and returns materials
- produces original work

Responsibility as a Community Member

- manages emotions and accepts responsibility for own actions
- manages transitions and adapts to changes in routine
- demonstrates courtesy, cooperation, and respect toward peers and adults
- listens and follows directions
- seeks positive solutions to problems and conflicts
- follows classroom rules and routines
- displays kindness and concern for others
- raises hand before sharing in class discussions
- uses classroom materials with purpose and respect

LITERACY: READING

Comprehension

- listens to and discusses stories, poems, nonfiction texts, fables, legends,
- discusses the roles of an author and illustrator
- makes, draws, and writes about text-to-self connections
- discusses a character's feelings
- reads independently and retells, visualizes, wonders, and makes predictions
- explores illustrations in a story
- retells parts of a story
- draws and shares mental images
- learns the procedure for and practices self-monitoring
- identifies words that support visualizations
- discusses, shares, and draws about wonders
- makes and confirms predictions
- acts out a story
- identifies, draws, and writes about what is learned about a topic and uses text features
- compares and contrasts two nonfiction texts
- participates in 1:1 reading conferences with the teacher demonstrating the use of taught comprehension strategies

Phonological Awareness / Letter and Word Recognition/Concepts of Print

- learns and sings songs with hand motions
- identifies, discusses, and generates rhyming words
- learns and practices reading names
- reviews, builds, and reads the letters of the alphabet
- reviews return sweep
- sorts pictures by beginning and ending sounds
- discusses a story's message
- replaces missing words from a poem or text
- clap on and count syllables in words
- sorts picture cards by the number of syllables
- recognizes patterns in a story
- rebuilds a sentence from a story

****Additional activities are included in small group lessons.**

Accuracy/Fluency

- echo read stories with attention to punctuation
- learns, sings, and chorally reads songs, poems, fables, or parts of a story
- acts out parts of a story
- chorally reads with an attention to punctuation
- rereads poems in poetry reader

- explores spaces, words, punctuation, and capitalization in a sentence
- discusses typography

Expanding Vocabulary

- voraciously reads
- tunes into interesting words and uses new vocabulary when speaking and writing
- discusses synonyms
- draws and writes about vocabulary words
- discusses the suffixes *-less, -ful*
- discusses the prefixes *un-, re-*
- discusses the inflectional ending *-ed, -s, -es, -ing,*
- discusses shades of meaning
- discusses words with multiple meanings

LITERACY: WRITING

The Writing Community

- contributes to building a caring writing community
- gets ideas for writing from read-alouds
- writes stories using drawing, letter-like symbols, or standard letters and words

Getting Ideas

- gets ideas for writing by visualizing, observing, and making lists
- practices basic conventions of writing (e.g., writing left to right and putting spaces between words)
- uses a word wall to spell high-frequency words
- approximates spelling using letter-sound relationships

Telling More

- rereads and adds details to tell more
- explores sentence punctuation and capitalization
- writes on assigned and self-selected topics

Just the Facts

- talks, draws, and writes about nonfiction topics
- gathers information for nonfiction writing through interviews and observations
- rereads and adds information
- explores writing questions

Exploring Words Through Poetry

- hears, discusses, and acts out poems to get ideas for writing poems
- explores descriptive language and interesting words in poems
- writes poems individually and as a class

Opinion Writing

- learns what an opinion is
- hears and discusses examples of opinion writing
- explores clearly stating an opinion and supporting it with reasons
- writes an opinion letter

Handwriting

- prints legibly using D'Nealian manuscript, upper and lower case, with left-to-right, top-to-bottom directionality, and correct spacing between words and lines
- uses proper pencil grip and posture

Conventions

- applies phonemes in speech and writing
- punctuates endings of sentences using periods
- applies high-frequency words consistently within writing

LITERACY: PHONICS & WORD STUDY

Phonological Awareness

- identifies and discusses rhyming words
- plays rhyming games
- replaces rhyming words in a story
- claps and counts syllables to help hear and identify units of sound and identifies patterns in a story
- sorts by the number of syllables

****Additional activities are included in small group lessons.**

High-Frequency Words

- reads and spells high-frequency words consistently

Spelling Patterns and Word Structure

- recognizes simple phonograms with a VC pattern and CVC pattern

****see small group instruction for specifics**

Word-Solving Actions

- uses known words to help in spelling new words
- recognizes and spells known words with assistance
- uses letters and relationships to sounds, and reads and writes words

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

- comprehends while listening
- expresses one's self purposefully and clearly
- participates effectively in discussions

MATHEMATICS

Counting and Cardinality

- counts by 1's
- counts by 10's
- counts on from numbers other than 1
- counts objects with the correct count sequence
- counts objects with one-to-one correspondence
- understands the cardinal principle
- counts groups of arranged objects
- counts groups of scattered objects
- compares groups by the number of objects
- represents quantities with numerals
- compares numbers as written numerals
- understands conservation of number
- understands the successor function
- counts, classifies, and orders categories by count
- describes the positions of objects in the environment

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- reads numbers
- writes numbers
- finds number pairs that add to 10
- records number pairs that add to 10
- understands numbers 11-19 as ten ones and some more ones
- develops strategies for addition and subtraction facts
- adds within 5 fluently
- subtracts within 5 fluently

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- represents addition concretely or verbally
- represents subtraction concretely or verbally
- solves number stories and problems involving addition and subtraction
- decomposes numbers in more than one way
- records decompositions of numbers

Measurement and Data

- describes measurable attributes of objects
- compares and discusses measurable attributes of objects directly

Geometry

- identifies two-dimensional shapes in the environment
- names two-dimensional shapes
- analyzes and describes two-dimensional shapes
- compares two-dimensional shapes
- models shapes in the world
- describes the positions of objects in the environment
- names three-dimensional shapes
- analyzes and describes three-dimensional shapes
- compares three-dimensional shapes
- composes shapes from other shapes

Problem Solving and Perseverance

- uses appropriate skills to explain how a problem may be solved
- provides multiple solutions to problems

Social Studies

- understands the expectations of being a community member
- serves community helper roles in the classroom
- identifies roles in the community and roles of students at Dawson
- understands expectations of the learner profile
- recognizes, appreciates, and respects similarities and differences in people
- demonstrates the understanding that different individuals have different abilities and knowledge
- participates in making rules and guidelines
- describes the relative location of people, places, and things
- acquires information through listening and observing

- exhibits simple concepts of conservation
- demonstrates awareness of the relationship between humans and the environment
- shows an interest in understanding the characteristics of animals and plants

Technology

- uses technology to gather information and communicate learning
- responsibly uses technology through teacher-guided online activities and interactions to understand how the digital space impacts their life
- uses age-appropriate digital tools to design something applying the step-by-step process of designing
- identifies real-world examples of how technology is used to make a task easier or repeatable
- collaborates with classmates when using digital tools to create original work