

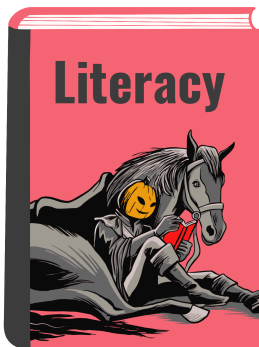


Overview of Kindergarten Learning Goals

John Paulding School

Our K-2 curriculum embeds essential skills and dispositions, laying the foundation for our **Portrait of a Learner**. Through interactive and engaging activities, we nurture communication, *executive functioning*, *creativity*, and *critical thinking*. Our students develop *curiosity*, *perseverance*, *socio-cultural competence*, and *civic-mindedness*, ensuring they grow into empathetic, resilient, and socially responsible individuals. This holistic approach prepares them for a lifetime of learning and active citizenship.

Literacy



Oral Language – Students develop oral language skills through collaborative conversations, asking questions, and descriptive expressions about familiar topics. They participate in discussions, follow rules for conversation, and seek clarification when needed.

Phonological Awareness – Students learn to segment and blend individual phonemes in words, as well as discriminate between similar phonemes. Additionally, students work on identifying initial and final sounds in spoken words and recognizing rhyming words.

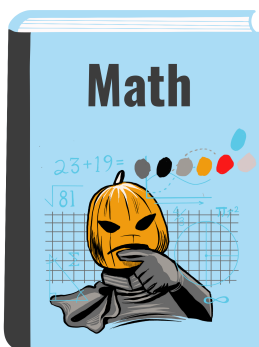
Phonics – Students learn letter recognition and associate letters with sounds. Through decoding, they blend sounds to read simple words, laying the groundwork for reading success.

Vocabulary – Students will recognize and use common nouns, verbs, and prepositions. They will understand question words, and describe familiar objects and events. They will sort objects into categories. Additionally, students will identify, define, and use new words in various contexts, and distinguish shades of meaning among similar verbs.

Fluency – Students develop fluency in oral language and emergent reading skills. They understand basic print features like directionality.

Comprehension – Students develop foundational comprehension skills by listening attentively to stories and informational texts, retelling stories with key details, and making personal connections to texts.

Mathematics



Students focus on recognizing, writing, and counting **numbers 0-10**, developing a foundational understanding of numbers and quantities. Then they learn to compare these numbers. They learn to classify and count **data**, fostering their analytical skills. Students learn basic operations with an emphasis on understanding and practicing **addition** and **subtraction**. As they progress, students expand their **counting range up to 100** and explore composing and decomposing numbers 11 to 19, enhancing place value comprehension. They also identify, describe, analyze, compare, and create both two- and three-dimensional **shapes**. Students also learn to describe and compare measurable attributes such as **length** and **weight**. Collectively, these lessons build a foundation in number sense, operations, geometry, and measurement, crucial for students' mathematical growth.

Science



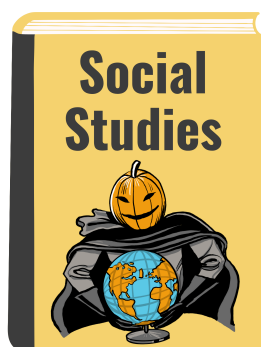
Scientists & Weather Climate – Students discover what it means to be a scientist and the tools scientists use. They learn about weather and climate, including how the sun, wind, and rain change the weather. They watch how the weather changes with the seasons and learn why wearing the right clothes for different weather is important.

Forces in Motion & Magnitudes of Force – Students discover how pushes and pulls make things move. They see how forces can stop things or change their direction. They learn about the strength of forces, understanding that gentle and strong pushes have different effects.

Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Animals, Plants, and Their Environment – Students learn about ecosystems, and what living things need and want and why reducing human waste is important. Students explore how animals, plants, and the environment work together. They investigate different habitats and study the life cycles of plants and ladybugs. They learn how living things depend on their surroundings to survive.

Social Studies

Our social studies curriculum uses essential questions to guide kindergartners in exploring their social world and fostering a sense of belonging within their community:

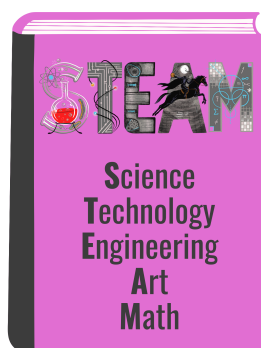


How are people the same and different? – Students explore similarities and differences in physical appearance (hair color, eye color), cultural backgrounds (foods, clothing, traditions), and family structures. They create self-portraits, share pictures of families, or participate in cultural food tastings.

What makes a community? – Students learn about the different roles and responsibilities within a school community (teachers, librarians, custodians). They create maps of their classroom and school, identifying key locations. Field trips around the school are used to explore different areas and the people who work there.

How are families the same and different? – Students share stories and pictures about their families, focusing on family traditions, celebrations, and ways families show love and care. Class discussions will explore different family structures. Students create family trees or drawings to showcase their unique family dynamics.

STEAM & Computer Science



Digital Literacy & Citizenship – Students focus on *digital literacy* skills, such as how to log on to computers, develop basic trackpad skills, and begin learning keyboarding through engaging activities. This happens alongside *digital citizenship* skills to prepare students for responsible and effective use of educational technology.

Computer Science & Robotics – Students explore computer science concepts including an introduction to algorithms and sequencing. Students apply these skills to program robots through "unplugged" (tech-free) activities.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) – Through hands-on activities, students explore the engineering design process, applying problem-solving skills to real-world problems.

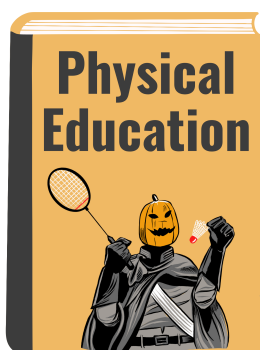
Visual & Performing Arts



Art – Students in visual arts *learn to create using various materials*, understand and apply basic techniques, analyze and discuss artworks using art vocabulary, connect art to personal and cultural contexts, and reflect on their own and others' artwork. Foundational concepts include: *line, shape and color*.

Music – Students develop *foundational music skills* by listening and responding to different musical elements, performing simple songs and rhythms, creating and improvising *basic patterns*, understanding music from various cultures and contexts, and connecting music to other subjects like math and literacy.

Physical Education & Health



Motor Skills/Movement Patterns/Spatial Awareness – Students demonstrate recognizable form in at least four locomotor skills (gallop, hop, leap, skip, slide, walk, horizontal jump, vertical jump) while maintaining balance. They identify simple movement concepts such as *space* (personal space at low, medium, and high levels), *effort* (how the body moves), and *relationships* (with whom and what the body moves).

Health/Wellness/Character – Students understand the importance of covering the mouth and nose when coughing, washing hands regularly, getting the proper sleep, and dressing. They work on demonstrating caring behavior towards others, working well in teams, acknowledging responsibility when prompted, and showing leadership by trying new activities.

Self-Challenge/Personal & Community Resources – Students explore and participate in new and challenging activities, persist after failure, and identify enjoyable activities, including those outside physical education and those that can be done with family. Recognizes community facilities available for participation.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)



Growth Mindset & Goal Setting – Students learn that paying attention helps them understand things better and stay safe. They also discover that making mistakes is part of learning, and by practicing and putting in effort, they can get better at anything.

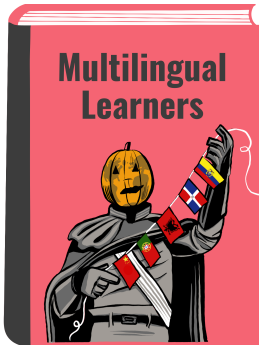
Emotion Management – Students learn to identify and label emotions by looking at facial expressions, body language and situations. They also learn strategies to manage strong emotions, like taking slow breaths.

Empathy and Kindness – Students learn that being kind helps others feel good and shows that they care. They recognize and practice empathy by thinking of kind things they can do or say to help others feel better in different situations.

Problem-Solving – Students learn that it is easier to solve a problem when they are calm. They practice identifying and describing the problem in different situations and problem-solving strategies like apologizing, taking turns, and sharing.

Multilingual Learners

Our language learners focus on the *4+1 language domains* (Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, & Metalinguistic awareness). The following are assessed based on the student's English language proficiency level (entering, emerging, transitioning, expanding, commanding).



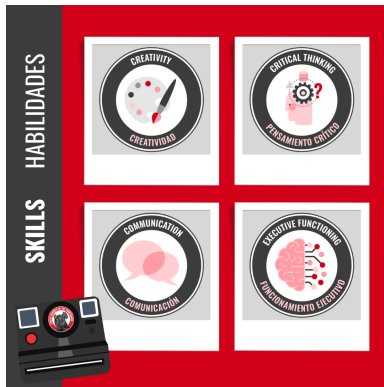
Reading – Students identify basic features of print, sounds, and simple words. Students identify one-to-one letter-sound correspondences and high-frequency words in context.

Writing – Students produce letters, sequence letters to produce words, and separate words with spaces. Students draw or write to provide descriptions and events to write about a topic.

Listening – Students identify key narrative elements and central ideas in spoken discourse. Students identify illustrated words, phrases, or sentences that signal or describe key details, sequence, and/or relationships.

Speaking – Students use appropriate language to ask questions and contribute to a conversation, as well as to describe or convey relevant details and narrate a story.

Portrait of a Learner



Skills:

Communication – We empower students to express themselves clearly, thoughtfully, and persuasively in written and spoken forms, fostering understanding of diverse perspectives.

Executive Functioning – Students develop organization, time management, and problem-solving skills to navigate life's challenges and opportunities.

Creativity – We encourage students to think imaginatively, generate innovative ideas, and approach issues from fresh angles, cultivating open-mindedness and adaptability.

Critical Thinking – Students will evaluate information, analyze complex situations, and make informed decisions, inspiring intellectual curiosity and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Dispositions:

Curiosity – We nurture a sense of wonder and inquisitiveness, motivating students to explore, question, and seek answers, propelling personal growth and a love of discovery.

Perseverance – Students learn to face adversity with determination and push forward to pursue goals, setting the stage for personal achievement and resilience.

Socio-Cultural Competence – Students engage respectfully and effectively with diverse individuals, fostering empathy, inclusivity, and a deeper understanding of global issues.

Civic Mindedness – We cultivate a strong sense of civic responsibility, inspiring students to impact their community and promoting active engagement for the betterment of society.