



NEW EXPECTATIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN:

- ▶ Understand how stories and poems are the same and different. For example, read a story and a poem with the teacher, then explain how to tell that only the second one was a poem.
- ▶ Separate the first, middle, and last sounds of simple words: for example, *cat* (c-a-t), *map* (m-a-p), *hit* (h-i-t).
- ▶ Continue a conversation by listening to other people's ideas and asking questions to learn more about what they think.
- ▶ With help from an adult, use written words and drawings to express an opinion or give information about something.



BY THE END OF KINDERGARTEN, STUDENTS CAN:



- ▶ Listen to a story read aloud. Understand where and when the story takes place.
- ▶ Compare what the same characters (like Henry and Mudge) do in different stories.
- ▶ Explain how to find out who wrote a book (the author) or drew its pictures (the illustrator).
- ▶ Talk about the main idea of a text. Tell facts they learned from a text.
- ▶ Recognize all uppercase (capital) and lowercase letters in the alphabet.
- ▶ Recognize and understand some very common words: for example, *the*, *of*, *to*, *you*, *she*, *my*, *is*, *are*, *do*, and *does*.
- ▶ Write uppercase (capital) and lowercase letters. Capitalize the first word in a sentence.
- ▶ Recognize punctuation marks used at the end of sentences: for example, period (.), question mark (?).

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- ▶ Who is the story about? What happened in the story?
- ▶ Can you use the pictures to "read" this book to me (tell me what happens in the book)?
- ▶ Would you rather have ___ or ___? Why?



TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- ▶ Books and authors to look for at the library
- ▶ Experiences that can help build your child's vocabulary

