

# LANGUAGE ARTS

## Kindergarten – Areas of Focus:

### Reading

- Recognize and name all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- Recognize and produce rhyming words
- Isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in three- phoneme (consonant-vowel-consonant, or CVC) words.
- Read common high-frequency words by sight (e.g., the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, does).
- Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.
- Follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page.
- Name the author and illustrator of a text and define.
- With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
- With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
- With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the text in which they appear (e.g., what person, place, thing, or idea in the text an illustration depicts).
- Read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding

### Writing

- Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose various pieces.
- With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
- With guidance and support, begin to explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing

### Speaking and Listening

- Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.
- Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.

### Language

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on kindergarten reading and content.
- Print many upper- and lowercase letters.
- Spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships.

## First Grade – Areas of Focus:

### Reading

- Describe, retell, ask and answer questions about key ideas and details
- Explain the differences between fiction and nonfiction stories
- Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print

- Begin reading complex text (with support) such as poetry
- Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, tables of contents, illustrations, glossaries) when reading informational texts
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes)
- Decode through sound-symbol relationships
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

### Writing

- Write and understand narrative, informative, and opinion pieces
- With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed
- Use a variety of digital tools to publish writing

### Speaking and Listening

- Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- Orally produce complete sentences
- Use descriptive words and/ or illustrations when expressing ideas and feelings

### Language

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing
- Develop a diverse vocabulary through conversations, reading, and responding to text

## **Second Grade – Areas of Focus:**

### Reading

- Describe, retell, ask and answer questions about key ideas and details
- Begin understanding the craft and structure of stories, words, and phrases including character point of view.
- Use information from an illustration to demonstrate understanding.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a Grade 2 topic or subject area.
- Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts.
- Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.
- Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic.
- Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words i.e. distinguish long and short vowels, decode two-syllable words.
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

### Writing

- Write and understand narrative, informative, and opinion pieces.
- Use a variety of digital tools to publish writing.
- With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic and strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing.

### Speaking and Listening

- Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
- Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to clarify comprehension.
- Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences.

### Language

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- Develop a diverse vocabulary through conversation, reading, and responding to text.
- Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts, including using adjectives and adverbs to describe.

## **Third Grade – Areas of Focus:**

### Reading

- Recount stories, describe characters, ask and answer questions including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures.
- Understand the craft and structure of stories, words, and phrases and distinguish point of view from another character.
- Understand mood and compare and contrast the theme, setting, or plot in a story.
- Ask and answer questions and understand the main idea of a story.
- Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts.
- Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
- Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
- Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

### Writing

- Write and understand narrative, informative, and opinion pieces.
- Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.
- With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
- Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

### Speaking and Listening

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.

- Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

#### Language

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content.
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain specific words and phrases.