



# Kindergarten Instructional Plan

## Welcome to Kindergarten!

This year we will focus on developing fundamental skills in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. Through a mix of hands-on activities, group work, and individual practice, students will build a strong foundation for future learning. The goal is to create a fun and engaging environment where children can grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

## Contact Information

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## Classroom Expectations

We work together to create a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment where every student is encouraged to do their best each day.

### Expectation 1: Be respectful

- Use appropriate voice level
- Raise your hand, and wait your turn to speak
- Listen to all instructions and directions
- Stay in your assigned area unless given permission.

### Expectation 2: Be responsible

- Complete all assigned tasks
- Be prepared: Have all necessary materials

### Expectation 3: Be safe

- Always keep your hands and feet to self
- Walk at all times
- Report problems to an adult

### Expectation 4: Be ready to learn and try your best every day

- Come to class on time
- Prioritize daily attendance

Positive reinforcement, visual aids, and clear routines will help students learn and meet these expectations.

If expectations are not met, the teacher will first reteach and remind the student(s) of expectations. If a student continues to fail to meet expectations, they will be redirected, then parents will be contacted. If a student is unable to meet expectations after these preventative measures, an office referral will be made.

## Attendance Policy & Its Importance

**Regular and consistent attendance** is vital to your child's academic and social development. Kindergarten lays the groundwork for high engagement and rigorous learning; consistency helps children build routines, develop friendships, and feel part of the classroom community. When students attend daily, they stay current with new skills and practice important habits that support lifelong learning.



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**Please notify the school if your child will be absent.** Frequent or extended absences may make it more difficult for your child to learn necessary foundational skills that support success throughout the school year and beyond.

## Learning Objectives

### Reading Language Arts Learning Outcomes

In Reading Language Arts, students will:

- Develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through daily learning experiences.
- Recognize uppercase and lowercase letters and their corresponding sounds.
- Blend sounds together to read words and break words into individual sounds.
- Read and spell simple words and recognize high-frequency words.
- Build reading fluency through daily practice with decodable texts.
- Build vocabulary through stories, conversations, songs, and read-alouds.
- Ask and answer questions to show understanding of stories and informational texts.
- Identify characters, settings, important events, and key details in texts.
- Retell stories and share information using pictures, words, and complete sentences.
- Express ideas through drawing, dictating, and writing.
- Develop confidence, independence, and a love of reading and learning.

### Math Learning Outcomes

In math, students will:

- Count, read, write, compare, and represent numbers.
- Develop number sense by composing and decomposing numbers in different ways.
- Add and subtract using objects, pictures, and mathematical thinking.
- Identify, sort, compare, and describe two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes.
- Recognize, create, and extend patterns.
- Compare, classify, and sort objects by their attributes.
- Measure, compare, and describe the length, weight, and capacity of objects using nonstandard units.
- Collect, organize, and interpret data using pictures, graphs, and real objects.
- Identify pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters and describe their characteristics.
- Solve real-world mathematical problems using a variety of strategies, models, and tools.
- Explain mathematical thinking using words, pictures, numbers, and manipulatives.

### Science Learning Outcomes

In science, students will:

- Ask questions, make observations, and explore the world through hands-on investigations.
- Use simple scientific tools safely to observe, compare, and describe objects and events.
- Collect, record, and communicate observations using drawings, charts, and simple writing.
- Identify and describe the physical properties of objects and materials.
- Observe weather patterns, seasons, and changes in the natural world.
- Investigate how objects move and how pushes and pulls affect motion.
- Describe the basic needs of plants and animals and how living things grow and change.
- Explore Earth's natural resources and ways people care for the environment.
- Observe patterns in the sky, including the Sun, Moon, stars, and day and night.
- Develop curiosity by asking questions, making observations, and sharing discoveries about the world around them.



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## Social Studies Learning Outcomes

In social studies, students will:

- Demonstrate good citizenship by showing responsibility, respect, honesty, and kindness.
- Recognize the importance of rules, laws, and authority figures at home, school, and in the community.
- Identify important people, symbols, holidays, and traditions in the United States and Texas.
- Compare life in the past with life today through stories and informational texts.
- Identify places using maps, globes, and other geographic tools.
- Describe how families and communities work together to meet people's needs.
- Recognize basic economic concepts, including wants, needs, goods, services, and saving.
- Learn about different cultures, traditions, and communities while respecting similarities and differences.
- Explore history, geography, economics, and citizenship through stories, discussions, and hands-on activities.
- Develop an understanding of the world by asking questions, gathering information, and sharing ideas.

## Instructional Resources

Our classroom uses a variety of research-based instructional programs and resources to support student learning across all subject areas.

## Reading & Phonics

- Bluebonnet Learning Curriculum for phonics, reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing
- Magnetic Reading Foundations for differentiated small-group reading instruction
- Decodable readers to build phonics skills, fluency, and reading confidence
- Authentic literature and informational texts to build background knowledge, vocabulary, and comprehension across all content areas.

## Mathematics

- STEMscopes Math for hands-on lessons, problem solving, math fluency, and digital learning activities

## Science

- Texas Experience Science Kindergarten for inquiry-based science instruction, hands-on investigations, and literacy connections through science.
- Science decodable readers to reinforce vocabulary, reading comprehension, and science concepts.

## Social Studies

- Studies Weekly for engaging lessons in history, geography, economics, government, and citizenship
- Primary source images, maps, photographs, and informational texts to build content knowledge

## Digital Learning Resources

- i-Ready Reading
- i-Ready Math
- IXL

## Grading Policy

Kindergarten uses a standards-based grading system to monitor each student's progress toward mastering the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).



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Throughout the year, students are assessed using a variety of developmentally appropriate measures, including:

- Classroom observations
- District-created assessments
- Performance tasks
- Hands-on activities
- Small-group instruction
- Student work samples

Progress is reported based on each student's mastery of grade-level skills rather than traditional letter or numerical grades. This approach allows families to better understand their child's strengths, growth, and areas needing additional support.

Parents can monitor student progress through report cards, conferences, classroom communication, and Skyward.

## **MAKE UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES**

Students who are absent will be given the opportunity to make up missed work in accordance with Midland ISD guidelines. Teachers will work with families to determine which assignments are appropriate to complete at home and which learning experiences will be completed upon the student's return to school.

Because many kindergarten activities involve hands-on learning, small-group instruction, and classroom participation, some activities may not be able to be recreated outside of the classroom. Teachers will ensure students receive support in learning essential skills missed during an absence.

## **Homework Policy**

Homework in kindergarten is designed to strengthen foundational skills and encourage family involvement in learning. Homework is not graded but may be checked for completion and effort.

Families are encouraged to:

- Read with their child for 10–15 minutes each evening.
- Practice weekly high-frequency words, letters, letter sounds, and math skills sent home by the teacher.
- Review classroom learning through games, conversations, and hands-on activities.

Occasionally, students may bring home additional activities to reinforce skills being taught in class.

## **Class Dojo (School-wide System of Communication)**

Our campus uses ClassDojo to communicate with families. Please ensure you join our class for important updates.

We look forward to partnering with you to make this a successful and exciting year of learning!



# Kindergarten Instructional Plan

## Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment

I have reviewed the Kindergarten Instructional Plan and understand the classroom expectations, grading policies, communication methods, and instructional goals for the school year.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_