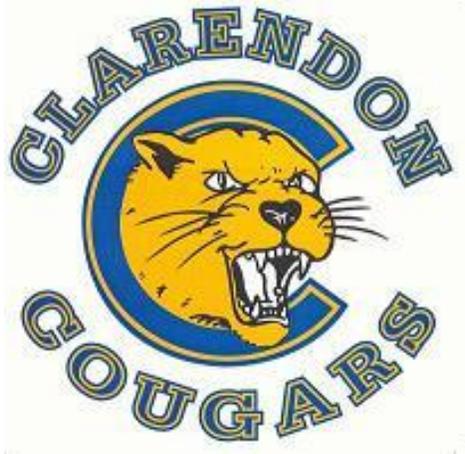


# Clarendon Avenue Elementary

## Kindergarten and the Common Core Standards



### A Parent's Guide

As your child enters kindergarten, it is important for you to understand what will be expected of him or her in this exciting and fundamental year. The scope of learning and expectations for kindergarten have changed a great deal in the past several years, so if your last experience with kindergarten was as a student of five or six, you may be surprised to learn what is in store for your child. In order for you to effectively support your child's learning now and in the future, becoming familiar with the Common Core Standards will be beneficial.

The Common Core Standards, adopted by more than 40 states, help to ensure that all students meet the same learning outcomes with a clear and consistent set of expectations, regardless of where each student receives instruction. They provide a roadmap for students, teachers, and parents on the course toward college and career readiness. Each grade level has its own set of Common Core Standards, which describe learning expectations in the areas of English/language arts and math.

Please use this guide as a reference as you work with your child and his or her teacher throughout this kindergarten year. This is not a comprehensive list of the Common Core Standards for kindergarten; rather, it is a sampling of some of the broad concepts and key skills which will be mastered. To see a full list of kindergarten Common Core Standards, please visit [http://standards.dpi.wi.gov/stn\\_ccss](http://standards.dpi.wi.gov/stn_ccss).



## English/Language Arts

In the kindergarten classroom, your child will be exposed to a vast array of literature, including stories, poetry, and informational (non-fiction) texts. Students will be working toward mastery of these **literacy skills**:

- Find the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book
- Identify the author and illustrator of a text and tell about the role of each
- Ask and answer questions about details in a text
- Name the characters, setting, and important parts in a story
- Compare texts by telling how they are the same and different
- Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text
- Tell when a piece of literature is a story, poem, fairy tale, or nursery rhyme
- Identify a text as fiction or non-fiction
- Describe relationships between characters, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text
- Tell about similarities and differences between two texts on the same topic
- Use pictures to help understand text
- Ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text
- Tell what the author wants the reader to understand about a text
- Retell familiar stories

## English/Language Arts

During your child's kindergarten year, she or he will become a reader. Students will develop phonological awareness- the ability to identify sounds in words- and understand the correspondence between letters and spoken sounds. They will work toward mastery of these **reading skills:**

- Recognize that spoken words are represented by specific sequences of letters
- Follow words from top to bottom, left to right, and page by page
- Understand that words are separated by spaces in print
- Recognize and name all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet
- Identify and blend sounds in words
- Take words apart and blend them together in many different ways (beginning, middle, and ending sounds; syllables; onset/rime)
- Add or change sounds to make new words
- Count sounds in a word
- Say the primary sound for each consonant letter
- Say the long and short sounds for each vowel
- Read high-frequency words such as I, see, like, the, go, etc.
- Look at words and see how they are the same and different
- Recognize and produce rhymes
- Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding
- Read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding

## English/Language Arts

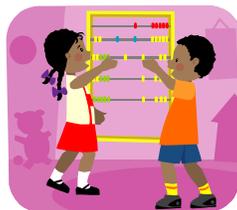
Kindergartners are developing their communication skills at a very fast pace. They will have a variety of opportunities to express themselves and to interact with peers and adults. In order to be prepared for their academic futures, as well as college and workplace success, students will work toward mastering the following skills in the areas of **speaking, listening, and writing**:

- Participate in collaborative conversation in small and larger groups, and with a partner
- Speak and listen in turns
- Add to what others say, while staying on the topic
- Ask and answer questions about what they see, hear, and read
- Speak clearly and loud enough so that others can hear
- Describe familiar things, and add details to descriptions when prompted
- Draw pictures with details to represent familiar people, places, things, and events
- Use words to describe feelings and express needs
- Print upper- and lowercase letters
- Understand that words can have multiple meanings (e.g. duck, the animal, and duck, the action)
- Form plural nouns by adding /s/ or /es/
- Use common prepositional words such as on, in, to, by, for
- Write a letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel sounds to spell simple words
- Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I
- Recognize and name end punctuation
- Use a combination of drawing, writing, and dictating to tell an opinion or describe an event in order
- Draw, tell, or write about information which has been heard or read
- Add details to drawings or writing in order to help the viewer/reader understand
- Write an answer to a question
- Utilizing a resource such as a word wall, use familiar words (such as is, the, see) in writing
- Use digital tools with help to write a story or to give information

# Mathematics

In kindergarten, your child will be exposed to many big math concepts including counting and cardinality, algebraic thinking, measurement, and geometry. Foundational math skills will be developed through much hands-on work and practice. Students in kindergarten will participate in an enormous variety of activities in order to master these fundamental **math skills**:

- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Count forward from a given number other than one
- Read, write, and represent numbers 0-20
- Count out sets of objects up to 20, naming each number as an item is counted
- Count objects to answer “How many?”
- Compare sets of objects to determine which is greater, lesser, or equal
- Compare written numerals and identify whether they are greater, less, or equal
- Represent addition and subtraction using objects, fingers, drawings, or other expressions
- Solve addition and subtraction problems up to 10 using objects or drawings to represent the problem
- Understand that numbers can be broken apart in many ways (e.g.,  $5=2+3$  and  $5=4+1$ )
- Fluently add and subtract up to 5
- Demonstrate how numbers 11-19 are made of ten ones and more ones
- Describe and compare objects using terms of measurable attributes such as length or weight
- Sort objects by category and then count objects within each category
- Describe objects by shape and identify their positions using terms such as above, beside, behind
- Correctly name shapes regardless of their orientations or sizes
- Tell whether a shape is a plane shape or a 3D shape (flat or solid)
- Build, draw, and describe shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, rhombus, hexagon, trapezoid, sphere, cube
- Put shapes together to make another shape



## Help your child be a successful student!

If all of that sounds like a lot to learn in just one short school year, you are right- it is! But you are one of the essential elements to your child's enjoyment of, and success in, school. Parental engagement and involvement is one of the strongest predictors of student success, and there is no time like now for you to get started. We embrace the opportunity to collaborate with you this year as we are partners in education at Clarendon Avenue School. You can **support your child's learning at home by:**

- Reading to your child daily, including a variety of literature such as stories, poetry, and informational text (non-fiction)
- Talking with your child about what has been read, including his or her offering opinions, recalling details, comparing, and retelling
- Encouraging your child to notice environmental print around the house, in stores, while driving, and during family outings
- Helping your child express him- or herself clearly when speaking, and encouraging age-appropriate listening skills
- Providing your child with materials, space, and time to draw and write about topics of interest
- Having your child count, including counting out sets of objects such as forks for the dinner table
- Pointing out shapes of items in your home, in nature, and during errands and outings
- Encouraging your child to use math vocabulary such as more, less, long, short, heavy, light

Thank you for helping your child get off to the best possible start as a learner. We look forward to working with you during this exciting kindergarten year!

