

# PARENT GUIDE TO PREKINDERGARTEN

## Fourth Nine Weeks

### READING LANGUAGE ARTS

#### Print Awareness

Understanding that print conveys meaning, books have a front/back, left-to-right sequence, titles, and authors.

#### Letter knowledge & sounds

Recognizing letters, knowing their sounds (phonemes), beginning phonics and matching sounds to letters.

#### Vocabulary & language-rich talk

Building word knowledge, talking about words, exposing students to new descriptive vocabulary through books.

#### Pencil Grip

Proper grip of pencils and crayons needs to be practiced after playing with play-doh or slime to give little fingers a workout.

### MATH

- Students continue to master counting: 1-to-1 correspondence, rote counting to 30, the last number counted tells how many are in the set.
- By the end of the year, students should be able to verbally identify the number of objects without physically counting each object in sets of 1-5.
- Students continue to add and subtract within 5, using objects or drawing pictures to represent the parts told in simple word problems. Consider using scenarios familiar to students (ex. Kids on a playground, fish in a pond, birds in a tree, etc.) when practicing addition and subtraction within 5.
- Help your student master naming and creating shapes by spotting shapes in everyday life (ex. tire = circle, towel - rectangle, pizza slice - triangle, etc.).

### SCIENCE

- Understand that plants need air, sunlight, water, good soil, and space to grow, and talk about what happens when they do or don't get these.
- Identify and name basic plant parts: roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits.
- Plant a seed and observe its growth over time, describing or drawing each stage from seed to plant.
- Learn what animals need to live: air, water, food, space, and shelter.
- Notice and talk about how animals use their body parts to see, hear, move, and hold things.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

- Expanding geography skills by creating simple maps and using globes to understand the concept of a larger world.
- Understanding the importance of rules and laws, practicing peaceful conflict resolution, and learning how groups make decisions.
- Exploring how different people live in other places and appreciating the diversity of cultures and environments.
- Revisiting key social studies concepts and preparing for kindergarten by reinforcing essential skills.

News and Resources All Year Long



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### HOW CAN I HELP MY Exceptional Learner

- What progress has my child made in communication and language this year?
- Which classroom activities does my child seem to enjoy the most?
- What routines or skills should we continue practicing at home over the summer?
- How has my child developed emotionally and socially since the beginning of the year?
- Are there any readiness skills I should work on to help with the kindergarten transition?
- What's something my child has accomplished this year that you're proud of?

### LOOKING AHEAD Preparing for Kindergarten

In the final quarter of PreK many children are transitioning toward Kindergarten readiness. Having basic letter/sound knowledge, enjoying books and stories, being curious about print.

**Narrative & comprehension skills** : Helping children tell stories, retell what happened in a book, ask questions about the story.

**Phonological awareness** : The ability to hear, manipulate sounds in spoken language (rhymes, syllables, onset/rime) are all important for foundation before full reading.

### DIGITAL TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR HOME & SCHOOL



**ClassLink**

The below tools are accessible through DISD's [ClassLink Portal](#). Click the ClassLink Icon to the left and login with Student ID and Password.



**ST Math**  
Texas



### BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

#### Character Strong:

- Cooperation (March)
- Courage (April)
- Creativity (May)

**Identifying Emotions:** The ability to notice & name my own emotions. Identifying Emotions Tips:

- Use Emotion Cards: "How do you think this person feels?" "Can you make a face like this?"
- Read Books About Feelings
- Sing Songs About Emotions: "If You're Happy and You Know It"
- Draw or Color Feelings
- Use Puppets or Stuffed Animals to act out different emotional scenarios: "The dog is sad because he lost his toy", "What can we do to help dog feel better?"

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