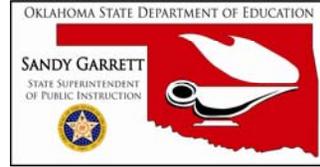


## The schedule should:

- Prioritize the need for children to interact with other children, with teachers, and with learning materials.
- Allow sufficient time for children to initiate and complete activities and to participate in creative movement and self-expression.
- Alternate active and less active learning moments rather than lengthy periods of sitting still.
- Respect the need for young children to rest or be active as is appropriate without compromising quality learning time.
- Reflect integrated teaching rather than class time separated subject by subject.
- Provide ample time for children to learn through center-based instruction.
- Allow for smooth transitions between activities or classrooms, with the teacher capitalizing on these transitions as learning moments.
- Provide opportunities for children to share with the group and take pride in their accomplishments.
- Structure time for collaborative planning so students develop ownership with classroom learning activities.



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Full - Day  
Kindergarten

A Guide for Administrators, Teachers, and Parents



# Full-Day Kindergarten

Kindergarten is an important year! Students in kindergarten should experience an appropriate and challenging curriculum designed for young learners while being supported and guided by caring, early childhood certified teachers and other school staff.

Full-day Kindergarten curriculum includes a strong emphasis in literacy and mathematical reasoning, as well as rich, integrated experiences in science, social studies, music, art, technology, and physical education. The classroom environment should nurture children's well-being, creativity, culture, need for active learning experiences, and independence while supporting the process of learning through play in a student-centered atmosphere.

## Students should:

- Look forward to school!
- Actively engage with learning materials.
- Acquire academic skills through play in center activities, such as blocks, dramatic play, science experiments, the arts, sand and water, books, and computers.
- Display their original artwork and have many opportunities to be creative and self-expressive.
- Communicate with their peers through a variety of group settings.
- Connect basic skills in reading and math with everyday life experiences through cooking, exploring the natural world, field trips, and classroom responsibilities.
- Utilize emergent literacy skills, such as oral language, phonemic awareness, alphabet recognition, and beginning print on a regular basis.
- Play outside (weather permitting) every day.
- Experience a curriculum that is customized to their specific learning needs and builds on their individual strengths.

## Teachers should:

- Focus on Oklahoma's *Priority Academic Student Skills* (PASS) and the curriculum that is approved by the district.
- Utilize the interests of their students to enhance the curriculum and instill a joy for learning.

- Provide a schedule for students to have periods of uninterrupted time for creativity and play.
- Introduce new concepts through meaningful integrated lessons that provide students the opportunity to interact directly with learning materials, rather than using worksheets as a primary means of learning.
- Read to their students many times throughout the day, incorporating literacy as a primary focus in all learning activities.
- Invite adult family members and volunteers to assist with classroom activities.
- Provide an emotionally, physically, intellectually, and socially safe environment that bolsters children's self-confidence.
- Participate in ongoing, research-based professional development to stay connected to current trends in early childhood education.
- Regularly assess students both formally and informally to track their progress, modify instruction, and make referrals as needed.
- Provide all students customized learning activities during center-based instruction that foster the development of higher thinking skills.
- Facilitate inquiry and discussion by encouraging student and teacher interactions, promoting vocabulary development.
- Capitalize on everyday moments within the classroom as an opportunity to learn, including transition times to other learning settings.

