



LANGUAGE ARTS

FOR FAMILIES

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Learning is important in pre-kindergarten. At this age, children have a natural curiosity about the world around them and are eager to learn. Language development leads to reading development, so it is important for children to see and discuss print in the world around them, in illustrated and written stories and in open-ended discussions. These opportunities allow them to explore language, which is critical in developing reading skills. This information is a snapshot of learning in Pre-K English language arts (ELA). For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Identify their first name.
- Understand the right way to hold a book.
- Understand that print has meaning.
- Recognize familiar signs, symbols and print in their surroundings and community. For example, the red sign with white letters means STOP.
- Name a majority of letters.
- Connect some letters to sounds – T makes the sound /t/ and B is /b/, for example.
- Begin to recognize rhyme.
- Ask and answer questions that show interest in reading and writing.

What to do at home:

- Make time for conversations that allow your child to have a voice and explore new information.
- Explore different kinds of printed material, such as labels, comics, books, etc.
- Read real-life and make-believe stories to your child.
- Identify common themes in print in the world around your child and discuss what they mean. For example, your child could explain that the golden “M” represents McDonald’s.
- Provide opportunities for your child to attempt writing and reading. Start with the letters in your child’s first name.

YOU ARE your child’s first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma’s academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child’s teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look around, do you see things that are alike or different? What are they, and how are they alike and different?
- What do you see when you look outside?
- What do you like to do?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What fruit would you like to eat for lunch?
- Do you think you will need a jacket today? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the day? Why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Young children should have the opportunity to explore books. As you read together, allow your child to flip through the pages and discuss what they see. Use the following questions as a guide as you talk about the books you are reading together.

BEFORE READING

- What do you see on the cover?
- What do you think the book will be about?

DURING READING

- Who is in the book?
- What has happened so far?

AFTER READING

- Did you like reading this book? Why or why not?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!

@oksde