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

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:
Kindergarten is when children begin to grow academically, socially and emotionally in a structured learning environment. Families play an important role in that growth as they model positive learning behaviors and become involved in school activities. Kindergartners begin to understand concepts that will become the building blocks for success in mathematics in later grades. The concepts that will form these building blocks are quantity, patterns, measurement and data. Explore these concepts through hands-on activities and by talking to children about what they notice and wonder about.

This information is a snapshot of learning in kindergarten mathematics. For a complete set of mathematics academic standards, click [here](http://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:
- Count numbers in order to 100 by 1’s and 10’s.
- Separate a small group of objects into at least two equal sets.
- Identify pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters.
- Recognize, duplicate and extend patterns.
- Arrange up to 6 objects according to lengths.
- Use smaller shapes to form a larger shape.

What to do at home:
- Give children a group of objects and ask them to separate the objects into two equal groups.
- Say a number up to 10 and ask your child to tell you the number one more or one less than the original number.
- Collect random objects and then ask your child to sort them into groups based on color, size and shape.
- Ask your child to identify, name and describe shapes from inside your house, outside and in other familiar places.
Fostering Curiosity

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

Cultivate your child’s curiosity with guiding questions like these:
- What do you wonder about?
- What patterns do you see when you look outside?
- What book do you want to read today?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It’s okay if you don’t have the answer every time. The best response is always, “Let’s find out together.”

Fostering Communication

Increase vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions that make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one idea on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others. This acceptance fosters positive relationships with peers and strong self-image.

Cultivate your child’s communication skills with questions like these:
- What is your favorite food and why?
- What rule have you followed today?
- What do community helpers do for people?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Kindergartners are developing beginning reading skills and an enjoyment of reading. Make time to explore books, magazines and other types of print with them and encourage conversations as you read together. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what he or she is reading.

BEFORE READING
- What do you think this book is about?
- What does this book remind you of?

DURING READING
- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?

AFTER READING
- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book and why?