



Newburyport Literacy Curriculum Framework Guide

Kindergarten Focus Areas

In Kindergarten, the focus of student learning is on four areas:

1. Reading
2. Writing
3. Speaking and Listening
4. Language

Kindergarten Overview

Reading:

The PreK-5 standards ensure exposure to a range of texts and tasks as well as rigor with increasingly complex texts through the grades. Students read widely from a broad range of high-quality, increasingly challenging literary and informational texts including stories, drama, poems, myths from diverse cultures and different time periods, and texts across the content areas. Curriculum is intentionally structured to develop rich content knowledge within and across the grades. A research-and-evidence based scope and sequence for phonological awareness and phonics development are important components of an effective, comprehensive reading curriculum designed to develop proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend texts across a range of types and disciplines.

Reading - Literature and Informational Text

- Asks and answers questions about key details
- Identify major story elements or main ideas of a text and retells key details
- Recognizes common types of text structures
- Describe relationships between illustrations and story/text
- Compare/contrast two texts on the same topic
- Actively engage in reading activities with purpose and understanding

Reading - Foundational Skills

- Print Concepts - Understand organization and basic features of print
- Phonological Awareness - Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables and sounds (phonemes)

- Phonics and Word Recognition - Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding
 - Demonstrate one-to-one letter sound correspondences by producing the primary sound for each consonant
 - Associate long and short vowel sounds for the five major vowels
 - Read common high frequency words
 - Identify sounds that differ between similarly spelled words
- Fluency - Read early emergent reader texts with purpose and understanding

Writing

In PreK-5, students learn to use writing to support opinions, demonstrate understanding of subjects, and convey real and imagined experiences and events. The key purpose of writing which is to communicate clearly to an audience and adapt their writing to accomplish a particular task.

Instruction focuses on three types of writing (opinion, informational/explanatory, narrative) which encompass a variety of texts including poems, short stories and memoirs. Students will engage with a wide range of model texts and study authors and writing across genres.

- Text types and purposes: Opinion, Informative/Explanatory; Narrative
- Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose writing pieces
- Add details to strengthen writing and explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing.
- Participate in shared research and writing projects.
- Write or dictate writing routinely for a range of tasks, purposes and audiences.

Speaking and Listening

In preK-5, Students are provided with ample opportunities to take part in a variety of rich, structured conversations as a whole class, in small groups, and with partners. Students learn to be productive group members of these conversations as they contribute, respond, compare/contrast, and analyze/synthesize ideas. Standards ensure that students gain adequate mastery of a range of skills and application.

- Participate in collaborative conversations about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults
- Ask and answer questions about text or information presented
- Describe familiar people, places, things and events
- Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings and ideas clearly

Language

In preK-5, students must gain control of many conventions for standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics along with learning to convey meaning effectively. Conventions, effective language use and vocabulary are inseparable from reading, writing, speaking and listening.

- Conventions of Standard English:
 - Demonstrate ability to produce and expand complete sentences
 - Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I
 - Recognize and name end punctuation
 - Write letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel sounds
 - Spell simple words phonetically
 - Print- upper and lowercase letters
 - Write numbers of 0-20
- Vocabulary Acquisition and Use:
 - Determine/clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases from kindergarten reading and content
 - Explore word relationships and nuances in meaning such as categories, antonyms, real-life connections to words, shades of meaning among verbs
 - Use words and phrases acquired in classroom activities and texts