



North Dakota Academic Content Standards What Parents Need to Know

Parents are a child's first teacher; your involvement in your child's education opens opportunities for them for the future. It is important for parents to have a clear understanding of their child's learning expectations for the year. This guide outlines North Dakota's Academic Content Standards for Kindergarten grade in English and Math.

What are the North Dakota Academic Standards?

The standards were written with the help of our teachers and incorporate elements of the Common Core State Standards. The standards set clear and consistent expectations for students, parents, and teachers on the knowledge and skills our students will learn in school. If your child meets the expectations outlined in these standards by the end of the year, he or she will be well prepared for 1st grade.

Setting standards for what students should know at the end of each year is important because it helps ensure that when students are ready to move to the next grade level, or are falling behind, we can

KINDERGARTEN

help them catch up rather than give up. The North Dakota Common Core Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed.

In addition to setting academic goals, the North Dakota Common Core Standards emphasize the ability to collaborate and communicate effectively. These skills will help your child gain the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are valuable in life, both in relationships and in the workplace.

What is my child learning this year?

The following is a sample of what your child will be learning this year. During Kindergarten, children interact with early literacy and numeracy concepts and begin to make sense of the world around them using words, both spoken and written, and numbers. Use this list with your child's teacher to set goals and identify when your child needs help or a greater challenge. You can also talk to your child's teacher about how you can supplement your child's learning at home.



English Language Arts & Literacy

- Recognize the name and sound of all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- Compare the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories, such as fairy tales and folktales.
- Read easily at a kindergarten level and recognize common sight words such as and, the, two, or my, as well as one syllable words such as pan, tin, lap, or sip.
- Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened in a story.

Mathematics

- Count to 100 in ones and tens.
- Solve addition and subtraction word problems up to the number 10 using objects or by drawing pictures.
- Correctly name shapes regardless of orientation or size (e.g., a square oriented as a “diamond” is still a square).
- Compare two groups of objects to tell which group, if either, has more; compare two written numbers to tell which is greater.

Help Your Child Learn at Home

Read with your child at least 20 minutes every day.

Follow the words on the page with your finger. Ask your child to explain his favorite parts of the story.

Have your child count items that can be found around the house.

For example, how many light switches are in the house? How many shoes are in your closet? How many forks are in the drawer?

Ask your child questions that require comparing numbers.

“Who is wearing more bracelets, you or your sister?” (Your child might use matching or counting to find the answer.)

What resources are available to help my child?

Be A Learning Hero—Contains helpful tips for families and resources in math and English language arts that can be used at home to support students.

» bealearninghero.org

Great Schools Videos—Watch grade-level and content-specific videos of learning in action.

» greatschools.org/gk/milestones

Scholastic Parent Page—Offers book recommendations, homework help, and more to make learning fun.

» scholastic.com/parents

Clave al Éxito—Contains tips, resources, and information for Spanish-speaking families

» exitounivision.com