

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Kindergarten

[§110.11. English Language Arts and Reading](#)

[§116.2. Physical Education](#)

[§111.12. Mathematics](#)

[§117.2. Art](#)

[§112.11. Science](#)

[§117.3. Music](#)

[§113.11. Social Studies](#)

[§117.4. Theatre](#)

[§114.2. Languages Other Than English](#)

[§126.6. Technology Applications](#)

[§115.2. Health Education](#)

§110.11. English Language Arts and Reading, Kindergarten, Beginning with School Year 2009-2010.

(a) Introduction.

(1) The English Language Arts and Reading Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are organized into the following strands: Reading, where students read and understand a wide variety of literary and informational texts; Writing, where students compose a variety of written texts with a clear controlling idea, coherent organization, and sufficient detail; Research, where students are expected to know how to locate a range of relevant sources and evaluate, synthesize, and present ideas and information; Listening and Speaking, where students listen and respond to the ideas of others while contributing their own ideas in conversations and in groups; and Oral and Written Conventions, where students learn how to use the oral and written conventions of the English language in speaking and writing. The Reading strand is structured to reflect the major topic areas of the National Reading Panel Report. In Kindergarten, students engage in activities that build on their natural curiosity and prior knowledge to develop their reading, writing, and oral language skills.

(2) For students whose first language is not English, the students' native language serves as a foundation for English language acquisition.

(A) English language learners (ELLs) are acquiring English, learning content in English, and learning to read simultaneously. For this reason, it is imperative that reading instruction should be comprehensive and that students receive instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, and word attack skills while simultaneously being taught academic vocabulary and comprehension skills and strategies. Reading instruction that enhances ELL's ability to decode unfamiliar words and to make sense of those words in context will expedite their ability to make sense of what they read and learn from reading. Additionally, developing fluency, spelling, and grammatical conventions of academic language must be done in meaningful contexts and not in isolation.

(B) For ELLs, comprehension of texts requires additional scaffolds to support comprehensible input. ELL students should use the knowledge of their first language (e.g., cognates) to further vocabulary development. Vocabulary needs to be taught in the context of connected discourse so that language is meaningful. ELLs must learn how rhetorical devices in English differ from those in their native language. At the same time English learners are learning in English, the focus is on academic English, concepts, and the language structures specific to the content.

(C) During initial stages of English development, ELLs are expected to meet standards in a second language that many monolingual English speakers find difficult to meet in their native language. However, English language learners' abilities to meet these standards will be influenced by their proficiency in English. While English language learners can analyze, synthesize, and evaluate, their level of English proficiency may impede their ability to demonstrate this knowledge during the initial stages of English language acquisition. It is also critical to understand that ELLs with no previous or with interrupted schooling will require explicit and strategic support as they acquire English and learn to learn in English simultaneously.

(3) To meet Public Education Goal 1 of the Texas Education Code, §4.002, which states, "The students in the public education system will demonstrate exemplary performance in the reading and writing of the English language," students will accomplish the essential knowledge, skills, and student expectations at Kindergarten as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(4) To meet Texas Education Code, §28.002(h), which states, "... each school district shall foster the continuation of the tradition of teaching United States and Texas history and the free enterprise system in regular subject matter and in reading courses and in the adoption of textbooks," students will be provided oral and written narratives as well as other informational texts that can help them to become thoughtful, active citizens who appreciate the basic democratic values of our state and nation.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Print Awareness. Students understand how English is written and printed. Students are expected to:

(A) recognize that spoken words can be represented by print for communication;

(B) identify upper- and lower-case letters;

(C) demonstrate the one-to-one correspondence between a spoken word and a printed word in text;

(D) recognize the difference between a letter and a printed word;

(E) recognize that sentences are comprised of words separated by spaces and demonstrate the awareness of word boundaries (e.g., through kinesthetic or tactile actions such as clapping and jumping);

(F) hold a book right side up, turn its pages correctly, and know that reading moves from top to bottom and left to right; and

(G) identify different parts of a book (e.g., front and back covers, title page).

(2) Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Phonological Awareness. Students display phonological awareness. Students are expected to:

(A) identify a sentence made up of a group of words;

(B) identify syllables in spoken words;

- (C) orally generate rhymes in response to spoken words (e.g., "What rhymes with hat?");
 - (D) distinguish orally presented rhyming pairs of words from non-rhyming pairs;
 - (E) recognize spoken alliteration or groups of words that begin with the same spoken onset or initial sound (e.g., "baby boy bounces the ball");
 - (F) blend spoken onsets and rimes to form simple words (e.g., onset/c/ and rime/at/ make cat);
 - (G) blend spoken phonemes to form one-syllable words (e.g., /m/ .../a/ .../n/ says man);
 - (H) isolate the initial sound in one-syllable spoken words; and
 - (I) segment spoken one-syllable words into two to three phonemes (e.g., dog:/d/ .../o/ .../g/).
- (3) Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Phonics. Students use the relationships between letters and sounds, spelling patterns, and morphological analysis to decode written English. Students are expected to:
- (A) identify the common sounds that letters represent;
 - (B) use knowledge of letter-sound relationships to decode regular words in text and independent of content (e.g., VC, CVC, CCVC, and CVCC words);
 - (C) recognize that new words are created when letters are changed, added, or deleted; and
 - (D) identify and read at least 25 high-frequency words from a commonly used list.
- (4) Reading/Beginning Reading/Strategies. Students comprehend a variety of texts drawing on useful strategies as needed. Students are expected to:
- (A) predict what might happen next in text based on the cover, title, and illustrations; and
 - (B) ask and respond to questions about texts read aloud.
- (5) Reading/Vocabulary Development. Students understand new vocabulary and use it correctly when reading and writing. Students are expected to:
- (A) identify and use words that name actions, directions, positions, sequences, and locations;
 - (B) recognize that compound words are made up of shorter words;
 - (C) identify and sort pictures of objects into conceptual categories (e.g., colors, shapes, textures); and
 - (D) use a picture dictionary to find words.
- (6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Theme and Genre. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about theme and genre in different cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

- (A) identify elements of a story including setting, character, and key events;
 - (B) discuss the big idea (theme) of a well-known folktale or fable and connect it to personal experience;
 - (C) recognize sensory details; and
 - (D) recognize recurring phrases and characters in traditional fairy tales, lullabies, and folktales from various cultures.
- (7) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Poetry. Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to respond to rhythm and rhyme in poetry through identifying a regular beat and similarities in word sounds.
- (8) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Fiction. Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:
- (A) retell a main event from a story read aloud; and
 - (B) describe characters in a story and the reasons for their actions.
- (9) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Culture and History. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about the author's purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to identify the topic of an informational text heard.
- (10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text, and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:
- (A) identify the topic and details in expository text heard or read, referring to the words and/or illustrations;
 - (B) retell important facts in a text, heard or read;
 - (C) discuss the ways authors group information in text; and
 - (D) use titles and illustrations to make predictions about text.
- (11) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Procedural Texts. Students understand how to glean and use information in procedural texts and documents. Students are expected to:
- (A) follow pictorial directions (e.g., recipes, science experiments); and
 - (B) identify the meaning of specific signs (e.g., traffic signs, warning signs).
- (12) Reading/Media Literacy. Students use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work together in various forms to impact meaning. Students continue to apply

earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:

- (A) identify different forms of media (e.g., advertisements, newspapers, radio programs); and
- (B) identify techniques used in media (e.g., sound, movement).

(13) Writing/Writing Process. Students use elements of the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) to compose text. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:

- (A) plan a first draft by generating ideas for writing through class discussion;
- (B) develop drafts by sequencing the action or details in the story;
- (C) revise drafts by adding details or sentences;
- (D) edit drafts by leaving spaces between letters and words; and
- (E) share writing with others.

(14) Writing/Literary Texts. Students write literary texts to express their ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas. Students are expected to:

- (A) dictate or write sentences to tell a story and put the sentences in chronological sequence; and
- (B) write short poems.

(15) Writing/Expository and Procedural Texts. Students write expository and procedural or work-related texts to communicate ideas and information to specific audiences for specific purposes. Students are expected to dictate or write information for lists, captions, or invitations.

(16) Oral and Written Conventions/Conventions. Students understand the function of and use the conventions of academic language when speaking and writing. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to:

- (A) understand and use the following parts of speech in the context of reading, writing, and speaking (with adult assistance):
 - (i) past and future tenses when speaking;
 - (ii) nouns (singular/plural);
 - (iii) descriptive words;
 - (iv) prepositions and simple prepositional phrases appropriately when speaking or writing (e.g., in, on, under, over); and
 - (v) pronouns (e.g., I, me);

(B) speak in complete sentences to communicate; and

(C) use complete simple sentences.

(17) Oral and Written Conventions/Handwriting, Capitalization, and Punctuation. Students write legibly and use appropriate capitalization and punctuation conventions in their compositions. Students are expected to:

(A) form upper- and lower-case letters legibly using the basic conventions of print (left-to-right and top-to-bottom progression);

(B) capitalize the first letter in a sentence; and

(C) use punctuation at the end of a sentence.

(18) Oral and Written Conventions/Spelling. Students spell correctly. Students are expected to:

(A) use phonological knowledge to match sounds to letters;

(B) use letter-sound correspondences to spell consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words (e.g., "cut"); and

(C) write one's own name.

(19) Research/Research Plan. Students ask open-ended research questions and develop a plan for answering them. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:

(A) ask questions about topics of class-wide interest; and

(B) decide what sources or people in the classroom, school, library, or home can answer these questions.

(20) Research/Gathering Sources. Students determine, locate, and explore the full range of relevant sources addressing a research question and systematically record the information they gather. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:

(A) gather evidence from provided text sources; and

(B) use pictures in conjunction with writing when documenting research.

(21) Listening and Speaking/Listening. Students use comprehension skills to listen attentively to others in formal and informal settings. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to:

(A) listen attentively by facing speakers and asking questions to clarify information; and

(B) follow oral directions that involve a short related sequence of actions.

(22) Listening and Speaking/Speaking. Students speak clearly and to the point, using the conventions of language. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to share information and ideas by speaking audibly and clearly using the conventions of language.

(23) Listening and Speaking/Teamwork. Students work productively with others in teams. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to follow agreed-upon rules for discussion, including taking turns and speaking one at a time.

Reading and Comprehension Skills—Kindergarten

Figure: 19 TAC §110.10(b)

Reading/Comprehension Skills. Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author’s message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:

- (A) discuss the purposes for reading and listening to various texts (e.g., to become involved in real and imagined events, settings, actions, and to enjoy language);
- (B) ask and respond to questions about text;
- (C) monitor and adjust comprehension (e.g., using background knowledge, creating sensory images, rereading a portion aloud);
- (D) make inferences based on the cover, title, illustrations, and plot;
- (E) retell or act out important events in stories; and
- (F) make connections to own experiences, to ideas in other texts, and to the larger community and discuss textual evidence.

§111.12. Mathematics, Kindergarten.

(a) Introduction.

- (1) Within a well-balanced mathematics curriculum, the primary focal points at Kindergarten are developing whole-number concepts and using patterns and sorting to explore number, data, and shape.
- (2) Throughout mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 2, students build a foundation of basic understandings in number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; measurement; and probability and statistics. Students use numbers in ordering, labeling, and expressing quantities and relationships to solve problems and translate informal language into mathematical language and symbols. Students use objects to create and identify patterns and use those patterns to express relationships, make predictions, and solve problems as they build an understanding of number, operation, shape, and space. Students progress from informal to formal language to describe two- and three-dimensional geometric figures and likenesses in the physical world. Students begin to develop measurement concepts as they identify and compare attributes of objects and

situations. Students collect, organize, and display data and use information from graphs to answer questions, make summary statements, and make informal predictions based on their experiences.

(3) Throughout mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 2, students develop numerical fluency with conceptual understanding and computational accuracy. Students in Kindergarten-Grade 2 use basic number sense to compose and decompose numbers in order to solve problems requiring precision, estimation, and reasonableness. By the end of Grade 2, students know basic addition and subtraction facts and are using them to work flexibly, efficiently, and accurately with numbers during addition and subtraction computation.

(4) Problem solving, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and formal and informal reasoning underlie all content areas in mathematics. Throughout mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 2, students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools such as manipulative materials to develop conceptual understanding and solve meaningful problems as they do mathematics.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(K.1) Number, operation, and quantitative reasoning. The student uses numbers to name quantities. The student is expected to:

(A) use one-to-one correspondence and language such as more than, same number as, or two less than to describe relative sizes of sets of concrete objects;

(B) use sets of concrete objects to represent quantities given in verbal or written form (through 20); and

(C) use numbers to describe how many objects are in a set (through 20) using verbal and symbolic descriptions.

(K.2) Number, operation, and quantitative reasoning. The student describes order of events or objects. The student is expected to:

(A) use language such as before or after to describe relative position in a sequence of events or objects; and

(B) name the ordinal positions in a sequence such as first, second, third, etc.

(K.3) Number, operation, and quantitative reasoning. The student recognizes that there are quantities less than a whole. The student is expected to:

(A) share a whole by separating it into two equal parts; and

(B) explain why a given part is half of the whole.

(K.4) Number, operation, and quantitative reasoning. The student models addition (joining) and subtraction (separating). The student is expected to model and create addition and subtraction problems in real situations with concrete objects.

(K.5) Patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking. The student identifies, extends, and creates patterns. The student is expected to identify, extend, and create patterns of sounds, physical movement, and concrete objects.

(K.6) Patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking. The student uses patterns to make predictions. The student is expected to:

- (A) use patterns to predict what comes next, including cause-and-effect relationships; and
- (B) count by ones to 100.

(K.7) Geometry and spatial reasoning. The student describes the relative positions of objects. The student is expected to:

- (A) describe one object in relation to another using informal language such as over, under, above, and below; and
- (B) place an object in a specified position.

(K.8) Geometry and spatial reasoning. The student uses attributes to determine how objects are alike and different. The student is expected to:

- (A) describe and identify an object by its attributes using informal language;
- (B) compare two objects based on their attributes; and
- (C) sort a variety of objects including two- and three-dimensional geometric figures according to their attributes and describe how the objects are sorted.

(K.9) Geometry and spatial reasoning. The student recognizes attributes of two- and three-dimensional geometric figures. The student is expected to:

- (A) describe and compare the attributes of real-life objects such as balls, boxes, cans, and cones or models of three-dimensional geometric figures;
- (B) recognize shapes in real-life three-dimensional geometric figures or models of three-dimensional geometric figures; and
- (C) describe, identify, and compare circles, triangles, rectangles, and squares (a special type of rectangle).

(K.10) Measurement. The student directly compares the attributes of length, area, weight/mass, capacity, and/or relative temperature. The student uses comparative language to solve problems and answer questions. The student is expected to:

- (A) compare and order two or three concrete objects according to length (longer/shorter than, or the same);
- (B) compare the areas of two flat surfaces of two-dimensional figures (covers more, covers less, or covers the same);

- (C) compare two containers according to capacity (holds more, holds less, or holds the same);
- (D) compare two objects according to weight/mass (heavier than, lighter than or equal to); and
- (E) compare situations or objects according to relative temperature (hotter/colder than, or the same as).

(K.11) Measurement. The student uses time to describe, compare, and order events and situations. The student is expected to:

- (A) compare events according to duration such as more time than or less time than;
- (B) sequence events (up to three); and
- (C) read a calendar using days, weeks, and months.

(K.12) Probability and statistics. The student constructs and uses graphs of real objects or pictures to answer questions. The student is expected to:

- (A) construct graphs using real objects or pictures in order to answer questions; and
- (B) use information from a graph of real objects or pictures in order to answer questions.

(K.13) Underlying processes and mathematical tools. The student applies Kindergarten mathematics to solve problems connected to everyday experiences and activities in and outside of school. The student is expected to:

- (A) identify mathematics in everyday situations;
- (B) solve problems with guidance that incorporates the processes of understanding the problem, making a plan, carrying out the plan, and evaluating the solution for reasonableness;
- (C) select or develop an appropriate problem-solving strategy including drawing a picture, looking for a pattern, systematic guessing and checking, or acting it out in order to solve a problem; and
- (D) use tools such as real objects, manipulatives, and technology to solve problems.

(K.14) Underlying processes and mathematical tools. The student communicates about Kindergarten mathematics using informal language. The student is expected to:

- (A) communicate mathematical ideas using objects, words, pictures, numbers, and technology; and
- (B) relate everyday language to mathematical language and symbols.

(K.15) Underlying processes and mathematical tools. The student uses logical reasoning. The student is expected to justify his or her thinking using objects, words, pictures, numbers, and technology.

§112.11. Science, Kindergarten, Beginning with School Year 2010-2011.

(a) Introduction.

(1) Science, as defined by the National Academy of Sciences, is the "use of evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena, as well as the knowledge generated through this process."

(2) Recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include patterns, cycles, systems, models, and change and constancy.

(3) The study of elementary science includes planning and safely implementing classroom and outdoor investigations using scientific processes, including inquiry methods, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and using tools to collect and record information, while addressing the major concepts and vocabulary, in the context of physical, earth, and life sciences. Districts are encouraged to facilitate classroom and outdoor investigations for at least 80% of instructional time.

(4) In Kindergarten, students observe and describe the natural world using their five senses. Students do science as inquiry in order to develop and enrich their abilities to understand scientific concepts and processes. Students develop vocabulary through their experiences investigating properties of common objects, earth materials, and organisms.

(A) A central theme throughout the study of scientific investigation and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environment is active engagement in asking questions, communicating ideas, and exploring with scientific tools. Scientific investigation and reasoning involves practicing safe procedures, asking questions about the natural world, and seeking answers to those questions through simple observations and descriptive investigations.

(B) Matter is described in terms of its physical properties, including relative size and mass, shape, color, and texture. The importance of light, heat, and sound energy is identified as it relates to the students' everyday life. The location and motion of objects are explored.

(C) Weather is recorded and discussed on a daily basis so students may begin to recognize patterns in the weather. Other patterns are observed in the appearance of objects in the sky.

(D) In life science, students recognize the interdependence of organisms in the natural world. They understand that all organisms have basic needs that can be satisfied through interactions with living and nonliving things. Students will investigate the life cycle of plants and identify likenesses between parents and offspring.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student conducts classroom and outdoor investigations following home and school safety procedures and uses environmentally appropriate and responsible practices. The student is expected to:

- (A) identify and demonstrate safe practices as described in the Texas Safety Standards during classroom and outdoor investigations, including wearing safety goggles, washing hands, and using materials appropriately;
 - (B) discuss the importance of safe practices to keep self and others safe and healthy; and
 - (C) demonstrate how to use, conserve, and dispose of natural resources and materials such as conserving water and reusing or recycling paper, plastic, and metal.
- (2) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student develops abilities to ask questions and seek answers in classroom and outdoor investigations. The student is expected to:
- (A) ask questions about organisms, objects, and events observed in the natural world;
 - (B) plan and conduct simple descriptive investigations such as ways objects move;
 - (C) collect data and make observations using simple equipment such as hand lenses, primary balances, and non-standard measurement tools;
 - (D) record and organize data and observations using pictures, numbers, and words; and
 - (E) communicate observations with others about simple descriptive investigations.
- (3) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student knows that information and critical thinking are used in scientific problem solving. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify and explain a problem such as the impact of littering on the playground and propose a solution in his/her own words;
 - (B) make predictions based on observable patterns in nature such as the shapes of leaves; and
 - (C) explore that scientists investigate different things in the natural world and use tools to help in their investigations.
- (4) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student uses age-appropriate tools and models to investigate the natural world. The student is expected to:
- (A) collect information using tools, including computers, hand lenses, primary balances, cups, bowls, magnets, collecting nets, and notebooks; timing devices, including clocks and timers; non-standard measuring items such as paper clips and clothespins; weather instruments such as demonstration thermometers and wind socks; and materials to support observations of habitats of organisms such as terrariums and aquariums; and
 - (B) use senses as a tool of observation to identify properties and patterns of organisms, objects, and events in the environment.
- (5) Matter and energy. The student knows that objects have properties and patterns. The student is expected to:

(A) observe and record properties of objects, including relative size and mass, such as bigger or smaller and heavier or lighter, shape, color, and texture; and

(B) observe, record, and discuss how materials can be changed by heating or cooling.

(6) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that energy, force, and motion are related and are a part of their everyday life. The student is expected to:

(A) use the five senses to explore different forms of energy such as light, heat, and sound;

(B) explore interactions between magnets and various materials;

(C) observe and describe the location of an object in relation to another such as above, below, behind, in front of, and beside; and

(D) observe and describe the ways that objects can move such as in a straight line, zigzag, up and down, back and forth, round and round, and fast and slow.

(7) Earth and space. The student knows that the natural world includes earth materials. The student is expected to:

(A) observe, describe, compare, and sort rocks by size, shape, color, and texture;

(B) observe and describe physical properties of natural sources of water, including color and clarity; and

(C) give examples of ways rocks, soil, and water are useful.

(8) Earth and space. The student knows that there are recognizable patterns in the natural world and among objects in the sky. The student is expected to:

(A) observe and describe weather changes from day to day and over seasons;

(B) identify events that have repeating patterns, including seasons of the year and day and night; and

(C) observe, describe, and illustrate objects in the sky such as the clouds, Moon, and stars, including the Sun.

(9) Organisms and environments. The student knows that plants and animals have basic needs and depend on the living and nonliving things around them for survival. The student is expected to:

(A) differentiate between living and nonliving things based upon whether they have basic needs and produce offspring; and

(B) examine evidence that living organisms have basic needs such as food, water, and shelter for animals and air, water, nutrients, sunlight, and space for plants.

(10) Organisms and environments. The student knows that organisms resemble their parents and have structures and processes that help them survive within their environments. The student is expected to:

- (A) sort plants and animals into groups based on physical characteristics such as color, size, body covering, or leaf shape;
- (B) identify parts of plants such as roots, stem, and leaves and parts of animals such as head, eyes, and limbs;
- (C) identify ways that young plants resemble the parent plant; and
- (D) observe changes that are part of a simple life cycle of a plant: seed, seedling, plant, flower, and fruit.

§113.11. Social Studies, Kindergarten, Beginning with School Year 2011-2012.

(a) Introduction.

(1) In Kindergarten, the study of the self, home, family, and classroom establishes the foundation for responsible citizenship in society. Students explore state and national heritage by examining the celebration of patriotic holidays and the contributions of individuals. The concept of chronology is introduced. Students apply geographic concepts of location and physical and human characteristics of place. Students identify basic human needs and ways people meet these needs. Students learn the purpose of rules and the role of authority figures in the home and school. Students learn customs, symbols, and celebrations that represent American beliefs and principles and contribute to our national identity. Students compare family customs and traditions and describe examples of technology in the home and school. Students acquire information from a variety of oral and visual sources. Students practice problem-solving, decision-making, and independent-thinking skills.

(2) To support the teaching of the essential knowledge and skills, the use of a variety of rich material is encouraged. Motivating resources are available from museums, historical sites, presidential libraries, and local and state preservation societies.

(3) The eight strands of the essential knowledge and skills for social studies are intended to be integrated for instructional purposes. Skills listed in the social studies skills strand in subsection (b) of this section should be incorporated into the teaching of all essential knowledge and skills for social studies. A greater depth of understanding of complex content material can be attained when integrated social studies content from the various disciplines and critical-thinking skills are taught together. Statements that contain the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(4) Students identify the role of the U.S. free enterprise system within the parameters of this course and understand that this system may also be referenced as capitalism or the free market system.

(5) Throughout social studies in Kindergarten-Grade 12, students build a foundation in history; geography; economics; government; citizenship; culture; science, technology, and society; and social studies skills. The content, as appropriate for the grade level or course, enables students to understand the importance of patriotism, function in a free enterprise society, and appreciate the basic democratic values of our state and nation as referenced in the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.002(h).

(6) Students understand that a constitutional republic is a representative form of government whose representatives derive their authority from the consent of the governed, serve for an established tenure, and are sworn to uphold the constitution.

(7) Students must demonstrate learning performance related to any federal and state mandates regarding classroom instruction. Although Kindergarten is not required to participate in Celebrate Freedom Week, according to the TEC, §29.907, primary grades lay the foundation for subsequent learning. As a result, Kindergarten Texas essential knowledge and skills include standards related to this patriotic observance.

(8) Students identify and discuss how the actions of U.S. citizens and the local, state, and federal governments have either met or failed to meet the ideals espoused in the founding documents.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) History. The student understands that holidays are celebrations of special events. The student is expected to:

(A) explain the reasons for national patriotic holidays such as Presidents' Day, Veterans Day, and Independence Day; and

(B) identify customs associated with national patriotic holidays such as parades and fireworks on Independence Day.

(2) History. The student understands how historical figures, patriots, and good citizens helped shape the community, state, and nation. The student is expected to:

(A) identify contributions of historical figures, including Stephen F. Austin, George Washington, Christopher Columbus, and José Antonio Navarro, who helped to shape the state and nation; and

(B) identify contributions of patriots and good citizens who have shaped the community.

(3) History. The student understands the concept of chronology. The student is expected to:

(A) place events in chronological order; and

(B) use vocabulary related to time and chronology, including before, after, next, first, last, yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

(4) Geography. The student understands the concept of location. The student is expected to:

(A) use terms, including over, under, near, far, left, and right, to describe relative location;

(B) locate places on the school campus and describe their relative locations; and

(C) identify tools that aid in determining location, including maps and globes.

(5) Geography. The student understands physical and human characteristics of place. The student is expected to:

- (A) identify the physical characteristics of place such as landforms, bodies of water, natural resources, and weather; and
 - (B) identify how the human characteristics of place such as ways of earning a living, shelter, clothing, food, and activities are based upon geographic location.
- (6) Economics. The student understands that basic human needs and wants are met in many ways. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify basic human needs of food, clothing, and shelter;
 - (B) explain the difference between needs and wants; and
 - (C) explain how basic human needs can be met such as through self-producing, purchasing, and trading.
- (7) Economics. The student understands the value of jobs. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify jobs in the home, school, and community; and
 - (B) explain why people have jobs.
- (8) Government. The student understands the purpose of rules. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify purposes for having rules; and
 - (B) identify rules that provide order, security, and safety in the home and school.
- (9) Government. The student understands the role of authority figures. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify authority figures in the home, school, and community; and
 - (B) explain how authority figures make and enforce rules.
- (10) Citizenship. The student understands important symbols, customs, and responsibilities that represent American beliefs and principles and contribute to our national identity. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify the flags of the United States and Texas;
 - (B) recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and the Pledge to the Texas Flag;
 - (C) identify Constitution Day as a celebration of American freedom; and
 - (D) use voting as a method for group decision making.
- (11) Culture. The student understands similarities and differences among people. The student is expected to:

- (A) identify similarities and differences among people such as kinship, laws, and religion; and
 - (B) identify similarities and differences among people such as music, clothing, and food.
- (12) Culture. The student understands the importance of family customs and traditions. The student is expected to:
- (A) describe and explain the importance of family customs and traditions; and
 - (B) compare family customs and traditions.
- (13) Science, technology, and society. The student understands ways technology is used in the home and school and how technology affects people's lives. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify examples of technology used in the home and school;
 - (B) describe how technology helps accomplish specific tasks and meet people's needs; and
 - (C) describe how his or her life might be different without modern technology.
- (14) Social studies skills. The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of valid sources, including electronic technology. The student is expected to:
- (A) obtain information about a topic using a variety of valid oral sources such as conversations, interviews, and music;
 - (B) obtain information about a topic using a variety of valid visual sources such as pictures, symbols, electronic media, print material, and artifacts; and
 - (C) sequence and categorize information.
- (15) Social studies skills. The student communicates in oral and visual forms. The student is expected to:
- (A) express ideas orally based on knowledge and experiences; and
 - (B) create and interpret visuals, including pictures and maps.
- (16) Social studies skills. The student uses problem-solving and decision-making skills, working independently and with others, in a variety of settings. The student is expected to:
- (A) use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution; and
 - (B) use a decision-making process to identify a situation that requires a decision, gather information, generate options, predict outcomes, take action to implement a decision, and reflect on the effectiveness of the decision.
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§114.2. Languages Other Than English, Elementary.

School districts are strongly encouraged to offer languages other than English in the elementary grades. For districts that offer languages in elementary, the essential knowledge and skills are those designated as Levels I and II - novice progress checkpoint, exploratory languages, and cultural and linguistic topics in Subchapter C of this chapter (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English).

§115.2. Health Education, Kindergarten.**(a) Introduction.**

(1) In health education, students acquire the health information and skills necessary to become healthy adults and learn about behaviors in which they should and should not participate. To achieve that goal, students will understand the following: students should first seek guidance in the area of health from their parents; personal behaviors can increase or reduce health risks throughout the lifespan; health is influenced by a variety of factors; students can recognize and utilize health information and products; and personal/interpersonal skills are needed to promote individual, family, and community health.

(2) Kindergarten students are taught basic factors that contribute to health literacy. Students learn about their bodies and the behaviors necessary to protect them and keep them healthy. Students also understand how to seek help from parents and other trusted adults.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Health behaviors. The student recognizes that personal health decisions and behaviors affect health throughout life. The student is expected to:

(A) identify and practice personal health habits that help individuals stay healthy such as a proper amount of sleep and clean hands;

(B) identify types of foods that help the body grow such as healthy breakfast foods and snacks; and

(C) identify types of exercise and active play that are good for the body.

(2) Health behaviors. The student understands that behaviors result in healthy or unhealthy conditions throughout the life span. The student is expected to:

(A) identify the purpose of protective equipment such as a seat belt and a bicycle helmet;

(B) identify safe and unsafe places to play such as a back yard and a street;

(C) name the harmful effects of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs;

(D) identify ways to avoid harming oneself or another person;

(E) practice safety rules during physical activity such as water safety and bike safety;

(F) identify how to get help from a parent and/or trusted adult when made to feel uncomfortable or unsafe by another person/adult;

(G) demonstrate procedures for responding to emergencies including dialing 911; and

(H) name objects that may be dangerous such as knives, scissors, and screwdrivers and tell how they can be harmful.

(3) Health behaviors. The student demonstrates decision-making skills for making health-promoting decisions. The student is expected to:

(A) demonstrate how to seek the help of parents/guardians and other trusted adults in making decisions and solving problems; and

(B) plan a healthy meal and/or snack.

(4) Health information. The student knows the basic structures and functions of the human body and how they relate to personal health. The student is expected to:

(A) name the five senses;

(B) name major body parts and their functions; and

(C) name and demonstrate good posture principles such as standing straight with shoulders back.

(5) Health information. The student understands how to recognize health information. The student is expected to:

(A) name people who can provide helpful health information such as parents, doctors, teachers, and nurses; and

(B) explain the importance of health information.

(6) Influencing factors. The student understands the difference between being sick and being healthy. The student is expected to:

(A) tell how germs cause illness and disease in people of all ages;

(B) name symptoms of common illnesses and diseases;

(C) explain practices used to control the spread of germs such as washing hands; and

(D) discuss basic parts of the body's defense system against germs such as the skin.

(7) Influencing factors. The student understands that various factors influence personal health. The student is expected to:

(A) tell how weather affects individual health such as dressing for warmth, protecting skin from the sun, and keeping classrooms and homes warm and cool; and

- (B) identify ways to prevent the transmission of head lice such as sharing brushes and caps.
- (8) Personal/interpersonal skills. The student understands ways to communicate consideration and respect for self, family, friends, and others. The student is expected to:
- (A) recognize and describe individual differences and communicate appropriately with all individuals;
 - (B) explain the importance of showing consideration and respect for parents, grandparents, other family members, friends, and other individuals; and
 - (C) recognize and explain the importance of manners and rules for healthy communication.
- (9) Personal/interpersonal skills. The student comprehends the skills necessary for building and maintaining healthy relationships. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify and use refusal skills to avoid unsafe behavior situations such as saying no in unsafe situations and then telling an adult if he/she is threatened; and
 - (B) demonstrate skills for making new acquaintances.
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§116.2. Physical Education, Kindergarten.

(a) Introduction.

- (1) In Physical Education, students acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development through physical activity, and access to a physically-active lifestyle. The student exhibits a physically-active lifestyle and understands the relationship between physical activity and health throughout the lifespan.
- (2) In Grades K-2, children learn fundamental movement skills and begin to understand how the muscles, bones, heart, and lungs function in relation to physical activity. Students begin to develop a vocabulary for movement and apply concepts dealing with space and body awareness. Students are engaged in activities that develop basic levels of strength, endurance, and flexibility. In addition, students learn to work safely in group and individual movement settings. A major objective is to present activities that complement their natural inclination to view physical activity as challenging and enjoyable.
- (3) The focus for kindergarten students is on learning basic body control while moving in a variety of settings. Students become aware of strength, endurance and flexibility in different parts of their bodies and begin to learn ways to increase health-related fitness.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

- (1) Movement. The student demonstrates competency in fundamental movement patterns and proficiency in a few specialized movement forms. The student is expected to:
- (A) travel in different ways in a large group without bumping into others or falling;

- (B) demonstrate clear contrasts between slow and fast movement when traveling;
 - (C) demonstrate non-locomotor (axial) movements such as bend and stretch;
 - (D) maintain balance while bearing weight on a variety of body parts;
 - (E) walk forward and sideways the length of a beam without falling;
 - (F) demonstrate a variety of relationships such as under, over, behind, next to, through, right, left, up, down, forward, backward, and in front of;
 - (G) roll sideways (right or left) without hesitating; and
 - (H) toss a ball and catch it before it bounces twice.
- (2) Movement. The student applies movement concepts and principles to the learning and development of motor skills. The student is expected to:
- (A) identify selected body parts such as head, back, chest, waist, hips, arms, elbows, wrists, hands, fingers, legs, knees, ankles, feet, and toes; and
 - (B) demonstrate movement forms of various body parts such as head flexion, extension, and rotation.
- (3) Physical activity and health. The student exhibits a health enhancing, physically-active lifestyle that improves health and provides opportunities for enjoyment and challenge. The student is expected to:
- (A) describe and select physical activities that provide opportunities for enjoyment and challenge;
 - (B) participate in moderate to vigorous physical activities on a daily basis that cause increased heart rate, breathing rate, and perspiration;
 - (C) participate in appropriate exercises for flexibility in shoulders, legs, and trunk;
 - (D) lift and support his/her own weight in selected activities that develop muscular strength and endurance of the arms, shoulders, abdomen, back, and legs such as hanging, hopping, and jumping; and
 - (E) describe the benefits from involvement in daily physical activity such as feel better and sleep better.
- (4) Physical activity and health. The student knows the benefits from being involved in daily physical activity and factors that affect physical performance. The student is expected to:
- (A) observe and describe the immediate effect of physical activity on the heart and breathing rate and perspiration;
 - (B) locate the lungs and explain their purpose; and

- (C) state that rest and sleep are important in caring for the body.
- (5) Physical activity and health. The student understands safety practices associated with physical activity and space. The student is expected to:
- (A) use equipment and space properly;
 - (B) know and apply safety practices associated with physical activity such as not pushing in line and drinking water during activity;
 - (C) explain how proper shoes and clothing promotes safe play and prevent injury;
 - (D) explain appropriate water safety rules such as never swim alone, never run around pools, look before you jump, enter feet first, and know the role of the lifeguard; and
 - (E) explain appropriate reactions during emergencies in physical activities.
- (6) Social development. The student understands basic components such as strategies and rules of structured physical activities including, but not limited to, games, sports, dance, and gymnastics. The student is expected to:
- (A) respond appropriately to starting and stopping signals; and
 - (B) demonstrate the ability to play within boundaries during games and activities.
- (7) Social development. The student develops positive self-management and social skills needed to work independently and with others in physical activity settings. The student is expected to:
- (A) follow rules, procedures, and safe practices;
 - (B) work in a group setting in cooperation with others; and
 - (C) share space and equipment with others.

§117.2. Art, Kindergarten.

(a) Introduction.

(1) Four basic strands--perception, creative expression/performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Students rely on their perceptions of the environment, developed through increasing visual awareness and sensitivity to surroundings, memory, imagination, and life experiences, as a source for creating artworks. They express their thoughts and ideas creatively, while challenging their imagination, fostering reflective thinking, and developing disciplined effort and problem-solving skills.

(2) By analyzing artistic styles and historical periods students develop respect for the traditions and contributions of diverse cultures. Students respond to and analyze artworks, thus contributing to the development of lifelong skills of making informed judgments and evaluations.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Perception. The student develops and organizes ideas from the environment. The student is expected to:

(A) glean information from the environment, using the five senses; and

(B) identify colors, textures, forms, and subjects in the environment.

(2) Creative expression/performance. The student expresses ideas through original artworks, using a variety of media with appropriate skill. The student is expected to:

(A) create artworks, using a variety of colors, forms, and lines;

(B) arrange forms intuitively to create artworks; and

(C) develop manipulative skills when drawing, painting, printmaking, and constructing artworks, using a variety of materials.

(3) Historical/cultural heritage. The student demonstrates an understanding of art history and culture as records of human achievement. The student is expected to:

(A) identify simple subjects expressed in artworks;

(B) share ideas about personal artworks and the work of others, demonstrating respect for differing opinions; and

(C) relate art to everyday life.

(4) Response/evaluation. The student makes informed judgments about personal artworks and the artworks of others. The student is expected to:

(A) express ideas about personal artworks; and

(B) express ideas about original artworks, portfolios, and exhibitions by peers and artists.

§117.3. Music, Kindergarten.

(a) Introduction.

(1) Four basic strands--perception, creative expression/performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. In music, students develop their intellect and refine their emotions, understanding

the cultural and creative nature of musical artistry and making connections among music, the other arts, technology, and other aspects of social life. Through creative performance, students apply the expressive technical skills of music and critical-thinking skills to evaluate multiple forms of problem solving.

(2) By reflecting on musical periods and styles, students understand music's role in history and are able to participate successfully in a diverse society. Students analyze and evaluate music, developing criteria for making critical judgments and informed choices.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Perception. The student describes and analyzes musical sound and demonstrates musical artistry. The student is expected to:

(A) identify the difference between the singing and speaking voice; and

(B) identify the timbre of adult voices and instruments.

(2) Creative expression/performance. The student performs a varied repertoire of music. The student is expected to:

(A) sing or play classroom instruments independently or in a group; and

(B) sing songs from diverse cultures and styles or play such songs on musical instruments.

(3) Historical/cultural heritage. The student relates music to history, to society, and to culture. The student is expected to:

(A) sing songs and play musical games from different cultures; and

(B) identify simple relationships between music and other subjects.

(4) Response/evaluation. The student responds to and evaluates music and musical performance. The student is expected to:

(A) identify steady beat in musical performances; and

(B) identify higher/lower, louder/softer, faster/slower, and same/different in musical performances.

§117.4. Theatre, Kindergarten.

(a) Introduction.

(1) Four basic strands--perception, creative expression/performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Through perceptual studies, students increase their understanding of self and others and develop clear ideas about the world. Through a variety of theatrical experiences, students

communicate in a dramatic form, make artistic choices, solve problems, build positive self-concepts, and relate interpersonally.

(2) Students increase their understanding of heritage and traditions through historical and cultural studies in theatre. Student response and evaluation promote thinking and further discriminating judgment, developing students who are appreciative and evaluative consumers of live theatre, film, television, and other technologies.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Perception. The student develops concepts about self, human relationships, and the environment, using elements of drama and conventions of theatre. The student is expected to:

- (A) develop self-awareness through dramatic play;
- (B) explore space, using expressive movement;
- (C) imitate sounds; and
- (D) imitate and recreate objects in dramatic play.

(2) Creative expression/performance. The student interprets characters, using the voice and body expressively, and creates dramatizations. The student is expected to:

- (A) demonstrate safe use of movement and voice;
- (B) assume roles through imitation and recreation;
- (C) identify the characteristics of dramatic play; and
- (D) participate in dramatic play.

(3) Creative expression/performance. The student applies design, directing, and theatre production concepts and skills. The student is expected to:

- (A) create playing space, using simple materials;
- (B) create costumes, using simple materials;
- (C) plan dramatic play; and
- (D) cooperate with others in dramatic play.

(4) Historical/cultural heritage. The student relates theatre to history, society, and culture. The student is expected to:

- (A) play and replay real and imaginative situations of various cultures; and
- (B) play and replay stories from American history.

(5) Response/evaluation. The student responds to and evaluates theatre and theatrical performances. The student is expected to:

- (A) begin to identify appropriate audience behavior;
- (B) respond to dramatic activities;
- (C) demonstrate awareness of the use of music, creative movement, and visual components in dramatic play; and
- (D) observe the performance of artists and identify theatrical vocations.

§126.6. Technology Applications, Kindergarten-Grade 2.

(a) Introduction.

(1) The technology applications curriculum has six strands based on the National Educational Technology Standards for Students (NETS•S) and performance indicators developed by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE): creativity and innovation; communication and collaboration; research and information fluency; critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making; digital citizenship; and technology operations and concepts.

(2) Through the study of the six strands in technology applications, students use creative thinking and innovative processes to construct knowledge and develop products. Students communicate and collaborate both locally and globally to reinforce and promote learning. Research and information fluency includes the acquisition and evaluation of digital content. Students develop critical-thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills by collecting, analyzing, and reporting digital information. Students practice digital citizenship by behaving responsibly while using technology tools and resources. Through the study of technology operations and concepts, students learn technology related terms, concepts, and data input strategies.

(3) Statements that contain the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Creativity and innovation. The student uses creative thinking and innovative processes to construct knowledge and develop digital products. The student is expected to:

- (A) apply prior knowledge to develop new ideas, products, and processes;
- (B) create original products using a variety of resources;
- (C) explore virtual environments, simulations, models, and programming languages to enhance learning;
- (D) create and execute steps to accomplish a task; and

(E) evaluate and modify steps to accomplish a task.

(2) Communication and collaboration. The student collaborates and communicates both locally and globally using digital tools and resources to reinforce and promote learning. The student is expected to:

(A) use communication tools that allow for anytime, anywhere access to interact, collaborate, or publish with peers locally and globally;

(B) participate in digital environments to develop cultural understanding by interacting with learners of multiple cultures;

(C) format digital information, including font attributes, color, white space, graphics, and animation, for a defined audience and communication medium; and

(D) select, store, and deliver products using a variety of media, formats, devices, and virtual environments.

(3) Research and information fluency. The student acquires and evaluates digital content. The student is expected to:

(A) use search strategies to access information to guide inquiry;

(B) use research skills to build a knowledge base regarding a topic, task, or assignment; and

(C) evaluate the usefulness of acquired digital content.

(4) Critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making. The student applies critical-thinking skills to solve problems, guide research, and evaluate projects using digital tools and resources. The student is expected to:

(A) identify what is known and unknown and what needs to be known regarding a problem and explain the steps to solve the problem;

(B) evaluate the appropriateness of a digital tool to achieve the desired product;

(C) evaluate products prior to final submission; and

(D) collect, analyze, and represent data using tools such as word processing, spreadsheets, graphic organizers, charts, multimedia, simulations, models, and programming languages.

(5) Digital citizenship. The student practices safe, responsible, legal, and ethical behavior while using digital tools and resources. The student is expected to:

(A) adhere to acceptable use policies reflecting appropriate behavior in a digital environment;

(B) comply with acceptable digital safety rules, fair use guidelines, and copyright laws; and

(C) practice the responsible use of digital information regarding intellectual property, including software, text, images, audio, and video.

(6) Technology operations and concepts. The student demonstrates knowledge and appropriate use of technology systems, concepts, and operations. The student is expected to:

- (A) use appropriate terminology regarding basic hardware, software applications, programs, networking, virtual environments, and emerging technologies;
- (B) use appropriate digital tools and resources for storage, access, file management, collaboration, and designing solutions to problems;
- (C) perform basic software application functions, including opening an application and creating, modifying, printing, and saving files;
- (D) use a variety of input, output, and storage devices;
- (E) use proper keyboarding techniques such as ergonomically correct hand and body positions appropriate for Kindergarten-Grade 2 learning;
- (F) demonstrate keyboarding techniques for operating the alphabetic, numeric, punctuation, and symbol keys appropriate for Kindergarten-Grade 2 learning; and
- (G) use the help feature online and in applications.