

Dear Parents,

Many of you have asked how to help your kindergartner make a successful adjustment to first grade in August. The following lists of activities will review the reading and math outcomes that have been covered in Kindergarten.

- Book Awareness
 - Locating front and back covers, title page
 - Locating title
 - Pointing out where we begin reading and where to stop
 - Knowing what an author does
 - Knowing what an illustrator does
 - Tracking print, word to speech correspondence

- Story Elements
 - Identifying characters, setting, (time and place), problems and solutions
 - Getting the "gist" or main idea of the story
 - Identifying events in a story
 - Telling the beginning and ending of a book that is read
 - Sequencing of story events
 - Be an author and illustrator and create your own story

- Story Retelling
 - Including all the story elements (character, setting, events, beginning and ending)
 - Create alternate endings for stories

- Identifying letters, sounds, and sight words
 - Naming all upper and lower case letters
 - Telling sounds for each consonant
 - Telling long and short vowel sounds
 - Telling some "reading pals" - (th, sh, ch, wh, er, ing)
 - Phonetically spell words
 - Identify syllables in words

- Sight Word Vocabulary
 - Reading color and number words
 - Reading high frequency words from the word bank

- Reading developmentally appropriate stories
- Use sight words to create sentences trying to use upper and lower case letters and punctuation appropriately

Basic Mathematics

- Identifying numerals to at least 30
- Counting with one -to-one correspondence to at least 30
- Practice counting by 5's and 10's
- Identifying basic shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle, sphere, cylinder, cube, cone, and rectangular prism)
- Create AB, ABC, AABB, and ABB patterns
- Practice reading clocks and telling time
- Sort and identify money

All of the skills listed above are things that have been covered in Kindergarten. Nothing is new, but as with any skill, lack of practice causes our knowledge to fade. If you spend a little time each day going over these skills, your child will be in a much more comfortable position to begin first grade. "Play school" this summer. Talk about first grade. Let your child help you shop for school supplies. Visit the public library and go to as many new and unusual places as you can. Building background knowledge will help your child to understand what he/she is reading.

We would like to extend our warmest wishes to you and your family. Have a terrific summer and we can't wait to see you in August!

Sincerely,
The First Grade Team
Mrs. Alvarez and Mrs. Musgrove