



# Kindergarten English Language Arts

## Major Learning Targets for This Grade

### Reading

- Students will be able to name upper- and lower-case letters, match those letters with their sounds, and print them.
- Students will use knowledge of letters and letter-sound correspondences to figure out how to spell words as they sound.
- Students will compare the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories, such as fairy tales and folktales.
- Students will retell familiar stories and talk about stories read to them using details from the text.

### Writing

- Students will use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened.
- Student will be able to state an opinion or preference about a topic or book in writing (e.g., "My favorite book is...").

### Language

- Students will understand and use question words (e.g., *who, what, where, when, why, how*) in discussions.
- Students will learn to recognize, spell, and properly use those little grammatical words that hold the language together (e.g., *a, the, to, of, from, I, is, are*).

### Speaking and Listening

- Students will take part in classroom conversations and follow rules for discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking).
- Students will be able to speak clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas, including descriptions of familiar people, places, things, and events.
- Students will be able to ask and answer questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud.



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## College, Career, and Life Readiness

Students will be working to develop the following capabilities of a literate individual:

- Demonstrate independence.
- Build strong content knowledge.
- Respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- Comprehend as well as critique.
- Value evidence.
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

## How Can I Support My Child?

### 1. Read with Your Child

- Keep reading to your child. It is important to continue this practice even after they have started reading on their own. Read stories, poems, and other materials in any language.
- Find stories with string rhythms and rhymes, and have your child read or sing along with you.
- Listen to your child read to you and take turns reading together.

### 2. Build on Language in Everyday Life

- Build listening skills and vocabulary by talking through your daily activities. Talk about what you are doing as you cook, drive, shop, or visit new places.

### 3. Allow a Productive Struggle

- Don't interrupt your child's reading to correct mistakes unless the mistake changes the meaning.
- Help your child to sound out new and difficult words.

### 4. Explore Words Together

- Cut out words and letters from magazines to play with or use magnetic letters on the refrigerator.
- As your child begins reading their own, point out new words and practice pronouncing them.

### 5. Talk about Reading

- Discuss the characters and the events in the story. Ask your child about relationships between different characters, how a character might solve a problem, or what happened in the beginning, middle, and end.
- Develop comparison skills. Ask how characters or subjects in one book are similar or different from other books your child has read.
- After reading, ask your child to name anything that they enjoyed or learned.
- Talk about the author's intention. "Did she try to teach us a lesson in this story?" "How did he want to make us feel?"
- Ask your child to name favorites and tell why. Discuss which books are mysteries, adventures, or other genres.
- Discuss key details in informational books. Ask your child to describe the connection between two ideas or pieces of information in a text.
- Talk about information provided by pictures and illustrations as compared to information provided by the words in the text.

### 6. Encourage a Love of Reading

- Have a variety of books at home. Look for books on topics your child enjoys.
- Make reading together an opportunity to enjoy time together.
- Allow your child to see you reading for enjoyment on your own.

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For more information, visit [scusd.edu/ela](http://scusd.edu/ela) or contact [Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu](mailto:Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu), ELA Coordinator

SCUSD's Vision for Instruction and Assessment: *As a community of learners, we strive to create positive and engaging environments where a rigorous, student-centered curriculum is central. Teachers use inquiry-based instruction and formative assessment practices to support ALL learners in maturing socially and in becoming disciplinary thinkers.*