

What Will My Child Learn in Kindergarten? Reading and Math Success = Student Success Parent Guide #11

When a child enters a kindergarten class for the first time, he or she continues the learning that began at birth. Just like his/her first years of life, in school there are skills like reading and simple math concepts he/she will need to develop before other skills can follow.

As your child's first teacher, you can help ensure your child's success. You can watch his/her progress. You can also support learning at home.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) guides each school in what should be taught for each subject or area. The list for all subject areas can be found at:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_38684---,00.html.

The MDE has adopted the Common Core State Standards to guide what students should know and be able to do by the end of each grade in math and English language arts. The standards have been adopted in the majority of the 50 states. Michigan's website for these standards is:
<http://www.michiganccr.org/>.

Parent resources at this website include "Roadmaps" developed for each grade level in math and English language arts by the Council of the Great City Schools.

What should my child learn in each grade?

Parents often ask, "What should my child learn in school? What should he/she know and be able to do by the end of each grade?"

The National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has created parent guides that show what the Common Core State Standards expect for each grade level. The guide for kindergarten can be found at:

http://pta.org/files/2012_NPTA_PG-Kindergarten.pdf.

Parents can use guides to:

- Learn what their child should know and be able to do at the end of each school year.
- Ask how this information will be taught in school.
- Talk about their child's progress.
- Look at ways they can support their child's learning.
- Ask for things their child can do at home to support what is being taught in class.

Remember . . . children grow and learn at different rates. You and your child's teacher will be able to talk about any concerns you have related to your child's learning.