



Welcome to
KinderCats!

Kindergarten Timeline



August 2

Placement Letters Mailed



August 9-10

Kindergarten Screening



August 11

Kindergarten Orientation



August 12

1st Day of Kindergarten

Academic Expectations 1970 VS 2020

Here are some examples of the changes that have been made with the Kindergarten academic expectations.

KINDERGARTEN 1970 VS 2020

THEN



Try to write or copy all letters of the alphabet



Identify all letters and letter sounds



Repeat an 8-10 word sentence after hearing it once- ex: "The boy ran all the way home from the store."



Count by ones from 1-20

NOW



Write a narrative that includes the order of events that happened, plus a reaction to the events.



Read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding



Listen to a familiar story and verbally retell the important events using "first, next, then, last"



Count by ones from 1-100


Academic Expectations

Today, Kindergarten Teachers are expected to teach at least 100 academic standards to their class that can include up to 20 plus students.

The 100 academic standards were developed with assumption that *all* 5 year olds are entering Kindergarten obtain the important life skills needed to learn and function independently within the school building.

A study done by Angela Snodgrass from *We Are Teachers* reached out to 70 Kindergarten teachers across the United States and asked them: "What skills do you wish every incoming Kindergartner would have mastered when they come to your classroom the first day of school?" Surprisingly, out of the 73 responses given by these Kindergarten teachers, only 9 of them were academic related. With all the other responses being life and social-emotional skills. Think about this, how do teachers begin to teach academics to kids that haven't even learned to sit and listen to a story? As we hope you see how critical it is that incoming Kindergarteners know certain skills first.

When meeting with our Kindergarten Teachers here at Marion CUSD #2 they voiced the same desires for upcoming Kindergarten students be prepared with more life and social-emotional skills. While academic skills are important, these are things that will be will be taught and implemented all year school year long.



**What we really
want you to know!**

Classroom Expectations

Everyday Tasks:

- Sit in a chair, hands to themselves and feet on the floor.
- Sit on the carpet, legs crossed hands to themselves.
- Hold a pencil, use of crayons, hold scissors, use a Google Chromebook and headphones. (only using materials when instructed)
- Unpack and pack their backpack.
- Line up in a line, understanding what 'single file' means.
- Understand teachers will give them several lessons, read books, play videos and songs, have them complete worksheets, projects, etc.

Understanding Social Cues and Prompts :

- Follow directions, including two-step directions. (First... Then...)
- Raise hand prior to speaking during instructional time.
- Understand positional words. (*in front of, behind, above, below, under, next to*)
- Transition from different tasks, including preferred and nonpreferred.
- Stay in seat/area unless given permission to go to a different location.
- Understand student must ask permission prior to leaving the room.

Properly adjust clothing

Teach them how to:

- Keep clothing on a all times covering chest, stomach, wait, upper legs.
- Put on a jacket for colder weather.
- Practice zipping jacket.
- Know where hat, scarf, and gloves are kept in their backpack.
- Practice putting on and taking off shoes.
- Understand how to fasten their shoes. (either velcro or tying them)
- Practice taking off and on clothes, incase clothes needed to be changed in case of an accident.

**Not required, but maybe good idea to keep extra clothing in backpack in case of accident.*

Using different voice ranges

Teach them how to:

- Understand expectations of voices while in the classroom or being in different areas in the building.
- **Hallway:** Understand it is a quiet zone, where there is no talking in this area.
- **Cafeteria/Gym:** Inside voice, where it is ok to talk but at a quiet talking level.
- **Classroom:** While the teacher is talking, another student is speaking with permission, or there is work being completed, understand this is not a time of talking. Know to expect there is a lot of listening while in the classroom.
- **Playground:** This is an area where they are allowed to have more flexibility with their voice level, but understand no screaming unless it is an emergency.

Using the Restroom

Teach them how to:

- Understand the use of bathroom stalls. (no peeking under)
- Shut and lock a bathroom stall door.
- Undo clothing, practice pulling down and pulling up after using restroom.
- Boys, use a urinal without pulling their pants all the way down.
- Wipe themselves.
- Put all toilet paper in the stall.
- Flush the toilet when finished.
- Wash hands with soap and water properly.

Eating in Cafeteria

Teach them how to:

If bringing lunch box:

- Know what their lunch box looks like
- Open most all items in their lunch box independently (eg. juice pouch, lunchables, etc.)
- Clean up after themselves
- Know how to put their lunchbox in their backpack

If eating school lunch:

- Know how to hold a tray
- Open a milk carton
- Use utensils and a napkin
- Clean up after themselves

Playground

- Use of playground equipment. (This includes slides, swings, monkey bars, etc.)
- What is on the ground stays on the ground. (No throwing wood chips, rocks, sticks, etc.)
- We encourage **no** rough housing, wrestling, or playing any violent type games. (shooting pretend guns)
- While playing with each other can be fun, remembering to keep hands, feet, and objects to themselves.
- Get permission before leaving the area from adult on duty that can include teacher, staff, or noon-supervisors.





“Teamwork makes the
dream work .”

— John C. Maxwell

Let's Grow Together



ESGI Quarterly

- ❖ Basic Reading skills
- ❖ Phonemic Awareness
- ❖ Concepts of Print
- ❖ Writing

FASTBridge Assessment Fall/Winter/Spring

- ❖ Concepts of Print
- ❖ Letter Names
- ❖ Letter Sounds
- ❖ Onset Sounds



KIDS Assessment 40th Day of School

- ❖ Social Emotional Development
- ❖ Language & Literacy
- ❖ Math Cognition



“Good communication is the bridge
between confusion and clarity.”

— Nat Turner

Communication is Key



Teacher: At the beginning of the school year, when your student is assigned a classroom teacher, it is important to find out their main form of communication which could be; via phone, email, Dojo, or through a folder. If a teachers have specifically indicated a form of communication, for example, email, it is important to check your email often for important information and updates.

Each student will obtain a folder at the beginning of the school year that teachers will send home important paper documents that include academic work, progress monitoring information, and various school/classroom announcements. So it's also, important to check this *each night* as some of the papers sent home are required to come back to school signed.



Communication is Key



School Building: It is important that the school building secretaries be notified if any of the following information changes anytime throughout the school year.

- Phone Number
- Work Number
- Home Address
- Email Address

Not only will your child's teacher contact you, but other teachers or staff working with your child might need to know this information as well. Also, it is important to know the best way to reach you immediately in case of an emergency.





Thank You!

Next KinderCats will be held on
Tuesday, May 31st from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM.