

CONNECTIONS *for School Success*

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This brochure provides an overview of the Wake County Public School System's kindergarten program. You will find a list of the characteristics of kindergarten students as well as sections on language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, computer/technology, and healthful living. It is important to remember that students also have instruction in art, music, and physical education.

Each of these sections should provide you with a better understanding of the major topics included in kindergarten. For example, you can use the language arts and social studies sections to help choose books and other materials to support your child's studies. Although this brochure describes only the kindergarten program, some students will work in language arts or mathematics at a level above or below their grade.

You are an important part of your child's total school program. Your involvement helps make your child's elementary school experiences successful.

Instructional Services Division
Curriculum and Instruction

Promotion standards have been established that require students to be proficient in reading, writing, and mathematics before being promoted to the next grade level. **The approved K-8 Promotion and Intervention policy requires students to meet grade level proficiency to be promoted.** Although End-of-Grade tests, as a measure of minimal achievement, are a significant factor in determination of proficiency, multiple other achievement factors are considered. The policy also defines options for intervention and retesting. Refer to the *Sample Learning Activities and Creating Good Homework Habits* for helpful tips for success in this booklet.

The Accelerated Learning Program K-2 (ALP II) was designed to provide K-2 students performing below grade level with additional instruction in reading.

Since we are focusing on improving student achievement, you can help by monitoring your student's progress through interim reports, teacher conferences, and daily by talking with your child about school. Please carefully review your child's report card and test results.

You can expect your child's school to:

1. Conduct information sessions for you, outlining the Promotion and Intervention Policy, the options for your child, and give you the opportunity to ask questions that clarify the program and what you can do to support your child.
2. Contact you by separate letter, mailed to your home, describing the options for your child if he or she is not proficient in reading, writing, or mathematics.
3. Keep you informed as to your child's status relative to attendance and progress if they are in the ALP program.

The Wake County Public School System is deeply committed to making the intervention and support available to all students not meeting promotion requirements so they will have the opportunity to perform at or above grade level and be successful in school. Together, with parents and the community, our students will achieve academic success.

(Additional information about ALP is available from your school's administration or you may access the ALP program outline on the Wake County Public School System's web site at <http://www.wcpss.net>.)

| <h2 style="text-align: center;">Sample Learning Activities</h2> | <h2 style="text-align: center;">The Kindergarten Program</h2> | <h2 style="text-align: center;">Kindergarten Assessment</h2> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match community workers with the jobs they perform. • View pictures of a child in another culture and compare that child's family life with your own. • Become aware of and expand vocabulary through viewing charts, signs, labels, books, songs, poems, and nursery rhymes. • Examine/read a book and answer these questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the title of the book? 2. Who is the author and the illustrator? 3. What did you think about this book? Would you tell a friend to read this book? Why or why not? 4. Was there something in this book that you particularly liked? 5. Tell something that happened in this book that was either funny, exciting, interesting, or surprising. • Arrange five glasses of water, filled to different levels, from least amount to greatest amount. • Look through a newspaper and talk about the kinds of things newspapers tell about, e.g., news, sports, people, food, comics, cars, clothes, etc. • Make observations based on the five senses. • Sort coins by pennies, nickels, and "others." Tell the value of a penny and a nickel. • Use geometric shapes to form patterns. • Choose two objects. How are they alike? How are they different? • Count from one to twenty and then count backward from twenty to zero. | <p>As your child enters kindergarten, it is a time of great excitement and anticipation for the entire family. The kindergarten year is one of the most important ones in your child's school experience; it is a time when attitudes toward school and learning are strongly influenced. Kindergarten in Wake County Public Schools provides a creative and stimulating environment where children can be excited about learning as they develop new skills. It is the foundation for the rest of the child's school experience.</p> <p>The kindergarten program is based on what we know about how young children learn and develop. Young children are active and curious about their world. They learn by watching, handling and experimenting with materials, discussing their thoughts and feelings, and interacting with children and adults. Play is central to the kindergarten learning experience. Through play activities, kindergartners explore, create, solve problems, develop language, social, and critical thinking skills.</p> <p>The kindergarten classroom is organized around learning centers where children are able to work in small groups with their peers, teachers, and a variety of materials. Through direct experiences in these centers, as well as teacher directed instruction, children develop skills in language and literacy, math, science, social studies, art, music, and physical education.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Off to a Good Start,</i> Project Enlightenment</p> | <p>As a child enters kindergarten, it is important for the teacher to gather information about what the child knows and is able to do in order to plan an appropriate program for each individual. The kindergarten teacher gathers information about the child's initial entry point and progress throughout the school year by using the Kindergarten Initial Assessment and on-going literacy and math assessment.</p> <p>Parent Observation Form Parents complete this form to provide information about the child's health history, language and social development.</p> <p>Initial Assessment Teachers conduct the initial assessment during the staggered entry days of the first week of school. Results are shared with parents. Assessments include literacy and math knowledge as well as personal and social behaviors and motor control.</p> <p>Progress Report Teachers complete progress reports to summarize the information documented on the Literacy and Math Profile Cards or in eMARC. It is sent home to parents at the end of the second and fourth quarters.</p> <p>The purpose of the assessments is threefold: 1) to provide information about the child's strengths and needs, 2) to provide information to parents about the child's progress, and 3) to evaluate how well the instructional program is working. This comprehensive assessment system allows Wake County Public Schools to provide a strong kindergarten program for your children.</p> |
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Reading and Writing

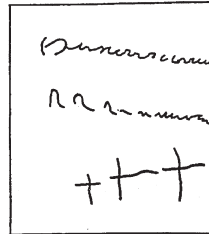
The best way to become a better reader is to read and then discuss what you have read with others. Children form lasting impressions at home about reading. If your child sees you reading, noticing books, newspapers, and magazines around the house, and senses that you enjoy reading, your child will copy you and be much more likely to enjoy reading. Spend time talking about what you are reading, as well as what your child is reading.

Children of all ages like to be read to at home. Read to your child often. Let your child choose a story and you choose one that you enjoy also. Remember that libraries not only have books, but also records, tapes, newspapers, story hours for children, puppet shows, and more. Explore the library with your child!

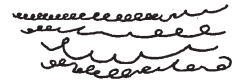
For the child who likes to read, reading is its own reward. For the reluctant reader, praise and encouragement may increase confidence and make reading more fun.

Just as in reading, the best way to become a better writer is to write. If your child sees you writing notes, letters, lists, etc., at home, your child will copy you and be much more likely to enjoy writing. Encourage your child to write by providing him or her with opportunities to experiment with a variety of paper and writing tools (crayons, markers, pencils). Since a child's spoken language is the basis for his or her written language, it is beneficial to engage your child in conversations about his or her experiences and thoughts.

Writing is a developmental process. Children first use scribbles to put their thoughts on paper. Putting symbolic marks and squiggles on paper becomes their way of expressing ideas, feelings, and information. Children's early writing typically develops in the stages represented.



"I like my tote bag.
I love you."



"This is my
letter."



"Octopus"



"I watched Scooby Doo."

Developmental Characteristics

Children develop in a natural sequence of growth, moving through similar, predictable stages of development. We must be careful, however, not to expect all children to move at the same pace. Children are unique individuals and will pass through the developmental stages at their own rates.

Generally, children ages five to eight, in kindergarten through Grade 3, are similar in the ways that they learn. They learn by doing, experiencing, and using their senses. Broad characteristics for five-year-olds are as follows:

Physical

- Is active and energetic
- Develops sense of balance
- Develops preference for right or left hand
- Is farsighted, finds it hard to focus on close-up materials
- Slowly develops eye-hand coordination
- Often reverses numerals and/or letters
- Has short attention span. Sharies, but has difficulty waiting for their turn

Social/Emotional

- Loves to help
- Is eager to please
- Exhibits extremes in emotions and behavior
- Loves praise
- Begins cooperative play
- Accepts simple responsibilities
- Has sense of property, but needs help keeping track of belongings

Mental

- Plays with language, trying out new words
- Has a vocabulary of 2000-4000 words
- Speaks in complete sentences
- Is imaginative
- Follows directions
- Confuses fact and fantasy — Thinks literally not logically
- Likes to be read to, talked to, and listened to

Language Arts

The learner will develop and apply enabling strategies and skills to read and write.

- Identifies the front of book, the back of book, and the title
- Recognizes that print carries the message
- Knows words and letters read left to right
- Knows where to go next at the end of the line of text
- Can point to the words as the teacher reads aloud
- Knows the difference between a letter and a word
- Can identify a sentence
- Recognizes what is a story
- Knows where to begin reading a page of text
- Can point to the name of the author and illustrator
- Knows that spoken language is made up of separate sounds
- Knows that the order of written letters stands for the order of sounds in the spoken word
- Knows the sounds of all letters, including two sounds for each vowel
- Can match words that begin with the same sound and words that end with the same sound
- Can listen to sounds and identify what they are (pencil sharpener, telephone ring, etc.)
- Knows when words rhyme
- When hearing a word, can say another word that rhymes with it
- Can hear syllables or word parts and put them together into a single word
- Can hear beginning sounds of words and find other words that begin the same way
- Can hear individual sounds and blend them together to say a word (/c/ /a/ /t/ to “cat”)
- Can hear a spoken word and break it apart into its individual sounds (“cat” to /c/ /a/ /t)
- Can name all capital and lower case letters
- Recognizes own name by sight
- Recognizes environmental print such as signs, labels, and trademarks
- Recognizes some high frequency words by sight (the, is, I, am, etc.)
- Can point to the first letter in a word and the last letter in a word
- Can point to the first word in a sentence and the last word in a sentence
- Recognizes period and question mark
- Reads or begins to read own dictated story
- Reads or begins to read simple patterned text
- Reads predictable text using both the pictures and letter sounds to understand the story
- Reads decodable text (most of the words

- can be sounded out)
- Reads up to 15 minutes every day books that he or she picks out

The learner will develop and apply strategies and skills to comprehend text that is read, heard, and viewed.

- Can identify a story’s setting, characters, and events
- Retells a story in own words giving beginning, middle, and end
- Can relate important concepts and details read from an informational text
- Is familiar with a variety of types of books and selections
- Before reading, thinks about what is already known about the topic and makes connections
- Before reading, thinks about what questions might be answered in the text
- Predicts what might happen in the text before and while reading
- Predicts possible events in texts before reading
- During and after reading determines if their predictions were right; makes new predictions based on what has been read
- Can follow both oral and picture directions
- Understands language authors use in books such as “once upon a time”
- Can tell if what he is reading is make-believe or real
- Uses pictures, points word by word, goes back and rereads, and uses repeated word or phrase patterns to help when reading
- Uses the first letter of a word or parts of a word that is known to figure out an unknown word
- Identifies the sequence of events in a story

The learner will make connections through the use of oral language, written language, and media and technology.

- Connects information and events in text to experience
- Discusses concepts and information in a text to clarify and extend knowledge
- Connects key words with prior knowledge
- Explores an author’s choice of words
- Listens to stories
- Revisits stories
- Discusses and dramatizes stories
- Discusses and illustrates stories
- Discusses text to discover relationships

The learner will apply strategies and skills to create oral, written, and visual texts.

- Uses drawings or symbols to convey ideas or information

- Writes the way he talks
- Uses facial and nonverbal expression to communicate
- Uses new vocabulary in own speech and writing
- Uses words that name and words that tell action in a variety of simple texts
- Uses singular and plural nouns and past tense regular verbs correctly
- Identifies the meaning of basic concepts (colors, opposites, positional and directional words)
- Uses words that describe color, size, and location in a variety of texts
- Maintains conversation and discussions by paying attention, taking turns, and asking question
- Can speak in five to seven word sentences
- Uses a variety of sentence patterns when speaking, such as questions (Can you go with me?) and exclamations (Me, too!)
- Uses an author’s model when writing (ie., own version of Brown Bear, Brown Bear)
- Copies print from the environment
- Writes own first and last names
- Writes first names of some friends or classmates
- Uses drawings, captions, and writing to support ideas
- Uses single words and phrases to express ideas
- Draws and writes signs, labels, and notes
- Writes one or two thoughts, ideas, or sentences
- Focuses on topic
- Repeats rhymes, poems, and songs
- Uses words to express needs and wants
- Names common objects
- Responds appropriately to questions

The learner will apply grammar and language conventions to communicate effectively.

- Develops spelling strategies and skills by writing down the sounds heard in words
- Writes most of the letters of the alphabet
- Writes some common words
- Uses both upper and lower case letters when writing
- Writes the word I and names beginning with a capital letter
- Writes top to bottom and left to right
- Uses some spacing between words
- Prints legibly

Mathematics

Number and Operation

Develop number sense for whole numbers through 30.

- Connect model, number word (orally), and number, using a variety of representations.
- Count objects in a set.
- Read and write numerals.
- Compare and order sets and numbers.
- Use ordinals (1st-10th).
- Estimate quantities fewer than or equal to 10.
- Recognize equivalence in sets and numbers 1-10.

Share equally (divide) between two people; explain.

Solve problems and share solutions to problems in small groups.

Measurement

Compare attributes of two objects using appropriate vocabulary (color, weight, height, width, length, texture).

Recognize concepts of calendar time using appropriate vocabulary (days of the week, months of the year, seasons).

Geometry

Identify, build, draw, and name triangles, rectangles, and circles; identify, build, and name spheres and cubes.

Compare geometric shapes (identify likenesses and differences).

Model and use directional and positional vocabulary.

Model and use directional and positional vocabulary.

Complete simple spatial visualization tasks and puzzles.

Data Analysis & Probability

Collect and organize data as a group activity.

Display and describe data with concrete and pictorial graphs as a group activity.

Algebra

Sort and classify objects by one attribute. Create and extend patterns with actions, words, and objects.

Writing Process

Prewriting is the process that helps writers get ready to write. The student spends time gathering information, experimenting with ideas, and plotting a course. Time spent on prewriting is essential to the writing process.

Drafting is the stage of making choices as to what to write. This is the first link between the prewriting and writing that is intended to communicate with an audience.

Revising writing may be the most difficult step in the process. It also is the most important step. Revision is not just the correction of usage and mechanics errors, but the time to decide where or how the communication can be improved.

Editing occurs only after the writer feels satisfied with the content and organization of the writing. Writing must be free from errors that distract the reader.

Publishing provides a chance for students to complete a product, see themselves as "authors," read with appreciation, and learn from others.

Science

The focus for kindergarten students is on using the five senses to make observations of events in both indoor and outdoor settings that make up their world. The observations that students make provide evidence and data on which to base their scientific explanations. Guide student learning of all goals on the unifying concepts of evidence, explanation, and measurement. The strands provide a context for teaching the content throughout all goals. Strands: Nature of Science, Science as Inquiry, Science and Technology, Science in Personal and Social Perspectives

GOAL 1: The learner will make observations and build an understanding of similarities and differences in animals.

- 1.1 Observe and describe the similarities and differences among animals including: structure, growth, changes, movement.
- 1.2 Observe how animals interact with their surroundings.
- 1.3 Observe the behaviors of several common animals.
- 1.4 Demonstrate how to care for a variety of animals.

1.5 Observe the similarities of humans to other animals including: basic needs, growth and change, movement.

GOAL 2: The learner will make observations and build an understanding of weather concepts.

- 2.1 Observe and report daily weather changes throughout the year.
- 2.2 Identify different weather features including: precipitation, wind, temperature, cloud cover.
- 2.3 Identify types of precipitation, changes in wind, force, direction and sky conditions.
- 2.4 Observe and determine the effects of weather on human activities.
- 2.5 Use common tools to measure weather.

GOAL 3: The learner will make observations and build an understanding of the properties of common objects.

- 3.1 Observe and describe the properties of different kinds of objects (clay, wood, cloth, paper, other) and how they are used.
- 3.2 Develop and use a vocabulary associated with the properties of materials: color, size, shape, texture.

- 3.3 Describe how objects look, feel, smell, taste, and sound using their own senses.
- 3.4 Observe that objects can be described and sorted by their properties.
- 3.5 Identify some common objects and organisms that are considered to be natural resources in our world.

GOAL 4: The learner will use appropriate tools and measurements to increase their ability to describe their world.

- 4.1 Describe how tools can be used to make comparisons.
- 4.2 Observe and describe how various tools and units of measure are useful: scissors, pencils, crayons, paper clips, hammers.
- 4.3 Use nonstandard units of measure to describe and compare objects.
- 4.4 Demonstrate the use of standard units of measure and compare with nonstandard units of measure. (Teacher demonstration)
- 4.5 Demonstrate that standard units of measure produce more consistent results than nonstandard units, allowing information to be shared. (Teacher demonstration)

Social Studies

Self and Family/ Families Around the World

Students begin a global approach to social studies with a study of themselves, their families, and other families around the world. They learn how individuals and families grow and change and compare how they are alike and different. Students approach the understanding of self and family while developing and defining concepts about themselves and the family structure. They acquire the concept that all families worldwide have basic common needs, yet meet these needs in a variety of ways. Goals in kindergarten focus on developing positive attitudes about themselves, their families, and families of diverse cultures.

Competency Goals Objectives

Goal 1: The learner will investigate how individuals, families, and groups are similar and different.

- Describe how individuals are unique and valued.
- Identify different groups to which individuals belong.
- Examine diverse family structures around the world.
- Recognize that families and groups have similarities and differences.
- Compare and contrast customs of families in communities around the world.

Goal 2: The learner will identify and exhibit qualities of responsible citizenship in the classroom, school, and other social environments.

- Exhibit citizenship traits such as integrity, responsibility, and trustworthiness in the classroom, school, and other social environments.
- Participate in democratic decision making.
- Describe the importance of rules and laws.
- Analyze classroom problems and suggest fair solutions.

Goal 3: The learner will recognize and understand the concept of change in various settings.

- Observe and describe how individuals and families grow and change.
- Evaluate how the lives of individuals and families of the past are different from what they are today.
- Observe and summarize changes within communities.
- Recognize changes in the classroom and school environments.

Goal 4: The learner will explain celebrated holidays and special days in communities.

- Explore how families express their cultures through celebrations, rituals, and traditions.
- Identify religious and secular symbols associated with famous people, holidays, and special days of diverse cultures.
- State reasons for observing special, religious, and secular holidays of diverse cultures.

Goal 5: The learner will express basic geographic concepts in real life situations.

- Locate and describe familiar places in the home, school, and other environments.

- Create and interpret simple maps, models, and drawings of the home, school, and other environments.
- Describe the functions of places in the home, school, and other environments.
- Recognize and explain seasonal changes of the environment.
- Identify and state how natural and human resources are used within the community.

Goal 6: The learner will apply basic economic concepts to home, school, and the community.

- Distinguish between wants and needs.
- Examine the concept of scarcity and how it influences the economy.
- Identify examples of how families and communities work together to meet their basic needs and wants.
- Give examples of how money is used within the communities, such as spending and saving.
- Explore goods and services provided in communities.

Goal 7: The learner will recognize how technology is used at home, school, and the community.

- Identify different types of media and forms of communication.
- Explore modes of transportation at home and around the world.
- Describe functions of computers and other electronic devices used in the home, school, and other environments.

Information Literacy

- Participate in read-aloud, storytelling, booktalking, silent and voluntary reading experiences.
- Demonstrate appropriate care of resources.
- Acknowledge ownership of ideas.
- Select resources both within and outside the school for personal and informational purposes.
- Demonstrate awareness that resources convey meaning and exist in a variety of formats (print, graphical, audio, video, multimedia).
- Identify and apply published criteria of excellence in selecting resources.
- Recognize the diversity of ideas and thoughts by exploring a variety of resources (print, non-print, electronic) and formats.

- Develop and communicate personal criteria for selecting resources for information needs and enjoyment.
- Recognize the power of media to influence.
- Describe personal cultural heritage and environment.
- Identify bias and stereotypes.
- Relate cultural similarities and differences to personal life experiences.
- Describe how information and ideas are influenced by prior knowledge and personal experience.
- Identify information needs and formulate questions about them.
- Describe several research models.
- Develop a search strategy which includes continuous evaluation of both

- the research process and the information gathered.
- Follow acceptable use guidelines (AUP/IUP) in accessing information.
- Gather, organize, and use information.
- Comply with the Copyright Law (P.L. 94-553) and credit sources of information.
- Present information in a variety of formats and evaluate the product.
- Respond to reading, listening, viewing experiences orally, artistically, dramatically through various formats.
- Collaborate with others, both in person and through technologies, to identify information problems and to design, develop and evaluate information products and solutions.

Healthful Living

Focus Areas

- Personal hygiene
- Personal responsibility
- Personal safety
- Recognize categories of My Pyramid and identify healthy food and beverage choices
- Develop emerging skills of catching, kicking, throwing, and striking
- Heart Rate identification
- Respectful participation

Strands: Mental and Emotional Health, Personal and Consumer Health, Interpersonal Communication and Relationships, Nutrition and Weight Management, Substance Abuse Prevention, Movement Forms, Fitness and Sport Literacy, Healthful Lifestyles, Health-Related Fitness, Appreciation for Diversity/Social Responsibility

COMPETENCY GOAL 1: The learner will develop knowledge and skills to enhance mental and emotional well-being.

Objectives

- 1.01 Identify specific feelings by name and demonstrate the ability to verbalize feelings in an appropriate manner.
- 1.02 Demonstrate the ability to accept and act on personal responsibilities.

COMPETENCY GOAL 2: The learner will develop knowledge and skills to enhance personal and consumer health.

Objectives

- 2.01 Predict situations that should include hand washing and demonstrate correct hand washing technique.
- 2.02 Demonstrate proper technique for brushing teeth and summarize reasons for not sharing a toothbrush.
- 2.03 Recognize and describe the meanings of traffic signs and signals.
- 2.04 Demonstrate the stop and search technique when entering or crossing a street.
- 2.05 Evaluate the benefits of wearing seat belts and bicycle helmets.
- 2.06 Demonstrate how to get help in an emergency.
- 2.07 Demonstrate appropriate responses to warning signs, sounds, and labels.

COMPETENCY GOAL 3: The learner will develop healthy and effective interpersonal communication and relationship skills.

Objectives

- 3.01 Demonstrate the ability to share objects and time.
- 3.02 Conclude and acknowledge that each person is unique and special.
- 3.03 Demonstrate protective behaviors to use when approached by strangers.
- 3.04 Recognize and respond appropriately to bullying, teasing, and aggressive behaviors.

COMPETENCY GOAL 4: The learner will apply knowledge and behavior self-management skills to areas of nutrition

and physical activity for healthy growth, development, and maintenance.

Objectives

- 4.01 Recognize the categories of My Pyramid.
- 4.02 Explore a variety of foods and beverages for good health, including unfamiliar and culturally diverse foods.
- 4.03 Identify foods and beverages that are healthy choices for teeth and bones.
- 4.04 Associate common foods with their origins.
- 4.05 Demonstrate the ability to select a healthy breakfast and lunch with a variety of whole grains, vegetables, fruits, and low fat dairy products.
- 4.06 Generate examples of opportunities to participate in physical activity during non-school hours.

COMPETENCY GOAL 5: The learner will choose not to participate in substance abuse.

Objectives

- 5.01 Demonstrate how to recognize and be careful with medicines.
- 5.02 Distinguish between medicinal and non-medicinal drug use.
- 5.03 Identify reliable sources of information regarding medicines and substances.

COMPETENCY GOAL 6: The learner will demonstrate competency in a variety of movement forms and proficiency in a few to gain competence towards lifetime physical activities (NASPE Standard 1).

Objectives

- 6.01 Demonstrate non-locomotor movements using different parts of the body.
- 6.02 Demonstrate a variety of beginner locomotor and combination skills in a movement pattern.
- 6.03 Develop movement control for safe participation in games and sports.
- 6.04 Demonstrate rolling movements.

COMPETENCY GOAL 7: Demonstrates understanding of movement concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics as they apply to the learning and performance of physical activities (NASPE Standard 2).

Objectives

- 7.01 Identify fundamental movement patterns.
- 7.02 Establish a beginning movement vocabulary.
- 7.03 Apply age appropriate concepts to performance.

COMPETENCY GOAL 8: The learner will exhibit a physically active lifestyle (NASPE Standard 3).

Objectives

- 8.01 Identify likes and dislikes connected with participation in physical activity.
- 8.02 Begin to identify opportunities for increased physical activity (e.g., taking the stairs).

COMPETENCY GOAL 9: The learner will show evidence of an acceptable level of health-related fitness and be familiar with factors that benefit performance (NASPE Standard 4).

Objectives

- 9.01 Identify physiological signs of moderate physical activity.
- 9.02 Recognize two appropriate sites on the body to monitor the heart rate.
- 9.03 Sustain moderate to vigorous physical activity for short periods of time.
- 9.04 Demonstrate knowledge of flexibility through warm up activities and perform exercises that enhance proper flexibility in a variety of muscle groups.

COMPETENCY GOAL 10: Exhibits responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others at the same time as values physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and/or social interaction (NASPE Standard 5 & 6).

Objectives

- 10.01 Identify 1-2 reasons why participation in physical activity is important and enjoyable.
- 10.02 Identify 1-2 ways physical activity improves health.
- 10.03 Demonstrate respect for self, others, and equipment.

Guidance

The learner will demonstrate a positive attitude toward self as a unique and worthy person by being able to:

- Describe how s/he is alike as well as different from others.
- Verbalize a personal trait or behavior that s/he likes about self.
- Recognize words that express feelings.

The learner will demonstrate life-planning skills that are consistent with needs, interests, and abilities by being able to:

- Recognize the diverse world of work.

The learner will demonstrate responsible social skills and an understanding and application of being a contributing member of society by being able to:

- Learn the rules for participating in group discussion.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the importance of following rules for group discussion.
- Learn effective listening skills.
- Recognize the importance of working together in a group.

The learner will demonstrate appreciation and understanding of the lifelong process of learning, growing, and changing by being able to:

- Adjust to the school environment.
- Recognize the importance of self-control.
- Understand the importance of good health habits.

Visual Arts

The emphasis at this level is on:

- Personal experience and/or imagination
- Exploring a variety of media to develop fine and gross motor skills
- Learning care and use of tools and equipment
- Following safety rules
- Family, five senses, counting, and retelling stories in pictures
- Learning about a variety of artists and art forms, including architecture
- Art elements — color, shape and line

Strands: Perceiving, Producing, Knowing, Communicating, Evaluating, Connecting

The learner will:

- Develop critical and creative thinking skills and perceptual awareness necessary for understanding and producing art.

- Develop skills necessary for understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes.
- Organize the components of a work into a cohesive whole through knowledge of organizational principles of design and art elements.
- Choose and evaluate a range of subject matter and ideas to communicate intended meaning in artworks.
- Understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures.
- Reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others.
- Perceive connections between visual arts and other disciplines.
- Develop an awareness of art as an avocation and profession.

Music

Kindergarten is the entry level for study in music. Learning is primarily experiential. Focus areas at this level include:

- Developing appropriate vocal and instrumental practices
- Developing beginning skills in improvising and creating music
- Reading simple rhythmic and melodic notation
- Developing beginning skills in listening to, analyzing, and evaluating music
- Developing understanding of music in relation to history, culture, and other content areas
- Showing respect for the efforts of others

Strands: Creating, Performing, Responding, Understanding

The learner will:

- Sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
- Play on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
- Improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
- Compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
- Read and notate music.
- Listen to, analyze, and describe music.
- Evaluate music and music performances.
- Understand relationships between music, the other arts, and content areas outside the arts.
- Understand music in relation to history and culture.

Character Traits

Listed below are some character traits that WCPSS believes are an important part of every child's education. Whenever possible, teachers include these special characteristics in their lessons and classroom activities:

Courage: Having the determination to do the right thing even when others don't; the strength to follow your conscience rather than the crowd. Attempting difficult things that are worthwhile.

Good Judgment: Choosing worthy goals and setting proper priorities. Thinking through the consequences of your actions. Basing decisions on practical wisdom and good sense.

Integrity: Having the inner strength to be truthful, trustworthy, and honest in all things. Acting justly and honorably.

Kindness: Being considerate, courteous, helpful, and understanding of others. Showing care, compassion, friendship, and generosity. Treating others as you would like to be treated.

Perseverance: Being persistent in pursuit of worthy objectives in spite of difficulty, opposition, or discouragement. Exhibiting patience and having the fortitude to try again when confronted with delays, mistakes, or failures.

Respect: Showing high regard for authority, for other people, for self, for property, and for country. Understanding that all people have value as human beings.

Responsibility: Being dependable in carrying out obligations and duties. Showing reliability and consistency in words and conduct. Being accountable for your own actions. Being committed to active involvement in your community.

Self-Discipline: Demonstrating hard work and commitment to purpose. Regulating yourself for improvement and restraining from inappropriate behaviors. Being in proper control of your words, actions, impulses, and desires. Choosing abstinence from premarital sex, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and other harmful substances and behaviors. Doing your best in all situations.

Computer/Technology Skills

Focus Areas:

- Parts of the computer and how to operate
- Keyboard familiarity
- Grouping and sequencing
- Respect for the work of others
- Responsible care of resources
- Exploring multimedia
- Observing online resources

Goal 1: The learner will understand important issues of a technology-based society and will exhibit ethical behavior in

the use of computer and other technologies.

- Identify the computer as a machine that helps people work and play.
- Identify and discuss correct and responsible use and care of computers and resources.
- Identify and discuss the Internet as a source of information at school and home.
- Demonstrate respect for the work of others.

Goal 2: The learner will demonstrate knowledge and skills in the use of computer and other technologies.

- Use manipulatives and graphing software to organize and display data as a class.
- Identify, locate, and use special keys, letters, and numbers on the keyboard.
- Use teacher-selected Internet resources/information to explore, identify, and discuss responsible use as a class activity.
- Use teacher-selected Internet resources/information to discuss ownership of creative works of individuals/groups/companies as a class activity.