

## Examples of Reading Literature and Reading Information in Kindergarten

Kindergarten Reading Literature	First Grade Reading Literature	Second Grade Reading Literature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With help from the teacher, students retell stories, including key details.</li> <li>• With help from the teacher, students name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling the story.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students retell stories, including key details, and show that they understand the lesson or moral of a story.</li> <li>• Students identify who is telling the story at various points in a text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students retell stories and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.</li> <li>• Students acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud.</li> </ul>

Kindergarten Reading Information	First Grade Reading Information	Second Grade Reading Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With help from the teacher, students ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</li> <li>• With help from the teacher, students identify what person, place, thing, or idea a picture shows.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</li> <li>• Students use the illustrations and details in a text to describe key ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.</li> <li>• Students explain how specific images or illustrations (such as a diagram of how a machine works) are useful.</li> </ul>

*In kindergarten, students will read stories and poems. Additionally, they will read to learn information about history, the world, science, and other areas.*



## Examples of Writing in Kindergarten

Kindergarten Writing	First Grade Writing	Second Grade Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing, students name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students name a topic and supply some facts about the topic.</li> <li>• Students provide some sense of closure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students introduce a topic and use facts and definitions to develop points.</li> <li>• Students provide a concluding statement or section.</li> </ul>

Writing tasks in kindergarten may include short compositions that tell a story, share an opinion, or present information




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## A Parent's Guide to Curriculum English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

*“Tell me and I’ll forget.  
Show me and I’ll remember.  
Involve me and I’ll understand.”*  
-Confucius



## KINDERGARTEN

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## Students Need Skills To Be Successful In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century!

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In order for students to be 21<sup>st</sup> Century scholars Orange Unified School District is committed to ensuring that all students graduate high school with the skills they need to be successful in a global society. In English Language Arts, there are three shifts that will help prepare students for success.

First, students will read fictional stories and literature, as well as nonfictional text in areas such as science and social studies. This will prepare students to be life-long learners who build knowledge from text and apply it in innovative ways. Second, students will read more complex texts and answer questions that engage them in reasoning and collecting evidence. This will allow students to participate in rich, evidence based conversations about what they have read. Third, there will be an increased emphasis on building strong vocabulary so that students are prepared to read and understand the challenging materials they will encounter in college and their careers.

Overall, these shifts lay out a vision of what it means to be a literate person who is prepared for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.



*The complete ELA California Common Core State Standards for each grade level are available on the Orange Unified School District's website:*

[www.orangeusd.org](http://www.orangeusd.org)

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## What Your Child Will Learn In Kindergarten

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In kindergarten, students will learn the alphabet and the basic features of letters and words. They will break down spoken and written words into syllables and letters to identify the sounds each letter makes. These important skills will enable your child to learn new words and read and understand simple books and stories. Students will also learn to write and share their knowledge in a variety of ways, including drawing, writing letters and words, listening to others, and speaking aloud. Activities in these areas will include:



- Naming and writing uppercase and lowercase letters
- Matching letters to sounds and using other methods to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing
- Learning and using new words, identifying rhyming words
- Reading common words such as: the, of, you, are, she, and my
- Asking and answering questions about a story the teacher reads out loud
- Identifying characters, settings, and major events in a story
- Recognizing the person, place, thing, or idea that an illustration shows
- Participating in discussions by listening and taking turns speaking
- Using a combination of drawing, speaking, and writing to describe an event, give information about a topic, or share an opinion
- Taking part in shared reading, writing, and research projects
- Expressing thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly

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## Partnering with Your Child's Teacher

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You are an important part of your child's education! Reaching out to your child's teacher is highly encouraged and welcomed. Ask to see a sample of your child's work or bring a sample with you. Ask the teacher questions like: Is my child reading on grade level?

- ✓ Is my child reading on grade level?
- ✓ What type of writing is my child working on?
- ✓ What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- ✓ What can I do at home to make sure that my child is successful?

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## Helping Your Child Learn Outside Of School

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- ✓ Read to your child and have him or her read to you every day for at least 15 minutes. Pick out words that might be new to your child or words that have multiple or complex meanings. Discuss those words and how they add to what the writer is saying.
- ✓ Ask your child to retell a story in his or her own words by telling what happened first, second, third, etc.
- ✓ Ask your child to think about what the message of a story may be or what he or she learned from an informational book or article.
- ✓ Look for opportunities in everyday places to build your child's vocabulary.
- ✓ Be sure your child has a library card. Children should select books in which they are interested to develop a passion for reading. Many libraries have book clubs and family activities that make reading fun for the entire family.
- ✓ Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions.