



# A Parent's Guide To the Los Altos School District **KINDERGARTEN** Course of Study

August 2010

Kindergartens in Los Altos Schools are committed to maintaining students' natural curiosity and confidence in themselves as learners while developing students behaviors that will enable them to become active and focused learners in a classroom setting. The following summary of the instructional program provides an overview of the Kindergarten year. Expectations are modified or expanded to meet a child's needs and abilities. The Kindergarten program builds on skills and knowledge children learn at home or pre-school.

Curriculum standards are what all grade-level students are expected to know and be able to do by the end of a school year. Key standards of kindergarten education are highlighted below. If you would like a complete description of kindergarten standards, you may download them from the [California Department of Education](#) website.

If you have questions about curriculum, please contact your child's teacher.



**MATHEMATICS**-----

Adopted Programs

Scott Foresman envision

***Number Sense***

Compares two or more sets of objects (Up to 10 objects in each group)  
Counts, recognizes, represents, names and orders a number of objects up to 30  
Use concrete objects to determine the answers to + & - problems less than 10

***Algebra and Functions***

Sorts objects and describes their attributes

***Measurement & Geometry***

Uses measurement skills (length and weight)  
Demonstrates understanding of concepts of time (morning, afternoon, today, etc.)  
Compare familiar plane and solid objects by common attributes

***Statistics, Data & Probability***

Poses information questions, collects data and records using graphs  
Identifies, describes, and extends simple patterns



## **READING-LANGUAGE ARTS**-----

Adopted Programs  
Houghton Mifflin Medallions Edition, Reading

### **Reading**-----

Concepts of Print:	Demonstrates understanding of how books work
Phonemic Awareness:	Names all upper case letters in random order Names all lower case letters in random order Rhymes words
Decoding:	Knows all short vowel sounds Knows all consonant sounds
Word Recognition:	Reads simple one-syllable words
Comprehension:	Retells familiar stories

### **Writing**

Organization:	Writes by moving from left to right and top to bottom
Application:	Copies letters and words
Spelling:	Writes own first name correctly Writes words using phonetic or standard spelling
Penmanship:	writes letters of the alphabet independently

### **Listening and Speaking**

Comprehension:	Speaks clearly and understandably Follows simple two-step directions Sits and remains focused on a 15-minute lesson
Applications:	Describes common objects and events Recites short poems rhymes, and songs in a group Speaks in complete sentences Shares ideas and takes part in class discussions



**SCIENCE**-----

Adopted Programs FOSS, [Wood and Paper](#)(Physical), [Animals 2 x 2](#) (Life),  
[Trees](#) (Earth)

**Scientific Process Skills**

Has knowledge of scientific process  
Communicates observation orally or in drawings

**Life, Physical or Earth Sciences**

Matter: Describes objects by physical properties  
Knows that the properties of water can change

Plants & Animals: Names the main parts of plants  
Names the main parts of animals

Land, Air & Water: Knows Earth is composed of land, air, and water  
Demonstrates understanding the changes in seasons and weather

**SOCIAL STUDIES**-----

Adopted Programs Scott Foresman, [Here We Go](#)  
Geography: Understands how maps are used  
Community: Understands how people work together to create a community

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**-----

Adopted Programs SPARK PE  
Developing large and small muscles through body movement activities.

**FINE and PERFORMING ARTS**-----

Singing, music appreciation, classroom instruments, rhythmic movement, visual and performing arts.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**-----

For children who qualify, the District offers programs for English Language Learners, Gifted and Talented, Speech and Language Development, Special Education, Psychological Testing and Counseling, and Home Teaching.