



## OVERVIEW

Hello Kindergarten Families-

This academic success guide has been created to give you an overview of the important concepts your child should be mastering by the end of the year during their time here at Asante Preparatory. It will also give you some ideas of things you can do at home to help support your child. In addition, the guide will give you an overview of the special area classes your child will participate in during their year.

At Asante, we track student progress by standard. We look for opportunities to deepen their learning in some areas and also accelerate them when appropriate. While it may seem a far time from now, our goal is all middle school students will leave Asante with at least one high school credit.

We know how important our partnership will be in helping your child be as successful as possible, so please don't ever hesitate to reach out with ideas or questions!

We hope this is the most amazing year for your child!

The Kindergarten Team

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Learning new language skills is a hallmark of kindergarten. Your child will learn about the alphabet and its role in reading. Your child will practice rhyming, matching words with beginning sounds, and blending sounds into words. Practice with these types of activities is a powerful step toward learning to read and spell correctly. The size of your child's vocabulary is another key factor in his or her ability to read and comprehend books and stories. Your child also will begin to experiment with writing and will be encouraged to use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing letters to share information, ideas, and feelings.

## What Your Child Is Learning

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- Naming upper- and lower-case letters, matching those letters with their sounds, and printing them
- Comparing the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories
- Retelling familiar stories and talking about stories read to them using details from the text
- Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened
- Stating an opinion or preference about a topic or book in writing (e.g., "My favorite book is . . .")
- Taking part in classroom conversations and following rules for discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking)
- Speaking clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas, including descriptions of familiar people, places, things, and events
- Asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud
- Understanding and using question words (e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how) in discussions
- Learning to recognize, spell, and properly use sight words (e.g., a, the, to, of, from, I, is, are)
- Reading independently
- Writing a simple sentence independently using correct conventions (i.e. spelling, capitalization and punctuation)

# MATHEMATICS

Young children arrive in kindergarten with widely varying knowledge in math. By the end of the year, your child must have some important foundations in place. One of the most important skills your child should develop is the ability to add and subtract small numbers and use addition and subtraction to solve word problems. This will rely on gaining some fundamentals early in the year, such as counting objects to tell how many there are. Addition and subtraction will continue to be a very strong focus in math through 2nd grade.

## What Your Child Is Learning

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- Identifying numbers 0-20
- Counting orally by 1s, 5s, and 10s to 100
- Counting objects to tell how many there are
- Accurately writing numbers 0-20
- Comparing two groups of objects to determine whether the number of objects in one group is greater than, less than, or equal to another group
- Comparing two written numbers to tell which is greater, less, or if they are equal
- Correctly naming two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes regardless of orientation or size (e.g., a square oriented as a “diamond” is still a square) and describing the attributes of a shape
- Fluently adding and subtracting within 5
- Adding and subtracting within 10 using strategies such as objects, fingers, drawings, etc.
- Representing addition and subtraction word problems by using objects, fingers, drawings, or verbal explanations.



## SOCIAL STUDIES

Through an introduction to civics, geography, economics, and history, students will understand their roles and responsibilities as citizens within their own context. Students will also learn about their own culture and how it impacts understanding of oneself and others as well as be introduced to aspects of our National culture.

Key areas of focus include:

- Importance of rules and responsibilities
- Individual roles in a community
- Personal decision-making
- Familiarity with geographic models
- Culture in the home, school, and community
- American symbols, holidays, and traditions

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## SCIENCE

By the end of Kindergarten, students learn to use their senses to help them make observations and predictions about the world around them. In this grade level, students will investigate how the senses detect light and sound, observe weather patterns and their influences on plants and animals, and differentiate between systems and structures of living and non-living things. Student investigations focus on collecting and making sense of observational data and simple measurements using the science and engineering practices:

- ask questions and define problems
- develop and use models
- plan and carry out investigations
- analyze and interpret data
- construct explanations and design solutions
- use evidence
- obtain, evaluate, and communicate information

Rangers

## SPECIAL AREA CLASSES

At Asante Preparatory Academy, students in kindergarten have the opportunity to participate in special area classes in one week cycles. These courses will help them explore interests in the arts, robotics and STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math), and health and fitness. During the four weeks, each child will attend classes in:

- Physical Education
- Art
- General Music
- iExplore

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## WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Read with your child every day. Ask your child to explain his or her favorite parts of the story. Share your own ideas.
- Encourage your child to tell you about his or her day at school. Keep paper, markers, or crayons around the house for your child to write letters or words or draw a picture about his or her day. Have your child describe the picture to you.
- Play word games like I Spy, sing songs like Itsy Bitsy Spider, and make silly rhymes together.
- Look for “word problems” in real life. Some kindergarten examples might include:
  - Play “Write the next number.” You write a number, and your child writes the next number.
  - Ask your child questions that require counting as many as 20 things. For example, ask, “How many books do you have about wild animals?”
  - Ask your child questions that require comparing numbers. “Who is wearing more bracelets, you or your sister?” (Your child might use matching or counting to find the answer.)
- Play board games, card, and other games to practice turn taking and understanding gamesmanship.

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**THANK YOU  
FOR SHARING  
YOUR CHILD  
WITH US!**



**ASANTE**  
PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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