Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten is an exciting experience and serves as the foundation for a child’s future. Peoria Unified offers free, full-day kindergarten in a rigorous, engaging, safe and nurturing environment with highl-qualified teachers that help children be successful throughout their educational journey.

In Kindergarten, children will gain skills which will help them learn how to read and write. They will learn social skills, emotional skills, listening skills, concepts in literacy, mathematics, science and social studies. They are also exposed to physical education and special area classes such as art and music.

Kindergarten is so much more than learning the A, B, C's - it is where creativity is encouraged and bright minds blossom in a fun, safe environment. In Peoria Unified, we strive to make this an easy adjustment for parents to ensure their children are well-prepared for the best educational experience possible.

Explore our Kindergarten Parent Handbook

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, reading, etc.) was hard or easy today? What is something you can show me that you learned today? What are you wondering about that you heard or learned?
**English Language Arts**

**FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS**
Understand basic features of print. Recognize and orally manipulate sounds. Blend sounds to read written words. Read and recognize sight words and different syllable types. Use phonics to write words. Share thoughts and ideas in writing.

**READING**
Fiction texts (literature):
- Ask and answer questions about stories, poems and unknown words.
- Identify and retell key details, characters, and setting.
Nonfiction texts (information):
- Recognize parts of nonfiction text
- Identify and retell key details.
- Ask and answer questions about the world around them.

**WRITING**
Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing. Explore digital tools for communication. Generate ideas for writing from reading. Make connections to the world around them. Write upper and lowercase letters. Separate simple words into their syllables. Write frequently used words.

**Mathematics**
Know number names and counting order. Count to tell the number of objects. Understand the quantity of a number 0-20. Understand place value of numbers 0-20. Add and subtract (using strategies) 0-10.

**Science**
Use senses to help make observations and predictions about the world around them, recognizing patterns and comparing the structures and functions of living and non-living things.

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**Social Studies**
Understand roles and responsibilities as citizens within their own world, through an introduction to civics, geography, economics, and history. 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.
- 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

**Physical Education**
Flexibility: touches toes
Hop: 3 times with both feet
Jump: right foot to left foot, 7 in a row
Skip: straight line
Gallop: with dominant foot leading
Slide: with dominant foot leading
Balance: heel to toe walk for 10 seconds
Underhand Throw: bean bag or small ball
Bounce Catch: times with playground ball

**Music**
Identify and apply to performance the following:
- Voices: singing, talking, shouting, whisper
- Musical symbols and vocabulary: steady beat, echo, opposite
- Dynamics: loud and quiet
- Meter/Movement: Move to the steady beat
- Aural recognition: high/low
- Aural perception: same/different, high/low, fast/slow, long/short
- Instrument families: body percussion (pat, clap, snap, stamp)

**Visual Arts**
Identify art in the world around them. Identify the following elements of art in artwork and in life, and create artwork using the following elements of art:
- Color Schemes: Primary (red, yellow, blue) and secondary (orange, green, violet)
- Line: Wavy, zig-zag, broken, thin, thick, horizontal, vertical, diagonal
- Shape: Geometric (diamond, rectangle, circle, triangle, star, oval, square)

**Technology**
Start to learn about Internet Safety. Begin computer fundamentals - using a mouse and keyboards as input devices, locating the alphabet on the keyboard and entering their usernames and passwords. Work with multimedia to draw lines to tell a digital story. Introduce visual mapping and computational thinking by finding and identifying patterns.