SAU9 Kindergarten Competencies Explained

Competency refers to a student's ability to transfer and apply knowledge and skills in and across content areas. They represent the big ideas and are assessed at multiple times over the course of a school year. Below is an overview of the different competencies (in bold), as well as some of the related standards.

LITERACY

Foundational Reading - Students will read to make meaning while using a variety of strategies. They will be able to:

- Follow words from left to right, and top to bottom
- Recognize all upper and lowercase letters
- Use strategies to figure out unknown words
- Make rhymes
- Isolate and blend sounds to make words
- Reading common sight words

Reading Literary and Informational Texts – With support, students will be expected to make meaning of texts, and provide details to explain their thinking. They will be able to:

- Ask and answer questions about texts
- Retell stories
- Identify characters, settings, events, and different types of texts
- Identify the relationships between illustrations and the text on a page
- Compare and contrast stories
- Explain the roles of authors and illustrators

Writing - Students will write effectively for a variety of purposes and audiences. Skills include:

- Using drawing, dictation and writing to present information,
- Telling stories
- Expressing opinions about a topic
- Using digital tools to produce and publish writing with support
- Developing skills of revision, organizing thoughts and adding details

Language - Students will demonstrate command of conventions of standard English grammar and usage in writing and speaking. They will be able to:

- Use basic capitalization, punctuation, and spelling skills
- Expand and build vocabulary

Speaking and Listening – Students will engage in collaborative conversations with peers and adults. Students will be able to:

- Confirm understanding of texts read aloud
- Ask clarifying questions of others
- Effectively describe familiar people, places, things and events with appropriate detail
- Express ideas, thoughts, and feelings clearly

MATHEMATICS

Symbolic Expression - Students will reason abstractly and quantitatively, recognizing and making appropriate use of mathematical symbols and expressions for different purposes. Students will be able to:

- Write numbers 0 to 20
- Count up 20 objects
- Compare sizes of groups and numbers 1 to 10 written as numerals
- Represent addition and subtraction using symbols, drawings, fingers, objects, and/or actions

Numbers and Number Systems -Students will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of numbers, thinking flexibly and attending to precision. They will be able to:

- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Be able to start counting forward from a given number (i.e. beginning at 23.)
- Show their ability to take numbers up to 20 together and apart to show they understand them (i.e. 5=2+3)
- Compare numbers 1 to 10 written as numerals

Reasoning and Computational Strategies -Students will apply reasoning and using multiple strategies to solve problems. Students will be able to:

- Add and subtract within 5 to solve problems
- Make groups of 10 using numbers.

Measurement – In measurement students will use standard and nonstandard tools, units, and attributes to describe and compare objects, and to solve problems. Students will be able to:

- Describe measurable attributes such as by their length and weight
- Compare two objects by an attribute

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Geometry – In Geometry, students will recognize and use attributes of two- and three-dimensional figures to solve problems. Students will be able to:

- Identify and describe shapes
- Describe objects in the environment using names of shapes, and describe their positions using terms such as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, and next to
- Describe attributes of the shapes they see, identifying if a shape has two or three dimensions
- Use simple shapes to make larger ones. They will be able to compare shapes, and make shapes by drawing or using other materials.

Data Analysis, Probability and Statistics – Students will gather, represent and interpret data. They will be able to:

- Count and sort items
- Ask questions and organize data

SCIENCE

Students will demonstrate their understanding of scientific concepts and how they are connected through the application of science and engineering practices. They will study topics relating to Earth, Physical and Life sciences.

- Earth Science: Patterns in local weather, weather forecasting and how to prepare for severe weather
- Physical Science: Causes and effects of different strengths or different directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object
- Life Science: Systems and models of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive as well as the relationship between their needs and where they live

SOCIAL STUDIES

Civics and Government – Students will be able to identify how rules and why rules are created, and help with the creation of classroom rules. They will also examine how rules can be used to solve problems.

Geography – Students will understand that maps are tools that convey information. They will analyze basic maps and be able to design a map of a familiar place.

History – Students will apply and demonstrate knowledge of events, individuals, symbols, and groups that affect the community. They will be able to identify and describe different symbols and how they represent groups in a community.

RESEARCH

With support, students understand how to develop and present research-based projects in various content areas that synthesize information from multiple resources. They will engage in shared research and presentations.

WORK STUDY PRACTICES

Communication - Students will be able to ask questions, share their learning, and ask for help.

Creativity - Students solve problems by coming up with their own ideas and using ideas gained from different sources.

Collaboration - Students can work with a group and complete a job. They can listen to others, respecting their ideas, and also express their own ideas.

Self-Direction - Students can manage their own learning. They can work through challenges, set goals, ask for help when needed and identify areas for improvement.