



# GRADE K

## Your Child's Progress

### Learning standards for the 2017–18 school year

Washington has K–12 learning standards that define the knowledge and skills every student needs to be ready for career, college, and life when they complete high school.

Below are brief examples of Washington's key learning goals for kindergarten.  
For more complete information, visit:

[www.YourChildsProgress.com](http://www.YourChildsProgress.com)

- **The Arts.** Become aware of self-space; echo beats and rhythms; develop voice skills; develop fine motor skills.
- **Math.** Learn numbers and what numbers represent, and the concepts of addition and subtraction.
- **Educational Technology.** Gather information about animals as a class using websites.
- **Science.** Learn about the physical world, local weather and what plants and animals need to live.
- **English Language Arts (ELA).** Understand basic features of print, retell familiar stories and key details, and answer questions.
- **Social Studies.** Investigate the classroom as a community and explore how decisions are made with respect to rights, rules, and fairness.
- **Health and Physical Education.** Learn vocabulary, facts, and concepts about the body; develop motor skills and movement patterns; follow safety rules.

Washington also has learning standards in **Integrated Environment and Sustainability, World Languages, Career and Technical Education** (frameworks and industry standards for middle and high school), **English Language Proficiency** (in ELA, math and science), as well as guidelines for **Early Learning** (birth–3rd grade) that complement a well-rounded education for all students.

**Special education:** Students who receive services have accommodations, modifications, and supports identified in their individual education plans.

**English language learners:** Students who are learning to speak English have language proficiency standards that help teachers plan instruction across subjects that is appropriate to each student's level of language development.

### Washington State Learning Goals

The Washington state Legislature has established four learning goals to provide the foundation for the development of all academic learning standards in the state:

1. Read with comprehension, write effectively, and communicate successfully in a variety of ways and settings and with a variety of audiences;
2. Know and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; civics and history, including different cultures and participation in representative government; geography; arts; and health and fitness;
3. Think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to integrate technology literacy and fluency as well as different experiences and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems; and
4. Understand the importance of work and finance and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.



Office of Superintendent  
of Public Instruction  
[www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us)



# Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills

The Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) is a process for:

- **Welcoming students and their families to kindergarten through the Family Connection.** Before school starts, or shortly thereafter, kindergarten teachers meet with families to welcome them to school and talk about each child's strengths and needs.
- **Learning about students' strengths through a Whole-Child Assessment.** By October 31, teachers observe students during classroom activities and record each child's developing skills in six areas: social-emotional, physical, cognitive, language, literacy, and mathematics.
- **Discussing the characteristics of children's development and learning through Early Learning Collaboration.** As the school year continues, early learning professionals and kindergarten teachers meet to share information that will enable students to be successful in school.

## Who participates?

State-funded full-day kindergartens are required to implement WaKIDS. While other public schools may volunteer to participate in WaKIDS, not all schools are yet implementing WaKIDS. By 2017–18, we anticipate all kindergartens will be state-funded full-day classrooms and participating in WaKIDS.

## How does it help?

Each year, 80,000 children enter kindergarten with skills that vary widely. The purpose of WaKIDS is to provide families, early learning professionals and kindergarten teachers a more formal process for collecting and sharing information, so children receive the support they need to be successful in school.

Kindergarten teachers use the information they gather to improve classroom teaching and tailor their instruction to the individual needs of each child. WaKIDS also helps determine effective ways to engage with families and early learning providers, and inform policy decisions at the community, district, and state levels.

## Is it aligned to state learning standards?

The Washington State Learning Standards represent the knowledge and skills all students should know and be able to do by the *end* of each grade. Incoming kindergartners are not expected to meet end-of-year standards as they *enter* school. WaKIDS is a process to help smooth the transition into K–12. It is intended to help teachers design learning that gets students on the right path toward meeting the end-of-year learning standards.

## Will kindergarten entry requirements change?

No. All children who are 5 years old by August 31 may enter kindergarten. WaKIDS is not a process for determining whether a child should enter kindergarten.

## Kindergarten State Testing Timeline

### WaKIDS

**Beginning of the school year:** Families and teachers meet for the family connection.

**By Oct 30:** Teachers complete the whole-child assessment and use data to individualize learning.

**Nov and beyond:** Families and teachers discuss teacher observations. Teachers and early learning providers connect to share information.

### ELPA21

English language learners in grades K–12 will take the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21).

The ELPA21 is administered annually in the spring to determine which students are eligible to continue to receive English language support services.

**Feb 1– Mar 30:** Every English language learner in K–12 takes this online test.