## PARENT GUIDE Kindergarten English Language Arts Curriculum Diocese of Cleveland

Below is a list of the skills your child will be taught in Kindergarten.

As parents, you are encouraged to support the work of your child's teacher in helping your child acquire each of these skills.

CAPACITIES OF THE LITERATE INDIVIDUAL		
	They demonstrate independence.	
	They build strong content knowledge.	
	They respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose.	
	They comprehend as well as critique.	
	They value evidence.	
	They use technology and digital media strategically and capably.	
	They come to understand other perspectives and cultures.	
	Language	
Con	IVENTIONS OF STANDARD ENGLISH	
	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	
	Print many upper- and lowercase letters.	
	Use frequently occurring nouns and verbs.	
	Form regular plural nouns orally by adding /s/ or /es/ (e.g., dog, dogs; wish, wishes).	
	Understand and use question words (interrogatives) (e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how).	
	Use the most frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., to, from, in, out, on, off, for, of, by, with).	
	Produce and expand complete sentences in shared language activities.	
	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	
	Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I.	
	Recognize and name end punctuation.	
	Write a letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel sounds (phonemes).	
	Spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships.	
Kno	wLEDGE OF LANGUAGE (begins in Grade 2)	
Voc	ABULARY ACQUISITION AND USE	
	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on kindergarten reading and content.	
	Identify new meanings for familiar words and apply them accurately (e.g., knowing duck is a bird and learning the verb to duck).	
	Use the most frequently occurring inflections and affixes (e.g., -ed, -s, re-, un-, pre-, -ful, -less) as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word.	
	With guidance and support from adults, explore word relationships and nuances in word meanings.	
	Sort common objects into categories (e.g., shapes, foods) to gain a sense of the concepts the categories represent.	
	Demonstrate understanding of frequently occurring verbs and adjectives by relating them to their opposites (antonyms).	
	Identify real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., note places at school that are colorful).	
	Distinguish shades of meaning among verbs describing the same general action (e.g., walk, march, strut, prance) by acting out the meanings.	
	Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts.	

	Writing
Tex	t Types and Purposes
	Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion pieces in which they tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book (e.g., My favorite book is).
	Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.
	Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.
Pro	duction and Distribution of Writing
	With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
	With guidance and support from adults, explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.
Res	earch to Build and Present Knowledge
	Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of books by a favorite author and express opinions about them).
	With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
	Speaking and Listening
Con	IPREHENSION AND COLLABORATION
	Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
	Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion)
	Continue a conversation through multiple exchanges.
	Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.
	Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.
Pre	sentation of Knowledge and Ideas
	Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.
	Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.
	Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, Council of Chief State School Officers. Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, Council of Chief State School Officers, Washington, D.C., 2010.