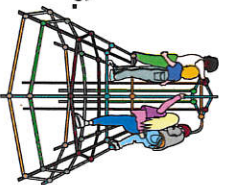


## Why use this guide?



This guide is a compilation of the KEY Pennsylvania academic learning standards and skills for early childhood education. Our focus is on the academic areas of language and literacy, mathematics, science, and social studies. However, other standard areas such as learning through play, technology, creative thinking and expression, physical development, and social development are also very important in molding our future Kindergarten students.



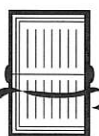
## Other important skills:

Please know that the following skills are not listed in the Continuum, but they are truly important in building a foundation for success. They are:



- \*Focus, share, and cooperate with others.
- \*Perform everyday tasks such as zipping and buttoning.
- \*Show independence in the bathroom.
- \*Follow simple directions.
- \*Ask for help when needed.

## Language & Literacy Standards



### Foundational Skills



- >Practice appropriate book handling skills.
- >Identify basic features of print.



### Reading Informational Text and Reading Literature



- >Answer questions about a text.
- >Identify the front cover, back cover, and title of a book.
- >Describe pictures in books using detail.
- >Build new vocabulary.



### Writing



- >Draw to explain a topic or tell a story.
- >Draw or tell about the events in a story.



### Speaking & Listening



- >Participate in collaborative conversations with peers & adults.
- >Use simple sentences to share stories & express thoughts, feelings, and ideas.



## Math Standards



### Numbers and Operations

1, 2, 3...

- >Know number names & the count sequence to at least 10.
- >Count to tell the number of objects (show one-to-one correspondence).
- >Compare numbers up to 10.

$$2 + 2 = 4$$

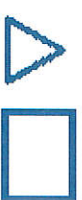
### Algebraic Operations

$$5 - 3 = 2$$

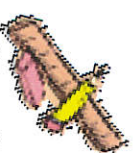
- >Understand addition as "putting together" and "adding to".
- >Understand subtraction as "taking apart" and "taking from".



### Geometry



- >Identify & describe shapes (circle, square, rectangle, triangle, oval, & rhombus).
- >Create, compare, & compose shapes.



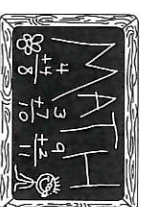
### Measurement, Data, and Probability



- >Describe/compare lengths & weights of everyday objects.
- >Classify objects & count the number of objects in each category.

\*Under Common Core, the use of proper math vocabulary **AND** getting kids to understand mathematical processes are key.

more less  
equal to  
compare



same  
different  
numbers



## Science Standards



### *Biological Sciences*



- >Recognize the difference between living & non-living things.
- >Identify basic parts and needs of plants & animals.

- >Recognize physical characteristics of living things.



### *Physical Sciences*



- >Sort and describe objects based on size, shape, color, & texture.
- >Explore & describe the motion of objects.



### *Earth & Space Sciences*



- >Identify the seasons.
- >Identify objects in the day and night sky.



### *Environment & Ecology*



- >Describe water & land habitats.
- >Identify what people need to survive.
- >Identify ways people pollute.



## Social Studies Standards



### *Civics and Government*

#### **RULES**

- >State rules & their consequences.
- >Identify basic American symbols.
- >Identify appropriate behavior for responsible classroom citizens.



### *Economics*



- >Identify family wants & needs.
- >Explain how money is used.



### *Geography*



- >Understand relative location in the home, school, & community.
- >Understand physical features in the home & other known places.



### *History*



- >Identify a sequence of events through a day.
- >Understand that information comes from a variety of sources.



## A Guide to Understanding the Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood



### *"What are the Key Skills that Students Who Are Entering Kindergarten Need?"*

Presented by the  
Nazareth Area School  
District Specialists  
and Administrators

