

Kindergarten August/September Unit Organizer

Dear Parents,

This month your child will be learning about many new things. Please take a moment to preview the content being taught and the assessments that will be given! If you would like to reinforce any of these topics at home through reading and discussion, I strongly encourage you to do so! E. D. Hirsch, Jr. has written a book called What Your Kindergartner Need to Know that I highly recommend you purchase for the school year. If you have any questions about the information presented here, please contact me.

Thank you,
Your Liberty Kindergarten Teacher

Core Knowledge Content

I. Language Arts

A. Poetry

1. One, Two, Buckle My Shoe
2. Jack and Jill
3. Jack Be Nimble
4. Jack Sprat
5. This Little Pig Went to Market

B. Fiction

1. The Three Billy Goats Gruff
2. Goldilocks and the Three Bears
3. The Three Little Pigs
4. Three Blind Mice
5. The Three Little Kittens

C. Sayings and Phrases

1. A place for everything and everything in its place.
2. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
3. Great oaks from little acorns grow.

II. Phonics/Writing/Penmanship

- A. Phonemic Awareness
- B. Riggs Writing Road to Reading
 - 1. Phonograms: Cc, Aa, Dd, Ff, Oo, Gg, Ss, Qq—knows letter name and sounds
and how to write both upper case and lower case letter.
- C. Recognize the Sight words----the of and.
- D. Copy print from chalkboard into writing log daily
- E. Begin to perfect penmanship—seeing top, middle and bottom line and understand the importance of forming letters correctly.
- F. Write left to right on the "writing highway".
- G. Copy sayings—Do unto others..., A place for everything and everything in it's place, and Great oaks from little acorns grow.
- H. Write letters to represent sounds.

III. American Civilization

- A. Symbols
 - 1. American flag
 - 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 3. Eagle
- B. Presidents, Past and Present
 - 1. Theodore Roosevelt
 - 2. Mount Rushmore

IV. Geography

- A. Maps and Globes: what they represent and how we use them
- B. An overview of the 7 Continents
- C. Create simple map of student's bedroom

V. Science

- A. Plants and plant growth
- B. Trees: Deciduous and Evergreen

VI. Math

- A. Comparing size, height, and length
- B. Terms of Orientation

- C. One-to-one correspondence
- D. Ordering by size
- E. Number Sense 1-10
- F. Sorting sets and subsets
- G. Patterns
- H. Interpreting graphs
- I. More than, less than

THINKING FRAMEWORK

At Liberty Common, we believe that learning needs to go beyond just acquiring knowledge. The students also need to have the ability to see patterns and analyze facts. To facilitate this, we use progressive thinking skills to guide students in applying their knowledge to patterns, using those patterns to model, and showing their mastery of the content through creativity.

While the majority of time in Kindergarten is spent gaining new knowledge, we also develop lessons that include patterning, mental modeling and creativity. Here are some examples of The Thinking Framework being used in Kindergarten this month:

History/Geography

- Learning about maps, globes, N, S, E, W—Knowledge
- Finding the directions on maps—Patterns
- Using maps to locate places—Mental Modeling
- Making a map of our bedroom—Creativity

Science

- Learning about plants and trees and their growth—Knowledge

Literature

- Learning the "What Comes in Threes" Fairy Tales—Knowledge
- Discussing the similarities between these Fairy Tales—Patterns
- Learning the Sayings--Knowledge
 - "A place for everything and everything in it's place."
 - "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
 - "Great oaks from little acorns grow."
- Understanding the abstract meanings of these sayings—Patterns

Math

- Recognizing numbers 1-10—Knowledge
- Understanding One to One Correspondence—Knowledge
- Understanding the concept of a set—Knowledge
- Completing a pattern—Knowledge
- Seeing patterns—Patterns
- Interpreting graphs—Knowledge

"Can You?" List

Assessments for August and September

CAN YOU...

- ...retell the stories of 3's (Three Billy Goats Gruff...)?
- ...recite poetry selections for the month? (See calendar)
- ...write letters; Cc, Aa, Dd, Ff, Oo, Gg, Ss, Qq?
- ...say these phonograms correctly; Cc, Aa, Dd, Ff, Oo, Gg, Ss, Qq?
- ...copy print from the chalkboard from left to right?
- ...state your name(full), address, birthday, and phone number?
- ...explain what "A Place for Everything and Everything in It's Place" means? "Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow?", "Do Unto Others...?"
- ...explain the difference between a map and a globe?
- ...name a compass rose when shown a picture?
- ...label or name the continents? How many are there?
- ...make a simple map of your room? HOMEWORK
- ...identify an American flag and tell how many stripes there are, the colors and why 50 stars?
- ...say the Pledge of Allegiance?
- ...tell three important facts about our past President, Theodore Roosevelt?
- ...identify Teddy Roosevelt?
- ...identify Mt. Rushmore when shown a picture and tell which president is Teddy Roosevelt?
- ...tell what plants need to grow?
- ...label the basic parts of a plant?
- ...identify a deciduous tree? an evergreen tree? explain the difference?
- ...tell what happens to a deciduous tree during winter?
- ...name which tree stays green all winter long?
- ...tell how old a tree is?
- ...explain what would happen if a tree did not have roots?
- ...explain what a "tall tale" is?
- ...give Johnny Appleseed's real name and explain how he was helpful and famous?

- ...name the state where most apples are grown?
- ...count to 10?
- ...understand ordinal numbers 1st through 5th?
- ...order by size?
- ...show one-to-one correspondence?
- ...interpret a simple graph?
- ...sort into sets and subsets?
- ...show an understanding of which set has more than or less than?
- ...complete the simple pattern ABABABAB? (red, blue, red, blue, etc)

Character Qualities

These are the Foundation Stones/Character Qualities that Liberty Common School emphasizes.

Respect

- ...is encouraged to listen to others without interrupting.
- ...is encouraged to raise their hand in class.
- ...is encouraged as we line up nicely, and don't disturb others.
- ...is encouraged when walking quietly in the hallways.
- ...is encouraged as we learn our daily routines expected of us in Kindergarten.

Responsibility

- ...is learned by remembering our own backpack, lunchbox, and folder.
- ...is learned when remembering to pull a lunch "stick" if we are having hot lunch.
- ...is learned when we accept the consequences for our own actions.
- ...is learned when we clean up after ourselves and do not leave messes for others
- ...is shown when we remember to pack up all our belongings at the end of the day.

Self Control

- ...is learned when we solve our problems rationally, both in the building and on the playground.
- ...is shown when we raise our hand in class instead of interrupting.
- ...is shown when we work quietly without disturbing others.
- ...is learned when we ask for help when frustrated versus losing control.

Perseverance

- ...is learned when we see a tough project through to the end.
- ...is seen in the stories about Johnny Appleseed and Teddy Roosevelt.
- ...is encouraged when learning our phonograms.
- ...is shown when we sit quietly when listening to a story.
- ...is learned when we always try to do our very best.

Cooperation

- ...is shown when helping others.
- ...is not ever saying "it's not mine" when asked to pick something up.

Integrity

- ...is shown when we do our own work.
- ...is demonstrated by admitting our faults and accepting consequences.
- ...is shown when we tell the truth and are honest.

Citizenship

- ...means saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag each morning with respect.
- ...is shown when we take pride in our school.
- ...means being polite and quiet in the hallway, at assemblies, and for all our teachers, parents, and staff.
- ...is shown by being a good example to classmates.
- ...means hanging up our coats and backpacks, and sometimes even hanging up somebody else's.

A u g S e p	Phonics	Language Arts	Poetry	Amer./World Civilization	Geography	Science	Math	Sayings Phrase
Wk 1	Intensive Phonics, Phonemic Aware- ness, Handwriting: Introduction	Three Billy Goats Gruff			7 Continents Map Skills Globe	Plants/ Trees Plant Growth	Same and Diff Making Sets	Do Unto Others
Wk 2	Intensive Phonics, Phonemic Aware- ness, Handwriting: Cc, Aa	Three Little Kittens	One, Two Jack Sprat Jack and Jill	US Flag Pledge of Allegiance	Map Skills Globe 7 Continents Compass Rose	Plants/ Trees Plant Growth	Compare Sizes Color Words	A Place f Everythi and Everythin It's Plac
Wk 3	Intensive Phonics, Phonemic Aware- ness, Handwriting: Dd	Three Little Pigs	This Little Piggie	US Flag Facts	Map Skills Compass Rose 7 Continents North, South East, West	Plants/ Trees Deciduos/ Evergreen Tree Rings	ABAB Patterns Pattern Strips	Do Unto Others A Place f Everythin
Wk 4	Intensive Phonics, Phonemic Aware- ness/Handwriting Ff, Oo Sight Word: the	Three Blind Mice	One, Two, Buckle My Shoe	US Flag/Rules Pledge of Allegiance	Map Skills Compass Rose 7 Continents	Plants/ Trees Changing Leaves	Compare Size Number Sense 1-5	Great Oa from Litt Acorns Gr Do Unto Others A Place.
Wk 5	Intensive Phonics, Phonemic Aware- ness/Handwriting Gg, Ss Sight Word: of	Goldilocks and The Three Bears	Review Poetry for the month	Theodore Roosevelt Mount Rushmore US Symbols/ Bald Eagle Seal	Map Skills 7 Continents Compass Rose	Trees Leaves/ Trunks	Sorting Sets One-to One More Than/ Less Than	Great Oa from Litt Acorns Gr Do Unto Others A Place f Everythin
Wk 6	Intensive Phonics, Phonemic Aware- ness/Handwriting Ququ Review: Cc, Aa, Dd, Ff, Oo, Gg, Ss, Ququ Sight word: and	What Comes In Threes? Review Threes Stories	Review Poetry for the month	Theodore Roosevelt Mount Rushmore US Flag	Map Skills 7 Continents Compass Rose	Trees/ Apples Seed to Sapling	More Than/ Less Than Graphs Numbers 1-10	Great Oa from Litt Acorns Gr Do Unto Others A Place.

August/September Weekly Calendar

Habits of Mind

History:

- Understand the significance of the past to their own lives and society
- Distinguish between important and inconsequential; to develop a "discerning memory" and judgement
- Perceive past events as they were experienced by people at the time, to develop historical empathy vs. "present-mindedness"
- Acquire a comprehension of diverse and shared humanity
- Understand how things happen and how things change, how human intentions matter but how consequences are shaped by the means of carrying them out
- Comprehend the interplay of change and continuity
- Prepare to live with uncertainties and even perilous, unfinished business; realize that not all problems have solutions
- Recognize the importance of individuals who have made a difference in history, and the significance of personal character for good and ill
- Appreciate the force of the non-rational, irrational and accidental in human affairs
- Understand the relationship between geography and history as a matrix of time and place as a context for events
- Read widely and critically in order to recognize the difference between fact and conjecture, between evidence and assertion, and thereby to frame useful questions

Science:

- Raise questions about the world around them and be willing to seek answers to some of them by making careful observations and trying things out
- Use whole numbers and simple, everyday fractions in ordering, counting, identifying, measuring, and describing things and experiences

- Give rough estimates of numerical answers to problems before doing them formally
- Use hammers, screwdrivers, clamps, rulers, scissors, and hand lenses, and operate ordinary audio equipment
- Assemble, describe, take apart and reassemble constructions using interlocking blocks, erector sets, and the like
- Make something out of paper, cardboard, wood, plastic, metal, or existing objects that can actually be used to perform a task
- Determine the linear dimensions in whole units of objects that have straight edges
- Describe and compare things in terms of number, color, shape, texture, size, weight, and motion
- Ask "How do you know?" in appropriate situations and attempt reasonable answers when others ask them the same question