



## A Colorful Time with Rhythm and Rhyme

Essential Questions

*“Why do we put words together?”*

*“Why are rules important?”*



### Dear Parents,

In this first six-week unit of Kindergarten, students will begin learning about reading and writing as they are introduced to colorful picture books, traditional poetry, and nursery rhymes filled with rhythm and rhyme.

### Reading Literature and Informational Text

As beginning readers, students will be asked to identify the front cover and back cover of a book. They will learn about the difference between common types of texts, including storybooks or poems. Students will practice answering questions to help them learn about key details and unknown words in a story.

### Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)

Students will learn about print as they follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page. They will learn that words are separated by spaces in print and work on recognizing and naming all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet. Recognizing rhyming words will be a focus. Students will be expected to say the most common sound for consonant letters and begin reading common sight words such as: *the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, and does*.

### Writing

Students will share their opinions with others by drawing, dictating, and/or writing. For example, they might complete the sentence: My favorite book is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_. They will focus on sticking to one topic and adding details to improve their writing.

### Listening and Speaking

When participating in discussions, students will listen to others and take turns speaking as they describe familiar people, places, things, and events. Kindergartners will be expected to speak in a voice that can be heard and understood as they express their thoughts and feelings, and add details to their descriptions.

### Language (Conventions of Standard English and Vocabulary)

As they listen to their teachers read kindergarten texts, students will learn and use new words and phrases. Students will use frequently occurring nouns and verbs as well as naming end punctuation. They will learn to spell by saying words slowly and writing down the sounds they hear.

### Handwriting & Keyboarding

Students will learn to form basic manuscript strokes. With assistance, they will begin learning to print upper and lower case letters as well as their first and last names. Kindergartners will also begin learning basic keyboarding skills this quarter. They will practice using the mouse and begin identifying numbers and letters on the keyboard.