

Literacy and Mathematics Behaviors

Through play, children develop a wide vocabulary and improve communication skills. Play helps children to think critically, respect different perspectives and process various kinds of information, including mathematical thinking and reasoning. Children use mathematical thinking to make sense of the world. They see patterns, spatial relationships, measurement and quantity, and communicate their understanding of this to others. Children develop a richer vocabulary in all areas, including mathematics, which will help them communicate their thinking and reasoning with confidence.

ABOUT LITERACY AND MATH

Learning happens when people are actively engaged in thinking and working together. This is the foundation of the kindergarten program. Children learn different ways to think about things, to consider different perspectives and to think critically about information. This is more than only identifying letters and numbers. Children may show their understanding by:

- writing, painting or drawing
- exploring things and asking questions or making comments about what they observe
- drawing pictures and/or printing some numbers, letters, and/or words
- creating with materials such as blocks, sand or recycled items
- engaging in story telling during dramatic play and other types of pretend play
- using technology like tablets to record and communicate their thinking and learning.

These experiences develop math and literacy skills in such a way that children develop a love of learning that can instill a habit of learning throughout their life. Children ask and answer questions, create and test theories, listen to and tell stories and solve problems to show their understanding of math and literacy. In kindergarten, math and literacy are not limited to a specific time of day. Instead, they are incorporated throughout the day and made visible, or explicit, to children in any context, and observed by the educators at any time, both in and out of the classroom.