

Essential Learning Objectives

**for Math and Language Arts
Grades Kindergarten through Eight**

Prepared by
Basic Skills Assessment & Educational
Services

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Table of Contents

Introduction	1
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Learning Objectives:

Kindergarten	2
Language Arts Grades 1-3	3
Math Grades 1-3	6
Language Arts Grades 4-6	9
Math Grades 4-6	12
Language Arts Grades 7-8	14
Math Grades 7-8	16

Introduction

This product reflects the conclusions of the Basic Skills Assessment & Educational Services teaching staff and their associates relative to basic learning outcomes to be expected of students grades kindergarten through eight in the areas of language arts and math. Five instructors whose teaching experience extends from kindergarten through college collaborated to identify what may be regarded as the *essentials*. It is not coded to any particular curriculum.

The learning objectives contained in the following pages have been simplified. It should be used as reference tool, a means to check the progress the student is making as compared to a set of criteria. As home educators, our goal is not simply to *finish our books*. Rather, our goal is to see that the skills taught in the books we are using are grasped by our children.

The following list of learning objectives is simple to use. Each objective is listed in terms of a specific performance that may be expected of the student after instruction has taken place. The grade level(s) at which each objective should typically be mastered (mastery being defined as being able to demonstrate the objective 80 percent of the time in a given setting) is listed to the left. In some cases, two grade levels (i.e. 2-3) are listed showing that mastery of the objective in question is not to be expected of all children at the same grade level.

To help you confirm mastery, the ELO Quick Assessment Series which is grade specific may be purchased from Basic Skills. To see sample pages of this product, go to our website and click on the products button.
www.basicskills.net

Consider these learning objectives and the associated grade levels to be flexible standards. If your child is not mastering various objectives, do not conclude that this necessarily means a learning disability is the cause. Lack of mastery may indicate that different teaching methods should be used. It may also indicate that the chosen curriculum has been designed to move at a different pace. It could be that the child is a *late bloomer* who, given sufficient time, will catch up. You may wish to consult with a seasoned home schooler or professional educator sympathetic to home schooling for possible causes and solutions.

Kindergarten Learning Objectives

Basic Concepts

- Can recite phone number
- Can recite address
- Can recognize colors: red, yellow, blue, green, orange, purple, brown, white, black
- Can name body parts: shoulder, elbow, chin
- Can recognize positional concepts: over, under, beside
- Can identify right and left
- Can recognize opposites for: hot, last, in, light

Motor Skills and Physical Development

- Can jump
- Can hop
- Can gallop
- Can skip
- Can jump rope
- Can drop and catch a ball
- Can tie shoestrings
- Can color within lines
- Can cut on a line with scissors

Math

- Can count to 20
- Can recognize numerals up to 20
- Can write numerals 0 - 9
- Can match sets of objects to numerals up to 20
- Can identify groups with more or fewer
- Can identify pattern sequences
- Can recognize basic shapes: Circle, square, rectangle, triangle, diamond
- Can draw basic shapes: Circle, square, rectangle, triangle, diamond
- Can identify shapes that are: Shorter, longer, taller
- Can solve addition story problems orally
- Can solve subtraction story problems orally

Reading

- Can recognize lower case and capital letters
- Can produce sounds for single letters
- Can blend sounds of two letters
- Can recognize beginning, middle and ending letter sounds in words
- Can read two, three, and four letter words
- Can read sentences
- Can recall story details (teacher tells story)
- Can recall story sequence (teacher tells story)

Writing

- Can hold a pencil properly
- Can print lower case letters
- Can print capital letters
- Can print first name
- Can spell two and three letter words

Language Arts Learning Objectives

Grades 1 - 3

Sentences

- 1 Can identify and write a complete sentence
- 1 Can identify a word that has been left out of a sentence
- 2 Can write a 3-5 sentence story using complete sentences
- 1-2 Can identify and write a question
- 2 Can identify and write an exclamation

Punctuation

- 1-2 Can use a period at the end of a sentence
- 2-3 Can use a period in abbreviations
- 1-2 Can use a question mark
- 2 Can use an exclamation point
- 3 Can use a comma after yes and no
- 3 Can use a comma after a name
- 2 Can use a comma between city and state
- 3 Can use a comma in a series of words
- 2-3 Can use a comma in a date
- 3 Can use quotation marks in dialog

Capitalization

- 1 Can capitalize the first word in a sentence
- 2 Can capitalize the days of the week
- 2 Can capitalize the months of the year
- 2 Can capitalize special holidays
- 1 Can capitalize the word I
- 1 Can capitalize references to God and the Bible
- 1 Can capitalize names of people
- 2 Can capitalize initials
- 2 Can capitalize titles of people and literary works

Word Study

- 2 Can identify the root of a given word
- 2 Can identify the prefix of a given word
- 2 Can identify the suffix of a given word
- 2 Can identify the number of syllables in a word
- 2 Can identify compound words
- 1 Can identify words that rhyme
- 2 Can identify antonyms
- 2 Can identify synonyms
- 2 Can use homonyms
- 2 Can use homographs

Word Study (continued)

- 2 Can identify contractions for given words
- 1-2 Can use the singular form of a given word
- 1-2 Can use the plural form of a given word
- 1-2 Can use past and present tense forms of a given word
- 3 Can use the possessive form of a given word

Parts of Speech

- 2-3 Can identify nouns
- 2-3 Can identify action verbs
- 3 Can identify helping verbs
- 3 Can identify adjectives
- 3 Can identify the simple subject of a sentence
- 3 Can identify the complete subject of a sentence
- 3 Can identify the complete predicate of a sentence

Word Usage

- 2 Can use common pronouns correctly
- 3 Can use common adverbs correctly
- 2-3 Can identify subjects and verbs that agree in number and tense
- 2 Can use the following words correctly in a sentence:
is, are, isn't, aren't, there is, is there, there are, are there, was, were, wasn't, weren't, has, have, hasn't, haven't, a, an, threw, thrown, saw, seen, became, become, wrote, written, drank, drunk, ate, eaten, did, done, took, taken, gave, given, came, come, drove, driven, rode, ridden, broke, broken, himself, themselves, its, it's
- 3 Can use the following words correctly in a sentence:
sit, sat, set, learn, teach, to, too, two, may, can, grew, grown, knew, known, blew, blown, sang, sung, rang, rung, went, gone, froze, frozen, fell, fallen, ran, run, began, begun, there, their, they're, its, it's

Study Skills

- 2 Can alphabetize words to the first letter
- 2 Can alphabetize words to the second and third letters
- 2-3 Can look up words in a dictionary
- 2 Can use a table of contents
- 2-3 Can use a glossary

Composition

- 3 Can order sentences to make a paragraph
- 3 Can write a paragraph
- 3 Can write a one page story or composition
- 3 Can write a friendly letter
- 3 Can address an envelope

Handwriting

- 1 Can hold a pencil properly
- 1 Can print all letters, upper and lower case
- 2-3 Can write all cursive letters, upper and lower case
- 1 Can write numerals 0 - 20