



Maine's Comprehensive
State Literacy Plan

Sample Literacy Learning Targets for Students in Grades K-2

This collection of literacy targets represents a set of skills that children are working on during this grade span. It is important to remember that these are learning and instructional targets that should serve as reference points. Each learner is unique and acquires skills in different ways and at different times. Use the targets in this document to communicate with caregivers and educators and to support literacy at home and in the community.

LANGUAGE TARGETS

In the area of language, students are learning to...

- correctly use common nouns and verbs.
- use capital letters for names of people, places, and holidays.
- use context clues and word parts to learn the meaning of new words.
- represent sounds and spelling patterns when writing words.
- use a variety of strategies to determine the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words.
- sort common words into categories and explore relationships between words.
- use words learned from conversations and texts when writing, speaking, reading, and listening.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING TARGETS

When speaking and listening, students are learning to...

- participate in conversations in small and large groups.
- listen and take turns in conversations.
- ask and answer questions about a text read aloud.
- ask and answer questions of a speaker to better understand a topic.
- describe familiar people places things, ideas and events clearly.
- speak in complete sentences and communicate clearly to a variety of audiences.

READING TARGETS

When they are learning foundational skills, students are learning to...

- follow words left to right and top to bottom when reading.
- identify and say the letters in the alphabet.
- use capital letters to begin a sentence, and punctuation to end it.
- understand the use of spoken language as whole words, syllables, and sounds.
- blend sounds to produce short words.
- know short and long vowel sounds.
- point to or say vowel sounds in the beginning, middle, and end of words.
- break words apart into sounds.
- use letter-sound skills to decode simple one and two syllable words.
- decode words with common suffixes and prefixes.
- use appropriate tools and knowledge to confirm word meanings.

When reading various texts, students are learning to...

- ask and answer basic questions (who, what, when, where, and how).
- retell texts including key ideas, details and main ideas.
- identify different characters and recognize that different characters have different points of view and connections.
- recognize unknown words and start to use clues to figure out their meanings.
- recognize that pictures in texts are important and tell how they support the main ideas.
- identify similarities and differences in two texts about the same topic.
- identify different types of texts can tell stories and provide information.
- identify the different types and parts of stories.
- become accurate and fluent in order to comprehend what is being read.

WRITING TARGETS

When writing, students are learning to...

- gather information and investigate questions.
- answer questions and information from experiences.
- develop and strengthen writing by adding supporting details.
- revise and edit writing with the support of an adult.
- use digital tools to write and publish/share writing with the support of an adult.
- work with peers to research and write about topics.
- print upper- and lower-case letters.
- use a combination of writing and drawing to communicate a topic.
- use precise vocabulary and words to tell a story or communicate information.