INDIANA
DEPARTMENT *of*
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2024 INDIANA CONTENT CONNECTORS
ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

KINDERGARTEN

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Indiana Content Connectors Context and Purpose

Introduction

The Indiana Content Connectors for Kindergarten English/Language Arts are the result of a process designed to identify, evaluate, synthesize, and create high-quality learning expectations for Indiana students with significant cognitive disabilities.

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) convened stakeholder committees to review proposed revisions to Indiana's Alternative Standards, known as content connectors. The content connectors are designed to measure the knowledge and skills of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities and are assessed with the state's alternate assessment. The content connectors are designed to ensure that all Indiana students in this population are prepared with essential knowledge and skills needed to access employment, enrollment, or enlistment leading to service.

What are the Content Connectors and how should they be used?

The Indiana Content Connectors are designed to help educators, parents, students, and community members understand the necessary content for each grade level, and within each content area domain, to access employment, enrollment, or enlistment leading to service. These content connectors should form the basis for strong core instruction for all students at each grade level and content area. The content connectors identify the minimum academic content or skills to which Indiana students need access in order to be prepared for success after graduation, but they are not an exhaustive list.

While the Indiana Content Connectors establish key expectations for knowledge and skills and should be used as the basis for curriculum, the content connectors by themselves do not constitute a curriculum. It is the responsibility of the local school corporation to select and formally adopt curricular tools, including textbooks and any other supplementary materials, that align with Indiana Content Connectors. Additionally, corporation and school leaders should consider the appropriate instructional sequence of the content connectors as well as the length of time needed to teach each one. Every content connector has a unique place in the continuum of learning, but each content connector will not require the same amount of time and attention. A deep understanding of the vertical articulation of the standards will enable educators to make the best instructional decisions. These content connectors must also be complemented by robust, evidence-based instructional practices to support overall student development. By utilizing strategic and intentional instructional practices, other areas such as STEM and employability skills can be integrated with the content connectors.

Acknowledgments

Kindergarten English/Language Arts

Standards and content connectors identified as essential for mastery by the end of the grade level are indicated with gray shading and an "E."

Indiana Academic Standards	Content Connectors
Reading Foundations	
Print Concepts	
K.RF.1: Demonstrate understanding that print moves from left to right across the page and from top to bottom.	**K.RF.1a:** Identify the front and back of a book.
	K.RF.1b: Demonstrate understanding that print moves from left to right across the page and/or from top to bottom.
	K.RF.1c: Distinguish between words and illustrations in a text.
K.RF.2: Recognize that written words are made up of sequences of letters.	**K.RF.2a:** Recognize that written words are made up of individual letters.
K.RF.3: Identify and name all uppercase (capital) and lowercase letters of the alphabet. (E)	**K.RF.3a:** Identify or name uppercase (capital) letters of the alphabet. (E)
	K.RF.3b: Identify or name lowercase letters of the alphabet. (E)
Phonological Awareness	
K.RF.4: Identify and produce rhyming words.	**K.RF.4a:** Identify two one-syllable words that rhyme (e.g., cat/bat, fed/bed, dog/log).
	K.RF.4b: Identify and/or produce a rhyming word for a presented word.
K.RF.5: Orally pronounce, blend, and segment words into syllables. (E)	**K.RF.5a:** Blend and segment words into syllables. (E)

K.RF.6: Identify and produce the beginning, middle (medial), and final sounds in three and four phoneme words. (E)	**K.RF.6a**: Identify and produce beginning, middle, and final sounds in three-phoneme (CVC) words. (E)

Decoding	
K.RF.7: Use letter-sound knowledge to decode the sound of each consonant. (E)	**K.RF.7a:** Use letter-sound knowledge to identify the sound of individual initial and final consonants not including blends. (E)
K.RF.8: Use letter-sound knowledge to decode words, including open and closed syllables, consonant digraphs, and blends. (E)	**K.RF.8a:** Use letter-sound knowledge to decode words. (E)
K.RF.9: Orally read decodable texts with appropriate accuracy and automaticity.	**K.RF.9a:** Read short, decodable texts (i.e., one to three sentences) including common or CVC words (e.g., man) and single syllable open words (e.g., he) with appropriate accuracy and automaticity.

Reading Comprehension	
K.RC.1: With support, ask and answer questions about main topics and key details in a text heard or read. (E)	**K.RC.1a:** With support, ask and answer questions about main topics in a text heard or read. (E)
K.RC.2: With support, retell familiar stories, poems, and nursery rhymes, including key details. (E)	**K.RC.2a:** With support, retell shared and familiar stories, poems, or nursery rhymes, recalling at least two key details. (E)
K.RC.3: Identify important elements within a text (e.g., characters, settings, or events). (E)	**K.RC.3a:** Identify two or more important elements within a text (e.g., characters, settings, or events). (E)
K.RC.4: With support, make predictions about what will happen in a text.	**K.RC.4a**: With support, identify, given two options, a prediction about what might happen next in a story.
K.RC.5: With support, retell the main idea and key details of a text.	**K.RC.5a:** With support, answer questions about a main idea and key details in a short text.
K.RC.6: Identify text features of a nonfiction text (e.g., title, author, illustrations), and describe the relationship between those features and the text in which they appear. (E)	**K.RC.6a:** Identify two or more nonfiction text features (e.g., title, author, illustrations). (E)
K.RC.7: Identify and sort pictures of objects into categories (e.g., colors, shapes, opposites) through oral discussions. (E)	**K.RC.7a:** Identify and sort pictures of objects into categories (e.g., colors, shapes, opposites). (E)

Writing	
K.W.1: Write most uppercase (capital) and lowercase letters of the alphabet, correctly shaping and spacing the letters of the words.	**K.W.1a:** Write some uppercase (capital) and lowercase letters of the alphabet correctly shaping the letters.
K.W.2: Write by moving from left to right across the page and top to bottom.	**K.W.2a:** Write by moving from left to right across the page and top to bottom.
K.W.3 Use words and pictures to develop a main idea and provide information about a topic. (E)	**K.W.3a:** Use words and/or pictures to explain a main idea or provide information about a topic. (E)
K.W.4: Use words, pictures, and dictation to narrate a single event or simple story, arranging ideas in order. (E)	**K.W.4a:** Use words, pictures, and/or dictation to sequence two or more events in a story. (E)
K.W.5: With support, apply the writing process to: a. Plan by generating ideas for writing through oral discussions and drawings; b. Develop drafts in pictorial or written form by organizing ideas; c. Revise writing by adding details in pictures or words; and d. Use available technology to produce and publish writing.	**K.W.5a:** With support, apply the writing process to: a. Plan by generating ideas when prompted or asked a question about a topic or personal experience for writing through oral discussions and/or drawings. b. Develop drafts in pictorial and/or written form by organizing ideas using a graphic organizer. c. Use varied forms of provided feedback (e.g., questions related to sequence or details, added words and/or pictures) to revise writing by adding events and/or details using pictures or words; and d. Use available and familiar technology to produce and publish writing.
K.W.6: With support, build understanding of a topic using various sources. **a.** Identify relevant pictures, charts, grade-appropriate texts, personal experiences, or people as sources of information on a topic.	**K.W.6a:** With support, build understanding of a topic using various sources. a. Identify relevant pictures, charts, texts, personal experiences, or people as sources of information on a topic.

K.W.7: Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage when writing or speaking, focusing on:
 	
  a. Nouns/Pronouns – Using sentences that include singular and/or plural nouns (e.g., dog/dogs, cat/cats).
  b. Verbs – Using sentences that include verbs.
  c. Usage – Recognizing that there are different kinds of sentences (e.g., sentences that tell something, sentences that ask something).
	K.W.7a: Correctly apply English grammar and usage when writing or speaking, focusing on:
	
	  a. Nouns - Using sentences that include singular and/or plural nouns (e.g., dog/dogs, cat/cats).
	  b. Verbs - Using sentences that include verbs.
	  c. Usage – Recognizing that there are different kinds of sentences (e.g., sentences that tell something, sentences that ask something).

K.W.8: Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling, focusing on:
 	
  a. Capitalization – Capitalizing the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I.
  b. Punctuation – Recognizing and naming end punctuation.
  c. Encoding – Spelling simple words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness.
	K.W.8a: Apply capitalization, punctuation, and spelling conventions focusing on:
	
	  a. Capitalization – Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I.
	  b. Punctuation – Identify end punctuation (e.g., period, question mark, and/or exclamation point).
	  c. Encoding – Spelling simple consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness.

**Communication and Collaboration**
K.CC.1: Participate in collaborative conversations about grade-appropriate topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups. (E)	**K.CC.1a:** Participate in collaborative conversations (e.g., turn taking) about instructional-level topics and texts with peers and adults in small or larger groups. (E)
K.CC.2: Ask questions to seek help, obtain information, or clarify something that is not understood.	**K.CC.2a:** Ask questions to seek help, obtain information, or clarify something that is not understood.
K.CC.3: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media. (E)	**K.CC.3a:** Answer a question about a key detail in a text read aloud or information shared orally or through other media (e.g., video or audio). (E)
K.CC.4: Audibly recite poems, rhymes, and songs, and use complete sentences to describe familiar people, places, things, and events. With support, provide additional details on these topics.	**K.CC.4a:** With support, share simple poems, rhymes, or songs. **K.CC.4b**: Describe familiar people, places, things, or events.

	K.CC.4c: With support (e.g., questioning), provide additional details on the topic.
K.CC.5: Follow simple two or three-step oral directions.	**K.CC.5a:** Follow simple, single-step, oral directions. (E)