

# A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



## Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Kindergarten Mathematics. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

## Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

## Mathematics for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The mathematics standards in the elementary years focus on developing students' understanding of number and those concepts from geometry that strengthen students' ability to visualize number. In each grade students are asked to make sense of problems, explain their thinking, and show their world using mathematics.

## Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Mary Pittman, Mathematics Content Specialist at 303-854-4560, [Pittman\\_m@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Pittman_m@cde.state.co.us)



**COLORADO**  
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everychild. onevoice.

At the end of  
Kindergarten,  
students can...



## Mathematics Learning Expectations for Kindergarten

### Number

Fluently (consistently) write numerals and count items up to 20 and understand addition as putting together and subtraction as taking apart for numbers up to 10.

### Data

Sort objects into groups by comparing attributes such as color, size, and shape.

### Geometry

Name shapes regardless of size or position (a triangle is still a triangle even when pointing down).

## Throughout Kindergarten, you may find students...

- Playing counting games to help focus on one-to-one counting (touching one object and saying one number name); quickly seeing groups of two or three objects without counting.
- Recognizing multiple finger patterns for the numbers 1 to 10; writing numerals.
- Acting out addition and subtraction word problems and creating pictures to show how the numbers were joined or broken apart; making comparisons (“I have more crayons” “His pencil is shorter than mine”).
- Describing basic location of objects (next to, under, over, inside).
- Naming and drawing shapes; creating pictures by combining shapes (a house drawing created with a square and triangle).