

**2nd Edition**

# **LEARNING TARGETS WORK!**

*Targeting Student Achievement one Subject at a Time*

DISTRICTWIDE CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT TO STATE STANDARDS

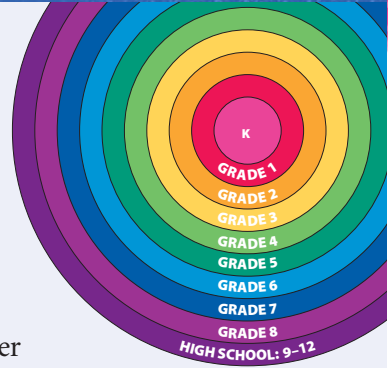


**K5**



**Milwaukee Public Schools**

# MPS LEARNING TARGETS



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Your child is now beginning **K5**. You may wonder what you should expect your child to learn this year, and how his/her progress measures up to state standards.

This booklet has the answers. It is the Milwaukee Public Schools' set of **Learning Targets** for your child's appropriate grade level. Learning Targets outline what your child will learn in nine curriculum areas: Reading, English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Music, Physical Education, Health and Art.

**Learning Targets ensure consistency at each grade level**, even if your child moves from school to school during the year. The Targets ensure that teachers instruct the skills and concepts at the level appropriate for your child's development. **We use the Targets to assess student achievement throughout the year.** The teacher is able to help your child before he or she falls behind grade level.

**Please keep this booklet and refer to it often.** Check the Learning Targets against your child's homework to see how it fits. Bring it to Parent/Teacher conferences to help you talk about your child's progress.

We will work to keep your child *on target* with Learning Targets.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "William G. Andrekopoulos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William G. Andrekopoulos  
Superintendent of Schools

Educators and community leaders who are members of *The Milwaukee Partnership Academy* are committed to Learning Targets as critical tools for achievement in MPS classrooms.

## **K5** Art



Art education is as essential to the basic education of all children as reading, writing and mathematics. As an area of study, art education covers understanding how things are presented visually, knowing what makes beautiful art and creative problem solving. In K5, children become aware of art. They begin to create as well as to observe art in the world. Children will:

- Talk about their art and recognize when a work of art is complete.
- Know that all cultures produce art.
- Identify the work of two famous artists.
- Create art that expresses who they are and their experience.
- Know that art can be used to tell stories.
- Enjoy making art.



Health education in K5 through 8th grade includes both a personal and community approach to health care. K5 children are taught the basics of caring for themselves. They are also exposed to others in the community concerned with health and safety. Children will:

- Describe how to care for their teeth.
- Know basic facts about what the body needs to stay healthy, including physical activity.
- Tell how they can keep from getting hurt.
- Identify healthy foods and unhealthy foods.
- Tell how to get help at school and use the 911 emergency phone number.
- Discuss how recycling helps the environment.
- Show respect for property.
- Express their feelings in a positive way.
- Explain “good touch” and “bad touch.”
- Identify three adults they can trust and talk to if they need help.



In K5, English Language Arts focuses on the child's oral skills and on connecting the spoken and written word. Children are introduced to the media, computers and research. Children will:

- Express ideas in writing by using words and sentences.
- Understand that what is said can be written in words and sentences.
- Help the teacher use the writing process to plan, revise, edit and publish writing.
- Face their audience and wait for its attention before speaking clearly to them.
- Follow single and two-step directions.
- Listen to stories to build background knowledge, answer factual questions and politely ask and answer questions during discussions.
- Develop and gain new vocabulary using standard American English.
- Use language appropriately in school.
- Use a computer, mouse and keyboard.
- Identify products and media such as television and radio commercials, newspaper and magazines advertisements and signs.
- Identify media products found in their surroundings that inform and/or entertain.
- Recognize sign formats, television advertisements and magazine advertisements.
- Practice research skills by asking simple questions, sharing information and telling the difference in what is real and what is make-believe.
- Name ways to improve a media work, such as changing the pictures in a magazine advertisement.

## **K5** Mathematics



In K5, children learn that numbers are used to represent quantities. They count, compare, add, and subtract numbers in a story context. They sort, describe, and compare shapes. Children collect, sort, and represent data. Children will:

- Count and keep track of sets of objects up to 50. Strategies include starting from one or starting with a known number of objects and counting on from that number.
- Connect the number and the word for the number with the correct quantity up to 20.
- Identify coins (penny, nickel, dime, quarter).
- Solve problems by using objects to find combinations of numbers up to 10. For example, combinations of six are  $3+3$ ,  $2+4$ ,  $1+5$ ,  $0+6$ .
- Sort and compare objects and shapes.
- Compare and order objects by length, weight, and mass.
- Survey classmates with simple questions. For example, ask “yes/no” questions and report the results.
- Recognize patterns of color and shape and find them in the world.



K5 children begin their study of music with singing and learning the basics of verse and melody. They learn that musical notes represent sounds. Children will:

- Sing while focusing on the correct pitch (on key).
- Sing using heavier and lighter sounds.
- Sing songs from different cultures.
- Play different types of instruments to accompany a poem or musical melody or phrase.
- Create new verses to a composition.
- Create music to go with a story and write the notes on a melody map that shows how the sounds go up and down in pitch.
- Use a picture representing a rhythm to mark a beat.



The overall goal of physical education in K5 through Grade 8 is to develop an awareness of the importance of physical activity. In K5, children are encouraged to learn new physical skills. They are introduced to healthy exercise habits. Children will:

- Practice basic locomotor and non-locomotor skills: hopping, skipping, jumping, galloping, running, walking, sliding and balancing.
- Begin to understand that a good exercise routine includes warm-ups and cool-downs, muscle strengthening and activities that increase the heart and breathing rates.
- Demonstrate self-control and the ability to follow directions.
- Practice basic ball skills to include: rolling, kicking, bouncing, throwing and catching.
- Display a positive attitude toward creative movement and physical skills.
- Express their feelings in a positive way.
- Understand the importance of physical activity and healthy food choices in maintaining good health.
- Demonstrate respect and understanding for all students regardless of their appearance or physical abilities by displaying acceptance and cooperation.

## **K5** Reading



In K5, children are introduced to reading readiness skills, and are prepared for the beginning stages of reading. They connect letters to letter sounds, and learn how letters combine to make words. They are read to daily to gain meaning, identify parts of a story, and listen to the sound of reading. Children are expected to leave K5 prepared for the next stages of reading, and know that reading is a path to knowledge. Children will:

- Associate sounds with letters. Understand that letter sounds combine to make words.
- Learn reading strategies, such as using picture clues to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases.
- Learn reading strategies, such as sequencing the events of the story to analyze and understand what is read.
- Read aloud accurately and with expression.
- Select different kinds of books to read for enjoyment.
- Read to identify the parts of a story in a variety of books, including books from cultures worldwide. Connect similar stories; for example, *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters* and *Cinderella*.
- Identify the structure of nonfiction books. Connect similar books; for example, two books about animals. Connect information in the books to real life experiences.
- Identify the main ideas in different sources of information, both print and nonprint.
- Distinguish between fiction and nonfiction books.
- Use nonfiction books to research new information. Connect information to what they already know.

## **K5** Science



K5 marks the beginning of children’s scientific discovery. They learn to observe the world in a scientific way. Children will:

- Connect science to their world by observing objects to learn about systems, order and organization.
- Discover that science is an activity that children and adults do to find out about the world around them.
- Observe how scientists ask questions about the world around them and find answers to some of the questions by observing and trying things.
- Explore light, magnetism, motion and the properties of objects; for example, they will classify and compare objects that sink or float.
- Observe and describe changes in the earth and sky, such as the phases of the moon.
- Identify the characteristics of living things; for example, they will recognize that all living things grow.
- Discover that technology is the use of tools by making a simple tool.
- Give examples of how science helps us to care for ourselves.
- Observe changes in the environment.



### Awareness of Self in a World of Diversity

Social Studies includes five areas of study: Geography, History, Civics, Economics and Behavioral Sciences. K5 children explore themselves as members of a diverse world. Children will:

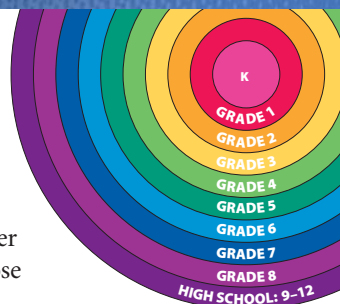
- Identify maps and globes, and recognize that they are used to locate where we live. Describe how people adapt to changes in the seasons. (Geography)
- Identify and compare family cultures and traditions. Use calendars and timelines to order events of the day and historical events. (History)
- Identify, demonstrate, and explain their rights and responsibilities as members of a family, classroom and school. (Civics)
- Identify and describe jobs within the family and classroom. List ways people earn money to satisfy economic wants. (Economics)
- Describe how families are alike and different in how they live, work, and play. Identify and describe institutions, such as police, fire, hospitals, schools and places of worship. (Behavioral Sciences)

# Believe it – Achieve it!

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Learning Targets benefit you and your child.

- Learning Targets allow you to see exactly what your child should learn in each of nine subject areas at each grade level.
- Teachers can provide examples of work so that you can easily see what's expected of your child.
- If your child does not meet an expected skill level, the teacher will know what the child needs to learn and can address those needs.
- Children know what is expected of them. They will see posters listing the learning targets listed for each subject hanging in their classrooms.



## Learning Targets help all schools perform consistently.

- Teachers in all grades work with the same goals in mind, using the same concepts.
- The same standards of performance are expected from all students.
- Having the same Learning Targets in each classroom means a child who must change schools will be less likely to miss important parts of his or her education.

## Children with special education needs will have many opportunities to meet the Learning Targets.

- Special needs children will be provided with accommodations based on their educational needs when appropriate.
- Accommodations will be identified in IEP or 504 educational plans.
- These students may be given extra time to finish assignments and assessments.
- They may also get step-by-step directions and organizational tools.
- In rare cases, an IEP/504 team may determine that an alternate curriculum is more appropriate.

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To access the MPS Learning Targets (parent versions), go to <http://mpsportal.milwaukee.k12.wi.us> and click "Parents."  
To access the teacher versions, go to <http://mpsportal.milwaukee.k12.wi.us> and go to the Teacher Community homepage.



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