English Language Arts & Literacy

- Naming upper and lowercase letters, matching those letters with their sounds, and printing them
- Comparing the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories, such as fairy tales and folktales
- Retelling familiar stories and talking about stories read to them using details from the text
- Using a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened
- Stating an opinion or preference about a topic or book in writing (e.g., My favorite book is...”)
- Taking part in classroom conversations and following rules for discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking)
- Speaking clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas, including descriptions of familiar people, places, things and events
- Asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud
- Understanding and using question words (who, what, where, when, why, and how
- Learning to recognize, spell, and properly use those little grammatical words that hold the language together (sometimes called sight words – a, the, to, of, from, I, is, are)

Tennessee State Standards

This guide provides an overview of the curriculum standards in English and Language Arts for kindergarten. The Tennessee State Standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. With this overview, it is our hope that families and teachers will work collaboratively toward the success of all students. These standards help children develop critical thinking skills that will prepare them for college and career. As your child meets these expectations, he or she will be well prepared for first grade.

Adapted from the National PTA website
Parents’ Guide to Student Success 2012

Helping at Home

- Read with your child every day. Ask him or her to explain a favorite part. Share your own ideas.
- Encourage your child to tell you about his or her day at school. Have your child give details about how things made them feel, what they wondered about or what their new learning made them think about (a connection to prior learning or experiences).