

Dear Parents,

The Governing Board of the Ramona Unified School District has adopted California's Content Standards for district wide implementation. Well-communicated standards provide you with the information you need to have a better understanding of what your child is to learn in a specific grade level and in a specific subject. Your knowledge of the standards will help you frame your questions for parent-teacher conferences and counselor conferences, select reading and writing materials for the home, and shape your visits to public libraries and other places of interest.

## English-Language Arts

### Reading:

**1.0 Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development:** Students know about letters, words, and sounds. They apply this knowledge to read simple sentences.

**2.0 Reading Comprehension:** Students identify the basic facts and ideas in what they have read, heard, or viewed. They use comprehension strategies (e.g., generating and responding to questions, comparing new information to what is already known).

**3.0 Literary Response and Analysis:** Students listen and respond to stories based on well-known characters, themes, plots, and settings.

### Writing:

**1.0 Writing Strategies:** Students write words and brief sentences that are legible.

### Written and Oral English Language Conventions:

**1.0 Written and Oral English Language Conventions:** Students write and speak with a command of standard English conventions.

### Listening and Speaking:

**1.0 Listening and Speaking Strategies:** Students listen and respond to oral communication. They speak in clear and coherent sentences.

**2.0 Speaking Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics):** Students deliver brief recitations and oral presentations about familiar experiences or interests, demonstrating command of the organization and delivery strategies outlined in Listening and Speaking Standard 1.0.

### How parents can help . . .

- ✓ *Maintain contact with your child's school and teacher through telephone calls, written communication, meetings, and events. Both you and your child will benefit by sharing information.*
- ✓ *Schedule a time each day to talk about school and to share your day.*
- ✓ *Show your child that reading (newspapers, books, and magazines) is fun.*
- ✓ *Encourage reading behaviors such as reading labels at the store and reading signs.*
- ✓ *Go to the library regularly and check out books.*
- ✓ *Read aloud to your child and talk about stories on a daily basis.*
- ✓ *Read/say familiar nursery rhymes and songs at home.*



- ✓ *Encourage drawing and painting and then talk about the pictures.*
- ✓ *Have writing supplies available, such as crayons, paper, and magnetic letters.*
- ✓ *Share everyday writing activities such as recipes, grocery lists, letters, and invitations.*
- ✓ *Have your child dictate letters to relatives or friends.*
- ✓ *Monitor and consider limiting television viewing time.*

## Mathematics

By the end of kindergarten, students understand small numbers, quantities, and simple shapes in their everyday environment. They count, compare, describe and sort objects, and develop a sense of properties and patterns.

### Number Sense:

**1.0** Students understand the relationship between numbers and quantities (i.e., that a set of objects has the same number of objects in different situations regardless of its position or arrangement).

**2.0** Students understand and describe simple addition and subtraction.

**3.0** Students use estimation strategies in computation and problem solving that involve numbers that use the ones and tens places.

### Algebra and Function:

**1.0** Students sort and classify objects.

### Measurement and Geometry:

**1.0** Students understand the concept of time and units to measure it; they understand that objects have properties, such as length, weight, and capacity, and that comparisons may be made by referring to those properties.

**2.0** Students identify common objects in their environment and describe the geometric features.



### Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability:

**1.0** Students collect information about objects and events in their environment.

### Mathematical Reasoning:

**1.0** Students make decisions about how to set up a problem.

**2.0** Students solve problems in reasonable ways and justify their reasoning.

### How parents can help . . .

- ✓ *Practice basic skills such as rote counting, counting objects (clothing, foods, buttons), comparing objects in terms of sizes.*
- ✓ *Talk about all the numbers and math in your daily routine at home.*
- ✓ *Sing counting songs and chant number rhymes to help children learn rote counting.*
- ✓ *Play board games that involve counting spaces or identifying shapes and patterns, such as "Chutes and Ladders".*
- ✓ *Go on a "Shape Hunt" in your house or neighborhood.*
- ✓ *Do rhythm patterns together such as "clap, clap, snap, snap".*
- ✓ *Cook together and discuss measurement.*

## Science

### Physical Sciences:

1.0 Properties of materials can be observed, measured, and predicted.

### Life Sciences:

2.0 Different types of plants and animals inhabit the earth.

### Earth Sciences:

3.0 Earth is composed of land, air, and water.

### Investigation and Experimentation:

4.0 Scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. As a basis for understanding this concept and addressing the content in the other three strands, students should develop their own questions and perform investigations.

### **How parents can help . . .**



- ✓ Encourage your child to ask questions and make observations of the natural world.
- ✓ Encourage your child to read and write about what they learn.
- ✓ Visit the library and museums as a family.
- ✓ Schedule time each day to talk with your child about school and share your day.
- ✓ Maintain contact with your child's school and teacher.
- ✓ Limit time viewing television.

## History/Social Science

**Learning and Working Now and Long Ago:** Students in kindergarten are introduced to basic spatial, temporal, and casual relationships, emphasizing the geographic and historical connections between the world today and the world long ago. The stories of ordinary and extraordinary people help describe the range and continuity of human experience and introduce the concepts of courage, self-control, justice, heroism, leadership, deliberation, and individual responsibility. Historical empathy for how people lived and worked long ago reinforces the concept of civic behavior: how we interact respectfully with each other, following rules, and respecting the rights of others.

K.1 Students understand that being a good citizen involves acting in certain ways.

K.2 Students recognize national and state symbols and icons such as the national and state flags, the bald eagle, and the Statue of Liberty.

K.3 Students match simple descriptions of work that people do and the names of related jobs at the school, in the local community, and from historical accounts.

K.4 Students compare and contrast the locations of people, places, and environments and describe their characteristics.

K.5 Students put events in temporal order using a calendar, placing days, weeks, and months in proper order.

K.6 Students understand that history relates to events, people, and places of other times.

### **How parents can help . . .**

- ✓ Maintain contact with your child's school and teacher.
- ✓ Read historical picture stories to your child.
- ✓ Demonstrate importance of reading by modeling the reading of newspapers, books and magazines.
- ✓ Discuss current events with your child.
- ✓ Have current maps, globes, and resource material available in your home.
- ✓ Encourage discussions about historical events, past lifestyles, and different cultures.

- ✓ Introduce your child to foods and customs from different countries.
- ✓ Explore museums together.
- ✓ Encourage your child to create their own picture history.



The California Content Standards for grades Kindergarten through Twelve were adopted by the California Department of Education during the 1997-98 school year. The standards represent a commitment to teaching strong basic skills, problem solving strategies, critical thinking, and analysis techniques to all students. The standards serve as a basis for our curriculum development, use of instructional resources, and assessment of student achievement. This pamphlet is intended to provide parents with an overview of the tremendous amount of subject matter which your child will experience in this particular grade level in the four core areas of study. Additionally, each child in grades K-6 will also be engaged in a rich course of study in the visual and performing arts, health, and physical education.

In addition to the standards described here, suggestions are provided for parents to help their children practice, develop, and achieve these expectations. In order to become proficient in the various skills included in each of the four core content areas, it is critical that parents take an active role in working with the schools to develop these skills.

For additional information on our District's instructional program, parents should contact their local school principal or teacher. Additionally, a complete and detailed listing of the state's content standards is available via the Internet at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/standards>.



## Ramona Unified School District

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## California Content Standards

## Kindergarten