

# **2015-16 RISD Kindergarten Report Card**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is the purpose of the Kindergarten Report Card?**

This report card is designed to provide specific and accurate information to parents. It lists the concepts and skills (standards) for each subject area that all kindergartners are expected to master by the end of the year. It enables students to receive multiple opportunities and ways to demonstrate proficiency. Teachers are able to use assessment results to know exactly where students stand in their progress and what supports need to be provided.

### **2. What is a standard?**

A standard is a statement that identifies what children should know and be able to do. In Texas, the standards are called the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, or TEKS.

### **3. How were the standards for the report cards determined?**

Standards for the report card are aligned with the standards established by the state of Texas, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Standards selected are essential for success in current and subsequent grades.

### **4. Why does the report card list so many standards for each subject?**

The standards listed are critical to a student's success in kindergarten. By reporting progress on specific standards, a student's mastery of the curriculum can be strengthened due to more targeted instruction by teachers and their ability to work toward clear goals.

## 5. How will my child's progress be reported?

Performance Indicators	
4	Exceeds Standard
3	Mastery of Standard (Consistently applies the standard)
2	Approaching the Standard (Increasingly applies the standard)
1	Emergent Progress (Little or no evidence of applying the standard)
	Not assessed

Student progress toward standards will be marked using the above performance indicators. **The goal is for students reach a performance indicator of 3 by the end of the school year on all standards.**

## 6. Should I expect my child to receive level 4 on many standards?

The 4 indicates a student who consistently “exceeds” the grade level standard. The student demonstrates in-depth understanding of the concept and skill, makes abstract, insightful or complex connections among ideas, applies the knowledge and skill independently using efficient strategies, and communicates effectively and thoroughly. A “4” is not equivalent to an “A” on the traditional grading scale. It would be unusual for a student to frequently receive “4s” on kindergarten standards.

## 7. How will teachers assess these standards?

Teachers may assess standards in a variety of ways. They will observe and take notes to record progress. Formative assessments may include, but are not limited to: paper and pencil tasks, student teacher conferences, peer dialog, small group observations. Teachers are looking for students to **consistently** demonstrate understanding of the standard in assessment and daily situations.

## 8. How do I know what skills to help my child with at home?

By looking at any areas not yet mastered on the report card, parents can help their child with weaker areas or extend their understanding of standards on which they have reached mastery. Contact your child's teacher for specific ideas of supporting the learning at home.