

INDEX

- Academically progressive home life, 2
- Accommodation, 16
- Accountability, 32–33, 185, 187
- Active participation in your child's education, 8; empowerment gained by, 10
- Advanced Placement (AP) tests, 33
- Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (Viorst), 199–200
- All Our Children Learning* (Bloom), 12
- Analysis level of learning, 25
- Animal Movements activity, 136–137
- Apostrophe What? activity, 67–68
- Application level of learning, 25
- Assessment, 183–188; of individual student abilities and knowledge, 184–187; observation and portfolio 184–185; purpose of 183; school/school district/statewide/national performance for broad public accountability, 187–188; standardized assessment, 183–184; standardized testing, 185–187; types of, 183–184
- Assimilation, 16
- Audio recordings, as supplemental material, 14
- Auditory learners, 70; Animal Movements activity, 137; Apostrophe What? activity, 68; Beginning, Middle, and End activity, 55; Blending Sounds activity, 44; Blind Taste Test activity, 127; Bouncy Egg activity, 121; Building Words activity, 45; Button Sort activity, 118; Can You Find a Sentence? activity, 74; Capitalization activity, 75; Coin Race activity, 109; Colorful Candy Patterns activity, 96; Coloring Book Shapes activity, 103; Community Helpers activity, 164; Cookie Math activity, 91; Counting Cards activity, 88; Creative Writing activity, 71; Dentists activity, 165; Describe a Toy activity, 62; Earth Materials Match-Up activity, 144; Emergent Story Reading activity, 50; Fact or Fiction activity, 54; Finding Objects activity, 124; Floaters or Sinkers? activity, 129; Four Seasons Concentration activity, 147; Germination Bags activity, 135; Goldfish Addition activity, 92; Hat Trick activity, 46; Hear the Music, Feel the Music activity, 126; Home Collage activity, 159; How Was Your Day? activity, 69; I Like Your Suit activity, 110; Identifying Shapes activity, 105; Independence Day and the American Flag activity, 154; Inferring Characters Traits activity, 51; Is This a Sentence? activity, 73; Leaf Collecting activity, 119; Leaf Rubbings activity, 141; Letter Die Game, 60; Letter Match Concentration Game, 41; Letter Short activity, 40; Letters and Words activity, 42–43; Living or Nonliving? activity, 134; Money Patterns activity, 96; Movements activity, 131; My Address activity, 162; My Very Own Calendar activity, 152; Number Game activity, 90; Number Hopscotch activity, 86; Pattern Hunt activity, 97; Personalized Writing activity, 61; Play Dough Shapes activity, 102; Police Officers activity, 166; Practicing Predictions activity, 53; President's Day activity, 155; Problem/Solution activity, 52; Punctuation activity, 76; Rock Collection activity, 142; School Rules activity, 171; Signs of Safety activity, 172; Size Order activity, 106; Snack Counting activity, 85; Snack Mix Math activity, 104; Sound Spelling activity, 67; Spill the Beans activity, 94; Stages of Life activity, 138; Stop, Drop, and Roll! activity, 169; Thanksgiving activity, 157; Touch and Guess activity, 128; Toy Sort activity, 120; Transportation activity, 161; Weather Swat, 145; What Time Is It? activity, 108; What's Your Position? activity, 101; Word Building activity, 77

- Beginning, Middle, and End activity, 55–56
 Blending Sounds activity, 43–44
 Blind Taste Test activity, 126–127
 Bloom's Cognitive Learning Levels table, 26–29
Blueberries for Sal (McCloskey), 200
 Bouncy Egg activity, 120–121
 Building Words activity, 45
 Button Sort activity, 117–118
- Can You Find a Sentence? activity, 74–75
 Candy Land Adventure (Hasbro Interactive), 208
 Capitalization activity, 75
 Center, defined, 82
Chicken Soup with Rice (Sendak), 201
 Child development: gaining insight into, 2; theory of, 15
Children's Strategies: Contemporary Views of Cognitive Development (edited by David F. Bjorklund), 12
 Civics, 167
 Classroom instruction, using testing to change, 33
 Cognitive development, Piaget's stages of, 15–17; concrete operational stage, 16–17; formal operational stage, 17; preoperational stage, 16; sensorimotor stage, 16
 Cognitive learning, 24–29
 Cognitive Learning Levels table (Bloom), 26–29
 Coin Race activity, 108–110
 Colorful Candy Patterns activity, 96–97
 Coloring Book Shapes activity, 103
 Communication levels, 175–177; induction, 176; positive alternative, 176; power assertion, 176; problem-solving process, 176
 Communication, to another class, 9
 Community Helpers activity, 163–164
 Community resources, locating, 9
 Comprehension, 46–55, 178–179; activities, 49–55; Beginning, Middle, and End activity, 55–56; defined, 46; Emergent Story Reading activity, 49–50; Fact or Fiction activity, 54–55; Inferring Characters Traits activity, 50–51; Practicing Predictions activity, 53–54; Problem/Solution activity, 52; sight words, 47; skills, 48; teaching, 46–47
 Comprehension level of learning, 25
 Concentration, 178
 Concrete operational stage, 16–17
 Content standards, 32, 35
 Cookie Math activity, 90–91
Corduroy (Freeman), 201–202
 Correlation reports, 35
 Counting Cards activity, 87–88
- Creative Writing activity, 71–72
 Curriculum, 3; and state learning standards, 11
- Dentists activity, 164–165
 Describe a Toy activity, 62–63
 Developmental goals: for five-year-olds, 17–19; for six-year-olds, 19–20
 Developmental stages, 15
 Dolch, Edward William, 47
 Dolch high-frequency list, 47
- Earth and space science, 139–147; activities, 140–147; concepts, 114; Earth Materials Match-Up activity, 143–144; Four Seasons Concentration activity, 146–147; Leaf Rubbings activity, 140–141; Rock Collection activity, 141–142; skills, 139; Weather Swat, 144–145
 Earth Materials Match-Up activity, 143–144
 Environmental learning: kindergarten math, 111; kindergarten reading, 56; kindergarten science, 147–148; kindergarten social studies, 172–173; kindergarten writing, 78; kindergarten thinking skills, 181
 Evaluation level of learning, 25
- Fact or Fiction activity, 54–55
 Finding Objects activity, 124–125
 Fine motor skill development, 191
 First grade, moving on to, 193–197; anxieties about, 195–196; brain drain, minimizing, 196–197; math skills, 194; reading skills, 193–194; science skills, 194–195; social studies skills, 195; thinking skills, 195; writing skills, 194
 Five-year-olds, developmental goals for, 17–19
 Floaters or Sinkers? activity, 128–130
 Formal operational stage, 17
 Four Seasons Concentration activity, 146–147
- Geometry and measurement, 98, 98–111; activities, 100–111; basic shapes, 98; Coin Race activity, 108–110; Coloring Book Shapes activity, 103; I Like Your Suit activity, 110–111; Identifying Shapes activity, 105; Play Dough Shapes activity, 102–103; Size Order activity, 106; skills, 99–100; Snack Mix Math activity, 104; spatial sense, 98; tools used to measure, learning about, 98; What Time Is It? activity, 107–108; What's Your Position? activity, 100–102
 Germination Bags activity, 135–136

- Goldfish Addition activity, 91–93
- Grammar, 72–76; Can You Find a Sentence? activity, 74–75; Capitalization activity, 75; Is This a Sentence? activity, 73; Punctuation activity, 76; skills, 72; Word Building activity, 77
- Green Eggs and Ham* (Dr. Seuss), 202–203
- Hand-eye coordination, 191
- Hat Trick activity, 45–46
- Hear the Music, Feel the Music activity, 125–126
- High-stakes tests, 187
- Holidays, 150–157; activities, 151–157; Independence Day and the American Flag activity, 153–154; My Very Own Calendar activity, 151–153; President's Day activity, 154–155; skills, 150; Thanksgiving activity, 156–157
- Home Collage activity, 159–160
- Home life, and child development, 2
- Homeschool curriculum, 35; getting the most from, 12–13
- Homeschool curriculum kits, 13
- How Was Your Day? activity, 68–69
- I Like Your Suit activity, 110–111
- Identifying Shapes activity, 105
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (Numeroff), 85
- Independence Day and the American Flag activity, 153–154
- Inferring Characters Traits activity, 50–51
- Instructional Theories in Action: Lessons Illustrating Selected Theories and Models* (edited by Charles M. Reigeluth), 12
- Intellectual development, 15, 189–190
- Internet, as supplemental material, 14
- Is This a Sentence? activity, 73
- James Discovers Math (Broderbund), 210
- JumpStart Kindergarten (Knowledge Adventure), 208
- Kindergarten: development, 15–20; learning, 21–29
- Kindergarten learning, 21–29; cognitive learning, 24–29; learning styles, 21–24
- Kindergarten math, 81–111; environmental learning, 111; geometry and measurement, 98–111; manipulatives, 81–82; number sense, 82–97; patterns, 82–97; settings for, 82
- Kindergarten Math Checklist, 81, 112
- Kindergarten reading, 37–56; complicated process of, 37–38; comprehension, 46–55; environmental learning, 56; phonemic awareness, 38–46
- Kindergarten Reading Checklist, 37, 56
- Kindergarten science, 113–148, *See also* Life science; Physical science; Science processes; activities, 115; classification, 115; earth and space science, 139–147; earth and space science concepts, 114; environmental learning, 147–148; life science, 132–138; life science concepts, 114; physical science, 122–131; physical science concepts, 113; science concepts, 113–114; science processes, 113, 114–116; simple experiments, 115
- Kindergarten Science Checklist, 113, 148
- Kindergarten social studies, 149–173; environmental learning, 172–173; holidays, 150–157; neighborhoods and community helpers, 157–167; rules and safety, 167–172
- Kindergarten Social Studies Checklist, 149, 173
- Kindergarten society, 189–192; bullies, 192; emotional stability, 189; friendships, 192; kindergarten is as social milestone, 191–192; listening skills, improving, 189–190; physical growth/physical coordination, 191; teacher's helper, 190–191
- Kindergarten thinking skills, 175–181; approaches to teaching thinking, 177; communication levels, 175–176; comprehension, 178–179; concentration, 178; environmental learning, 181; logic, 179–180; problem solving, 177–178; reasoning, 179; thinking skills activities, 180–181
- Kindergarten Thinking Skills Checklist, 175, 181
- Kindergarten topical calendar, 211–213
- Kindergarten writing, 57–79, *See also* Grammar; Mechanics of writing; as active learning process, 57; Describe a Toy activity, 62–63; environmental learning, 78; grammar, 72–76; Kindergarten Writing Checklist, 57; Letter Die Game, 59–60; mechanics of writing, 64–71; Personalized Writing activity, 60–61; writing readiness, 58–64
- Kindergarten Writing Checklist, 57, 79
- Kinesthetic learners, 70; Animal Movements activity, 137; Apostrophe What? activity, 68; Beginning, Middle, and End activity, 55; Blending Sounds activity, 44; Blind Taste Test activity, 127; Bouncy Egg activity, 121; Building Words activity, 45; Button Sort activity, 117; Can You Find a Sentence? activity, 74; Capitalization activity, 75; Coin Race activity, 109; Colorful Candy Patterns activity, 96; Coloring Book Shapes activity, 103; Community Helpers activity, 163–164; Cookie Math activity, 90; Counting Cards

Kinesthetic learners (*continued*)

activity, 88; Creative Writing activity, 71; Dentists activity, 165; Describe a Toy activity, 62; Earth Materials Match-Up activity, 144; Emergent Story Reading activity, 50; Fact or Fiction activity, 54; Finding Objects activity, 124; Floaters or Sinkers? activity, 129; Four Seasons Concentration activity, 147; Germination Bags activity, 135; Goldfish Addition activity, 92; Hat Trick activity, 46; Hear the Music, Feel the Music activity, 125; Home Collage activity, 159; How Was Your Day? activity, 69; I Like Your Suit activity, 110; Identifying Shapes activity, 105; Independence Day and the American Flag activity, 154; Inferring Characters Traits activity, 51; Is This a Sentence? activity, 73; Leaf Collecting activity, 119; Leaf Rubbings activity, 141; Letter Die Game, 60; Letter Match Concentration Game, 41; Letter Short activity, 40; Letters and Words activity, 42; Living or Nonliving? activity, 134; Money Patterns activity, 96; Movements activity, 131; My Address activity, 162; My Very Own Calendar activity, 152; Number Game activity, 89; Number Hopscotch activity, 86; Pattern Hunt activity, 97; Personalized Writing activity, 61; Play Dough Shapes activity, 102; Police Officers activity, 166; Practicing Predictions activity, 53; President's Day activity, 155; Problem/Solution activity, 52; Punctuation activity, 76; Rock Collection activity, 142; School Rules activity, 170; Signs of Safety activity, 172; Size Order activity, 106; Snack Counting activity, 85; Snack Mix Math activity, 104; Sound Spelling activity, 66–67; Spill the Beans activity, 94; Stages of Life activity, 138; Stop, Drop, and Roll! activity, 169; Thanksgiving activity, 157; Touch and Guess activity, 128; Toy Sort activity, 120; Transportation activity, 161; Weather Swat, 145; What Time Is It? activity, 107; What's Your Position? activity, 101; Word Building activity, 77

Knowledge level of learning, 25

Leaf Collecting activity, 118–119

Leaf Rubbings activity, 140–141

Leapfrog's LeapMat, 14

Learning environments, 2

Learning standards, 32–34; defined, 32; private schools, 32; public schools, 32; resources, 34–35; types of, 32

Learning styles, 21–24

Letter Match Concentration Game, 41–42

Letter Sort activity, 40–41

Letters and Words activity, 42–43

Life science, 132–138; activities, 133–138; Animal Movements activity, 136–137; concepts, 114; Germination Bags activity, 135–136; Living or Nonliving? activity, 133–134; skills, 132; Stages of Life activity, 137–138

Literature for kindergartners, 199–206; *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (Viorst), 199–200; *Blueberries for Sal* (McCloskey), 200; *Chicken Soup with Rice* (Sendak), 201; *Corduroy* (Freeman), 201–202; *Green Eggs and Ham* (Dr. Seuss), 202–203; *Snowy Day, The* (Keats), 203–204; *There's a Nightmare in My Closet* (Mayer), 204; *Tikki Tikki Tembo* (Mosel), 204–205; *Velveteen Rabbit, The* (Williams), 205–206; *Where the Wild Things Are* (Sendak), 206

Living or Nonliving? activity, 133–134

Logic, 179–180

Manipulatives, 81–82

Measurement, *See* Geometry and measurement

Mechanics of writing, 64–71; Apostrophe What? activity, 67–68; Creative Writing activity, 71–72; How Was Your Day? activity, 68–69; skills, 65; small motor skills, Gaining control of, 64; Sound Spelling activity, 66–67; Verb Pictures activity, 69–70

Millie's Math House (Edmark), 210

Money Patterns activity, 95–96

Movements activity, 130–131

My Address activity, 162–163

My Very Own Calendar activity, 151–153

National Subject Area Association learning standards, 3

Neighborhoods and community helpers, 157–167; Community Helpers activity, 163–164; Dentists activity, 164–165; Home Collage activity, 159–160; My Address activity, 162–163; Police Officers activity, 166–167; skills, 158; Transportation activity, 160–161

Newspapers, as supplemental material, 14

Number Game activity, 88–89

Number Hopscotch activity, 86–87

Number sense, 82–97, *See also* Patterns; Cookie Math activity, 90–91; Counting Cards activity, 87–88; defined, 82–83; Goldfish Addition activity, 91–93; Money Patterns activity, 95–96; Number Game activity, 88–89; skills, 83–84; Snack Counting activity, 85–86; Spill the Beans activity, 93–94

Number sense, Number Hopscotch activity, 86–87

Observation and portfolio assessment, 184–185

- Parent-teacher conferences, rescheduling, 8
- Patterns, 82–97; Colorful Candy Patterns activity, 96–97; importance of working with, 84; learning to recognize and extend, 84; Pattern Hunt activity, 97; skills, 83–84
- Performance standards, 32, 35
- Personalized Writing activity, 60–61
- Phonemic awareness, 38–46; Blending Sounds activity, 43–44; Building Words activity, 45; defined, 38; Hat Trick activity, 45–46; Letter Match Concentration Game, 41–42; Letter Sort activity, 40–41; Letters and Words activity, 42–43; related to, 39
- Photographs, as supplemental material, 14
- Physical science, 122–131; activities, 124–131; Blind Taste Test activity, 126–127; comparison of properties of objects, 122; concepts, 113; Finding Objects activity, 124–125; five senses, 122; Floaters or Sinkers? activity, 128–130; Hear the Music, Feel the Music activity, 125–126; Movements activity, 130–131; object movement, 122; skills, 122; Touch and Guess activity, 127–128
- Piaget, Jean, 15; stages of cognitive development, 15–17
- Piaget's Theory: Prospects and Possibilities* (Beilin), 12
- Play Dough Shapes activity, 102–103
- Playroom, The (Broderbund), 207
- Police Officers activity, 166–167
- Practicing Predictions activity, 53–54
- Preoperational stage, 16
- President's Day activity, 154–155
- Private schools, 10–11; and child with special needs, 10; compared to public schools, 11; curriculum, protesting, 35; flexibility of, 11; learning standards, 32
- Problem/Solution activity, 52
- Problem solving, 177–178
- Problems in Reading* (Dolch), 47
- Public schools, 7–10; curriculum, protesting, 35; extracurricular groups, 8; learning standards, 32; parent-teacher organizations, 8; parents of children from your child's class or grade level, 8; school personnel, 8; school volunteers, 8
- Punctuation activity, 76
- Readiness for school, and development milestones, 17–19
- Reading tips, 4–5
- Reasoning, 179
- Regional education centers, 12–13
- Rock Collection activity, 141–142
- Rules and safety, 167–172; activities, 168–172; civics, 167; School Rules activity, 170–171; Signs of Safety activity, 171–172; skills, 168; Stop, Drop, and Roll! activity, 168–169
- Sammy's Science House (Edmark), 210
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), 33
- School administrator/principal, 8; talking with, regarding problem with teacher, 9
- School communications, reading, 8
- School events, attending, 8
- School handbook, reading, 8
- School Rules activity, 170–171
- School secretary, 10
- School system: getting the most from, 7–11; private schools, 10–11; public schools, 7–10
- Science concepts, 113–114
- Science processes, 113, 114–116; activities, 117–121; Bouncy Egg activity, 120–121; Button Sort activity, 117–118; Leaf Collecting activity, 118–119; skills, 116; Toy Sort activity, 119–120
- Sensorimotor stage, 16
- Shure, M. B., 175–176
- Sight words, 47
- Signs of Safety activity, 171–172
- Six-year-olds, developmental goals for, 19–20
- Size Order activity, 106
- Snack Counting activity, 85–86
- Snack Mix Math activity, 104
- Snowy Day, The* (Keats), 203–204
- Software, as supplemental material, 14
- Software for kindergartners, 207–210; Candy Land Adventure (Hasbro Interactive), 208; James Discoverers Math (Broderbund), 210; JumpStart Kindergarten (Knowledge Adventure), 208; Millie's Math House (Edmark), 210; Playroom, The (Broderbund), 207; Sammy's Science House (Edmark), 210; Thinkin' Things Collection 1 (Edmark), 209; Trudy's Time and Place House (Edmark), 209; WiggleWorks (Scholastic), 209; Zurk's Learning Safari (Soleil), 208
- Spatial-temporal skills, 179
- Spill the Beans activity, 93–94
- Stages of Life activity, 137–138
- Standardized assessment, 183–184
- Standardized testing, 33–34, 185–187; helping your child test well, 186–187; scores, meaning of, 187; teachers' dislike of, 185

- Standards, 31–35; content, 32, 35; learning, 32; performance, 32, 35
- Standards-based education, 31–32
- Standards-based reform, 31–33; testing to change classroom instruction, 33
- State Department of Education, 13, 34
- State learning standards, 11
- Stop, Drop, and Roll! activity, 168–169
- Student performance, as gauge of public education system's effectiveness, 33–34
- Subject-area-specific curricula, 13
- Supplemental materials: software and the Internet, 13–14; trade books, 13–14; videos/photographs/audio recordings/newspapers, 14
- Synthesis level of learning, 25
- Systemwide resources, finding, 9
- Teachers: problem with, discussing with others, 9; role outside of classroom, 9; speaking with, 8–9; and your child's well-being, 9
- Teacher's helper, 190–191
- Thanksgiving activity, 156–157
- Theory of child development, 15
- There's a Nightmare in My Closet* (Mayer), 204
- Thinkin' Things Collection 1 (Edmark), 209
- Tikki Tikki Tembo* (Mosel), 204–205
- Touch and Guess activity, 127–128
- Toy Sort activity, 119–120
- Trade books, as supplemental material, 13–14
- Transfer: to another class, 9; to another school, 9
- Transportation activity, 160–161
- Trudy's Time and Place House (Edmark), 209
- Velveteen Rabbit, The* (Williams), 205–206
- Verb Pictures activity, 69–70
- Videos, as supplemental material, 14
- Visiting your child's school, 8
- Visual learners: Animal Movements activity, 137; Aposrophe What? activity, 68; Beginning, Middle, and End activity, 55; Blending Sounds activity, 44; Blind Taste Test activity, 126; Bouncy Egg activity, 121; Building Words activity, 45; Button Sort activity, 117; Can You Find a Sentence? activity, 74; Capitalization activity, 75; Coin Race activity, 109; Colorful Candy Patterns activity, 96; Coloring Book Shapes activity, 103; Community Helpers activity, 163; Cookie Math activity, 90; Counting Cards activity, 88; Creative Writing activity, 71; Dentists activity, 165; Describe a Toy activity, 62; Earth Materials Match-Up activity, 143; Emergent Story Reading activity, 50; Fact or Fiction activity, 54; Finding Objects activity, 124; Floaters or Sinkers? activity, 129; Four Seasons Concentration activity, 146; Germination Bags activity, 135; Goldfish Addition activity, 92; Hat Trick activity, 46; Hear the Music, Feel the Music activity, 125; Home Collage activity, 159; How Was Your Day? activity, 69; I Like Your Suit activity, 110; Identifying Shapes activity, 105; Independence Day and the American Flag activity, 153; Inferring Characters Traits activity, 51; Is This a Sentence? activity, 73; Leaf Collecting activity, 118; Leaf Rubbings activity, 140–141; Letter Die Game, 60; Letter Match Concentration Game, 41; Letter Short activity, 40; Letters and Words activity, 42; Living or Nonliving? activity, 134; Money Patterns activity, 96; Movements activity, 131; My Address activity, 162; My Very Own Calendar activity, 152; Number Game activity, 89; Number Hopscotch activity, 86; Pattern Hunt activity, 97; Personalized Writing activity, 61; Play Dough Shapes activity, 102; Police Officers activity, 166; Practicing Predictions activity, 53; President's Day activity, 155; Problem/Solution activity, 52; Punctuation activity, 76; Rock Collection activity, 142; School Rules activity, 170; Signs of Safety activity, 172; Size Order activity, 106; Snack Counting activity, 85; Snack Mix Math activity, 104; Sound Spelling activity, 66; Spill the Beans activity, 94; Stages of Life activity, 138; Stop, Drop, and Roll! activity, 169; Thanksgiving activity, 156; Touch and Guess activity, 128; Toy Sort activity, 120; Transportation activity, 161; Verb Pictures activity, 70; Weather Swat, 145; What Time Is It? activity, 107; What's Your Position? activity, 101; Word Building activity, 77
- Weather Swat, 144–145
- What Time Is It? activity, 107–108
- What's Your Position? activity, 100–102
- Where the Wild Things Are* (Sendak), 206
- WiggleWorks (Scholastic), 209
- Word Building activity, 77
- Writing, *See* Kindergarten writing
- Zurk's Learning Safari (Soleil), 208