**Kindergarten 1 English**

**2019-2020 COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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<http://alrajaschool.weebly.com/kg1.html>

***The KG1 English Program***

The goal of the KG1 English course is to create a foundation of skills that will prepare students for success in English through listening, speaking, reading, writing and social skills. KG1 will use a variety of resources and cover several topics. The themes will be based on the student’s Arabic theme schedule. KG1 will be following the ***Curriculum Map Al Raja School English K->6*** guide, which includes the components of Listening and Speaking, Reading and Language Development, and Writing and Other Forms of Expression. We will emphasize on developing early language and literacy skills that place young children firmly on the road to academic success during later schooling. The program will include a wide variety of fun class activities that develop oral language and vocabulary, phonemic awareness, alphabet and phonics knowledge, reading and writing skills. The children will sing songs and chant rhymes, read stories, paint, color, draw, do phonics worksheets, do craftwork, play games, engage in role-playing and more.

***Main Resources***

* Story town Big Books and Lap Books (Harcourt)
* KG1 Class Workbooks
* KG1 Homework Practice Books
* Take-home activities (games)
* Take-home reading books (Story town and Scholastic Readers)
* Tumble Book Library

***Expectations***

In addition to class activities, KG1 students will need to do a little English practice at home every week.

* Parents will be kept informed of how they can help each week by a **“WEEKLY LETTER”** which will be sent home every Thursday (for the first couple weeks there will be a printed copy in the diary, but as the school year progresses the newsletter will only be available digitally. You will be notified when this change occurs). This letter will tell parents about the coming week’s activities and to give important info/reminders.
* Each child will receive a **HOME LEARNING KIT** every Tuesday. This kit will contain:
  + a class reading book (every other week)
  + a class activity (every other week)
  + a practice book (2 pages per week)

Home Learning Kits should be returned to school every week, on Sunday. It is vital that parents take time each day to help their children progress in English by making sure they use materials in the home learning kits. Each week, KG1 students should also practice listening skills by visiting the class webpage: <http://alrajaschool.weebly.com/kg1.html> and listening to audio files, stories, songs and videos. On the webpage, parents will also be able to view weekly letters, important course and homework information, and tips (*How to Help your Child with English*).

* Every other week, your child will visit the **LIBRARY** and be able to choose a library book to take home. Parents are encouraged to read the story with their child several times a week. Library files should be returned on or before the due date to ensure that the child can continue to check out books.

***Assessment***

The progress of each KG1 student in listening/speaking, reading, writing and social skills will be monitored closely and observed regularly in class. Each child will receive a grade at the end of each trimester.

**The grading scale is as follows:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| AP + | Advanced Performance + | (96-100%) |
| AP | Advanced Performance | (90-95%) |
| PP | Proficient Performance | (80-89%) |
| BP | Basic Performance | (70-79%) |
| NP | Novice Performance | (65-69%) |

**The breakdown of grades is as follows:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Speaking and Listening | 40% |
| Reading | 20% |
| Writing | 20% |
| Social Skills | 20% |

*To see a more detailed explanation see the reverse side.*

***Units of Study***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| KG1 English will learn the letters and sounds in the following order:   * F, S, M, A, L * D, R, N, P, C * V, B, T, H, E * I, Q, K, O, W * U, G, X, J, Y, Z   Students will be introduced to a letter a week with several review weeks in between. | KG1 English themes correspond to the KG1 Arabic themes. They are as follows:   * My School * Me & My Body * My Family & Home * Four Seasons * Jobs * Animals * Food * Transportation & Neighborhood * Celebrations |

***Skills Taught and Assessed in KG1 English***

During KG1 English class, teachers and language assistants continuously monitor and assess students based on these specific benchmarks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Speaking & Listening (40%) | Listens to and participates in class discussions  Follows simple directions  Sings songs and recites rhymes with actions  Listens to a story and answers simple questions about it  Can retell a basic story in the correct order  Speaks using new vocabulary  Distinguishes matching beginning sounds  Distinguishes syllables in words  Recognizes rhyming words  Blends onsets and rimes  Expresses needs and wants  Rote counts from 1-30 |
| Reading (20%) | Recognizes letters Aa-Zz  Associates letters Aa-Zz with their sounds  Recognizes numbers 1-10  Recognizes colors and basic shapes  Recognizes theme and letter vocabulary pictures  Recognizes name  Handles a book correctly  Recognizes front and back of a book and can point out the title  Tracks print from left to right  Identifies letters in print  Is starting to read simple CVC words |
| Writing (20%) | Has pencil control  Traces letters Aa-Zz using correct format  Traces numbers 1-10  Traces/Writes own name  Follows left to right progression  Communicates ideas through drawing |
| Social Skills (20%) | Cooperates with other students  Follows class rules  Participates in class activities and follows routines  Completes tasks |

During assessments we use this rubric standard as a way to monitor progress and identify strengths and weaknesses:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Advanced Performance + (AP+)  96-100% | The student performance meets and exceeds the expected performance standard; the performance is exceptional. |
| Advanced Performance (AP)  90-95% | The student performance is competent and meets the standard while demonstrating an above level of competence in most skills. |
| Proficient Performance (PP)  80-89% | The student performance is competent and meets the standard; the performance should be viewed as successful achievement of the standard. |
| Basic Performance (BP)  70-79% | The student performance demonstrates emerging competence in meeting the standard. Needs further development before reaching the proficient level. |
| Novice Performance (NP)  65-69% | The student performance does not meet the standard. The performance level needs considerable development. The student struggles to grasp and apply most if not all the concepts/skills being taught at this grade level. |

Should you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to contact me!

**Classroom Rules**

* Raise your hand before speaking.
* Help others and respect others.
* Share and care.
* Be a good listener.
* Keep your classroom clean.
* We are one family.

**Strong Students, Strong Community!**

**Celebrating 120 years!**