

Section 1: Family Letter

NAME

DATE

Dear Families,

Welcome to *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics*, a curriculum created by the University of Chicago School Mathematics Project. This program is based on research and experience that shows that Kindergartners are capable of far more mathematics learning than was previously believed, provided that the content is presented and explored in age-appropriate ways.

Research also shows that children have more success with written and symbolic mathematics in later grades if they have a Kindergarten curriculum rooted in concrete experience and understanding. Over the course of the year, your child will engage in many hands-on activities related to a range of mathematical topics, including counting, numeration, operations (addition and subtraction), geometry, and measurement. The engaging, playful mathematics activities that children are immersed in throughout *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics* are designed to help them build a solid foundational understanding of mathematical skills and concepts.

As children participate in *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics* lessons, they will experience mathematics as useful, enjoyable, and understandable. You can reinforce these experiences at home. Your ongoing involvement with your child around the mathematics that comes up in everyday life will help him or her develop lasting excitement, confidence, and competence in math. You will also periodically receive “Home Links” with activities to do at home that link to those we have done at school.

Ongoing Daily Mathematics Routines

Routines are an important part of daily life in Kindergarten. They provide children with security and predictability, help build classroom community and collaboration, and make aspects of classroom life run more smoothly. They also provide meaningful opportunities to integrate mathematics and other subject areas into everyday activities. We will implement the following classroom routines to provide children with ongoing, real-life opportunities to develop mathematical skills and become mathematical thinkers.

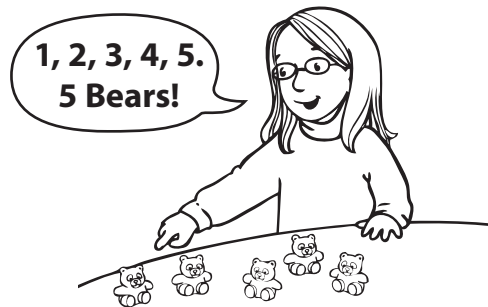
Routine	Children will . . .
Number of the Day	count the days of school and add a new number each day to the Growing Number Line.
Attendance	count the number of children present and absent each day.
Monthly Calendar and Daily Schedule	track the sequence of daily events on a class schedule and track days, weeks, months, and other events on a monthly calendar.
Weather and Temperature	collect, record, graph, and analyze weather observations and temperature measurements.
Survey	collect, record, and graph responses to a “question of the day.”

Introduction to Section 1

Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics is organized into 9 sections, each with 13 lessons. Below is information about the main concepts explored in Section 1.

Counting Children will practice the order of number words through counting games, songs, rhymes, and as they do the Daily Routines. They will also count and count out sets of objects. In order to count sets accurately, children must understand the following:

- They say one (and only one) number name for each object, and they cannot skip any objects or count any object twice.
- The last number they count tells the total number of objects in the group.
- The count stays the same regardless of the size, color, shape, or arrangement of the objects or the order in which they were counted.

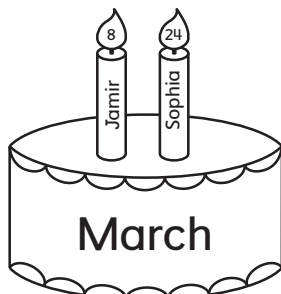


Developing Number Sense Throughout Section 1, children will be encouraged to notice numbers all around them and to discover the many ways numbers are used. They will also work to represent numbers in many ways.



A poster showing the number 4 in several different ways

Graphing In Section 1, children will also organize data and create class displays to show information about their birthdays and ages.



Display of children's birthdays

How Old Are You?					
5 years old	Jon	Maia	Kim	Min	Erik
6 years old	Sam	Ali	Umi	Boaz	

Graph showing children's ages