

Kindergarten Benchmarks:

School Year _____

- ☐ **Cut** along a line with scissors
- ☐ Establish **left- or right-hand** dominance
- ☐ Understand **time concepts** like yesterday, today, and tomorrow
- ☐ Follow simple directions
- ☐ Pay attention for 15 to 20 minutes
- ☐ Hold a crayon and pencil correctly
- ☐ Know the **eight basic colors**: red, yellow, blue, green, orange, black, white, and pink
- ☐ **Recognize and write the letters** of the alphabet in upper- and lowercase forms
- ☐ Know the relationship between **letters and the sounds** they make
- ☐ **Recognize sight words** such as *the*, and read simple sentences
- ☐ Spell his **first and last name**
- ☐ Write consonant-vowel-consonant words such as *bat* and *fan*
- ☐ **Retell a story** that has been read aloud
- ☐ **Identify numbers** up to 20
- ☐ **Count** by ones, fives, and tens **to 100**
- ☐ **Know basic shapes** such as a square, triangle, rectangle, and circle
- ☐ Know his/her **address and phone number**
- ☐ **Recognize money** (quarter, nickel, dime, and penny)
- ☐ Have basic **calendar skills**-know days of week and months of year

First Grade Benchmarks:

School Year _____

- ☐ Listen to longer sets of directions
- ☐ **Read directions** off the board, although some children may still have difficulty with this
- ☐ **Work independently** at his/her desk
- ☐ Sit in a chair for a longer period of time
- ☐ **Relate experiences** in greater detail and in a logical way
- ☐ Distinguish **left from right**
- ☐ Write words with **letter-combination patterns** such as words with a silent e
- ☐ Read and write **high-frequency words** such as *where* and *every*
- ☐ **Write complete sentences** with correct capitalization and punctuation
- ☐ **Read aloud** first-grade books with accuracy and understanding
- ☐ **Count change**
- ☐ **Tell time** to the hour and half-hour
- ☐ Quickly answer **addition and subtraction facts** for sums up to 20
- ☐ Complete **two-digit addition and subtraction** problems without regrouping

Second Grade Benchmarks:

School Year _____

- ☐ Begin to **reason and concentrate**
- ☐ Improve his ability to process information
- ☐ **Work cooperatively** with a partner or small group
- ☐ Make connections between concepts so he will be better able to **compare and contrast** ideas
- ☐ Expanded **vocabulary**
- ☐ **Read fluently** with expression
- ☐ **Recognize most irregularly spelled words** such as *because* and *upon*
- ☐ Begin to **use a dictionary**
- ☐ **Add** single- and multi-digit numbers **with regrouping**
- ☐ **Tell time** to the quarter-hour
- ☐ Know the **concept of multiplication** (for example, 2×3 is two rows of three)
- ☐ Simple **alphabetical order**

Third Grade Benchmarks:

School Year _____

- ☐ Work cooperatively and productively with other children in **small groups to complete projects**
- ☐ Become more **organized and logical** in her thinking processes
- ☐ Be able to **copy from a chalkboard**
- ☐ Be able to **write neatly in cursive** because the small muscles of the hand have developed
- ☐ **Read** longer stories and **chapter books** with expression and comprehension
- ☐ Use **prefixes, suffixes, and root words** and other strategies to identify unfamiliar words
- ☐ **Multiply** single- and multi-digit numbers
- ☐ **Divide** multi-digit numbers by one-digit numbers
- ☐ **Tell time** to the half-hour and quarter-hour and to five minutes and one minute

Fourth Grade Benchmarks:

School Year _____

- ☐ **Think independently** and critically
- ☐ Show a strong sense of **responsibility**
- ☐ Be able to **memorize and recite facts**, although he may not have a deep understanding of them
- ☐ Increase the amount of **detail in drawings**
- ☐ Work on **research** projects
- ☐ **Write a structured paragraph** with an introductory topic sentence, three supporting details, and a closing sentence that wraps up the main idea of the paragraph
- ☐ Use a range of strategies when drawing meaning from text, such as **prediction, connections, and inference**
- ☐ Understand **cause-and-effect** relationships
- ☐ **Add and subtract decimals**, and compare **decimals and fractions**
- ☐ **Multiply multi-digit numbers** by two-digit numbers
- ☐ **Divide** larger **multi-digit numbers** by one-digit numbers
- ☐ **Find the area** of two-dimensional shapes

Fifth Grade Benchmarks:

School Year _____

- ☐ Develop increasing **independence**
- ☐ Improve **problem-solving** skills
- ☐ Acquire more-advanced **listening and responding skills**
- ☐ Begin **organizing and classifying** objects and ideas
- ☐ Be able to read and concentrate for long periods of time
- ☐ **Read** complex text fluently and **with good comprehension**
- ☐ **Research** a topic using a variety of sources, and **use the features of a book** (for example, the index, glossary, and appendix) to find information
- ☐ **Identify conflict, climax, and resolution** in a story
- ☐ Write an organized, **multi-paragraph composition** in sequential order with a central idea
- ☐ Use **problem-solving strategies** to solve real-world math problems
- ☐ Add and subtract **fractions and decimals**
- ☐ Identify and describe **three-dimensional shapes**, and find their **volumes and surface areas**
- ☐ Use **long division** to divide large numbers by multi-digit numbers

Completion of Elementary Guidelines

Name of Student _____

Signature of Parent _____

Elementary Guidelines

The following is a group of guidelines to be used by the homeschool parent. It is recommended that a printout be made and filed with each child's academic records. Quarterly evaluation is suggested to identify problem areas and to give an accurate picture of the child's abilities.