



# COMPUTER SCIENCE

# K

FOR FAMILIES

**YOU ARE** your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support computer science education at home. When schools and families work together as partners, your child experiences greater academic success!

## KINDERGARTEN

### What to expect:

Kindergarten is an exciting time for children to grow academically and socially. Families play a vital role by encouraging curiosity and problem-solving at home. Computer science fosters creativity and logical thinking. Ask questions like, "How do computers help us?" to spark discussions.

### Learning goals:

- Identify and use common computing devices and components, such as keyboards, mice, and touchscreens.
- Follow step-by-step instructions (algorithms) to complete simple tasks, such as moving a character in a game or arranging pictures in order.
- Recognize that computers store information and, with guidance, learn how to open, modify, and save a file.
- Explore how computers and technology help people in their daily lives.
- Understand basic internet safety rules, including treating others kindly and telling a grown-up if something seems unsafe or upsetting.
- Collect and display data using visual representations.

### What to do at home:

- Let your child explore a keyboard, mouse, or touchscreen and name the parts they see.
- Play games that involve sequencing, such as arranging story pictures in order or giving step-by-step directions for a simple task.
- Have your child open a drawing app, create a picture, and save it with a name they choose.
- Use household objects (like toy robots or action figures) to act out simple programs by giving movement instructions.
- Encourage curiosity by discussing how technology helps us every day, such as how a microwave follows steps to cook food.



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## Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Computer science builds on this curiosity by encouraging problem-solving and creativity. Let your child explore how technology works and ask questions about the devices they see in daily life.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like:

- What happens when you press different buttons on the tablet or keyboard?
- How do we give computers instructions to follow?
- What do you think happens inside a computer when it turns on?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It is okay if you do not always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

## Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills, and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- Can you describe what a computer does?
- How did you solve that problem?
- What steps did you take to finish that activity?

## Fostering Comprehension

Making connections between computer science and the real world helps children see its importance. Encourage your child to relate their learning to everyday experiences.

- Connect computer science with math by organizing objects into groups and creating pictographs (simple chart that uses pictures or symbols to represent data).
- Connect computer science with storytelling by having your child sequence events or create a story map (visual organizer that helps children understand and retell a story by showing key parts like beginning, middle, and end).



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