Language Arts Benchmark Achievements
Primary Language Arts
(Ages 0-8)

Objectives at this age:

Introduction to stories (both oral stories and read-a-louds)

Introduction to rhymes and poetry

Learn to read and write.

Develop communication skills.

Create a Memory Gems journal to record and illustrate poetry and quotes.

Begin to teach reading when child shows interest. Read often with children to develop of love for stories and books. This will spark the desire in the child to learn how to read.

Specific Skills to learn:

- Recognize, name, and write the letters of the alphabet (upper and lower case).
- Read simple, phonetically-controlled stories in beginning readers, written in words that use letter sound patterns that have been learned.
- Engage in oral reading activities and dramatizations.
- Begin expressing self in print
- Introduce, through reading aloud, a varied selection of poetry with strong rhyme and rhythm.
- Memorize short poetry (i.e. Mother Goose rhymes) and record and illustrate favorite poems in a Memory Gems journal
- Introduce child to core children's literature (see Reading List for Young Children).
- Develop confidence in reading common sight words.
- Learn the days of the week and the months of the year.
- Identify the following opposites: right and left, top and bottom, closed and open, over and under, above and below.
- Classify objects by size, shape, color, amount, function, and so on.
- Art:
    - Introduce a variety of art activities: drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and collage.

- o Recognize and identify colors.
- o Identify different types of lines: straight, zig-zag, curved, wavy.

- Music:
  - o Recognize and move to a steady beat.
  - o Recognize long and short sounds.
  - o Discriminate between loud and quiet, fast and slow, short and long sounds, unaccompanied and unison.
  - o Recognize instruments: guitar, piano, trumpet, flute, violin, drums.
  - o Learn to echo short rhythm and melody patterns.
  - o Play simple rhythms and melodies.
  - o Recognize like and unlike phrases.
  - o Introduce to music notation.