

Kindergarten – Grade Two Employability Skills Standards

Introduction to Indiana’s Employability Skills Standards

Indiana’s Employability Skills Standards allow students to be prepared for the ever-changing needs of today’s workforce. These standards are to be implemented in the 2019-2020 school year. The expectation is for students to work through the standards in multi-subject areas. As students move through grade levels, they will work with and experience the standards at those grade bands (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-10, and 11-12). The standards are based on the National Employability Skill Standards from the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE), the Indiana Department of Workforce Development’s Employability Skills Benchmarks, and the Governor’s Work Ethic Certificate. The standards are arranged within four key areas: Mindsets (M), Work Ethic (WE), Learning Strategies (LS), and Social and Emotional Skills (SE).

Mindsets (M) <i>The established set of attitudes impacting self-growth.</i>	
1. Lifelong Learning Demonstrate willingness to work and learn, and continually apply new knowledge.	K-2.M.1 Begin to learn how to receive feedback from educators and use it for personal growth.
	K-2.M.2 Understand mistakes as a normal part of the learning process.
2. Self-Confidence Possess belief in own ability to succeed and assert self when necessary.	K-2.M.3 Recognize and demonstrate an understanding of self-confidence in attempting new skills.
	K-2.M.4 Develop confidence, with the support of adult educators, when participating in the learning environment.

Work Ethic (WE) <i>A set of values centered on the importance of doing work and reflected especially in a desire or determination to work hard.</i>	
3. Self Discipline Demonstrate self-control and behave in accordance with rules with minimal direction.	K-2.WE.1 Recognize and understand the components of self-discipline.
4. Independence Successfully carry out expectations with minimal supervision.	K-2.WE.2 Understand what it means to have independence and take basic instruction.
5. Perseverance Demonstrate endurance, and capacity to complete tasks.	K-2.WE.3 Understand what it means to persevere.
6. Time Management and Organization Plan and organize long and short-term goals while understanding how to balance school, home, and community activities.	K-2.WE.4 Begin to understand and develop a relationship with time and organization.
7. Adaptability Manage transitions and adjust to changing situations and responsibilities.	K-2.WE.5 Begin to develop an understanding of what it means to be adaptable.

8. Integrity Act in a trustworthy and honest manner.	K-2.WE.6 Understand and begin to demonstrate the concept of integrity.
9. Professionalism Demonstrate skills and behaviors appropriate for school and work environments.	K-2.WE.7 Begin to develop an understanding of why attendance, dependability, and promptness are important at school.

Learning Strategies (LS) *Processes and tactics students employ to aid in the cognitive work of thinking, remembering or learning.*

10. Effective Communication Apply skills to clearly, effectively, and convincingly express ideas and messages to others appropriate to the environment.	K-2.LS.1 Share ideas in writing.
	K-2.LS.2 Use speaking skills in different settings.
	K-2.LS.3 Use technology to communicate with others.
11. Aptitude Awareness Identify and communicate individual interests and skills that align related coursework and experiences to potential career paths and to in-demand occupations.	K-2.LS.4 Identify personal interests and preferences.
	K-2.LS.5 Demonstrate an awareness of what it means to work.
	K-2.LS.6 Explain the importance of personal characteristics (e.g., dependability, promptness, getting along with others) to getting and keeping jobs.
	K-2.LS.7 Identify jobs present in the local community
12. Decision-Making Utilize critical thinking skills and perspectives of others to make informed decisions based on options, rewards, risks, limits, and goals.	K-2.LS.8 Describe the work of family members and school personnel.
	K-2.LS.9 Identify simple strategies used in making choices.
	K-2.LS.10 Demonstrate basic steps in making a decision.
	K-2.LS.11 Understand the concept of setting and achieving goals.
13. Initiative Apply self-motivation and self-direction to work and learning.	K-2.LS.12 Consider advantages and disadvantages of each alternative when deciding.
	K-2.LS.13 Participate in class discussions and activities.
14. Attention to Detail Achieve thoroughness and accuracy when accomplishing a task.	K-2.LS.14 Listen to and follow classroom procedures.
15. Problem Solving Apply critical and creative thinking skills to resolve problems.	K-2.LS.15 Utilize imagination and identify patterns.

Social and Emotional Skills (SE) *The process through which the knowledge, the attitudes, and the skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions is acquired.*

16. Regulation Recognize and manage one’s emotions.	K-2.SE.1 Begin to demonstrate understanding of classroom guidelines/rules, and the consequences when they are not followed.
	K-2.SE.2 Begin to take responsibility for classroom roles and role as a learner.
17. Connection Demonstrate the ability to network with others through social awareness and cultural sensitivity.	K-2.SE.3 Become aware of socially acceptable behavior with the support of adult educators.
	K-2.SE.4 Begin exploring both the similarities and differences between self and others.
18. Collaboration Work well with others in a team.	K-2.SE.5 Respond appropriately to greetings and begin to learn how nonverbal communication expresses how others feel and what others might be thinking.