

# Kindergarten Math

One green shamrock, in the morning dew,  
Another one sprouted,  
and then there were two.



Two green shamrocks, growing beneath a tree;  
Another one sprouted,  
and then there were three.

Three green shamrocks, by the cottage door;  
Another one sprouted,  
and then there were four.

Four green shamrocks, near a beehive  
Another one sprouted,  
and then there were five.

Five little shamrocks, bright and emerald green,  
Think of all the luck  
these shamrocks will bring.

## What math concepts will your kindergartner learn?

Kindergartners are expected to get an early start on mastering mathematical concepts by playing with blocks, tiles, and other objects that can be counted, classified, and sorted. With an array of objects in hand, kids learn that adding means counting forward and subtracting means counting backward.

Kindergartners also learn how to group objects in a variety of ways — by color, shape, and size — which helps them begin to understand multiplication and fractions.

By practicing counting from one to 10, kindergartners gradually build up their number faculties. By the end of the year, they'll be expected to count to numbers greater than 10 and to count by fives (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.) and by tens (10, 20, 30, etc.).

Many kindergarten teachers start the day with "calendar time," teaching concepts of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

## From fractions to geometry

Kindergartners will also be introduced to simple fractions and geometry. A teacher might ask students to count the number of slices in a pizza or ask them to identify shapes in the classroom like circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles.

"Math at this time in a child's life is full of explorations both in and outside the classroom," explains Nicola Salvatico, the 2005 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. "Taking advantage of real-life connections helps a child move from the concrete to the abstract facets of learning math."

## Getting acquainted with measurement, money, and time

Your child's teacher is likely to introduce the class to thinking about money, time, and measurement. Don't expect a kindergartner to use tools like rulers; instead, kids learn about distance by using their hands and feet as a basis for measurement. For example, they might be asked to compare the number of steps it takes to walk to the reading corner with the number required to reach the drinking fountain.

Kindergartners also pick up a few money skills and should be able to identify and count coins, including pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters. To help children learn about capital, some classrooms might have a play store set up with toy cash registers (for a popular model, see "[Top-10 Educational Toys](#)") chock-full of play money.

Kids at this age begin learning about time by working with analog and digital clocks. Students should be able to identify the big hand and little hand on an analog clock, tell time to the hour, and understand that when the big hand is on the 12, it means "o'clock."

<http://www.greatschools.org/students/academic-skills/138-kindergarten-math.gs>

## Taste A Rainbow

### Ingredients

- White cake mix (we used an 18-1/4-ounce box)
- Food coloring (red, blue, green, and yellow)
- Baking cups
- Whipped cream (optional)



### Instructions

1. Prepare your favorite white cake mix, then divide the batter evenly among six small bowls. Following the chart below, dye each bowl of batter a rainbow color.

RAINBOW COLOR	DROPS OF FOOD COLORING
Purple	9 red and 6 blue drops
Blue	12 drops
Green	12 drops
Yellow	12 drops
Orange	12 yellow and 4 red drops
Red	18 drops

2. Line 16 muffin pan wells with baking cups. Evenly distribute the purple batter among the cups, then the blue, and so on, following the order shown. As you go, gently spread each layer of batter with the back of a spoon to cover the color underneath.
3. Bake the cupcakes according to your recipe directions. Before serving, remove the paper wrapping, and if you like, top each cupcake with a whipped-cream cloud.



"HEY, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PINCH ME FOR NOT WEARING GREEN!"

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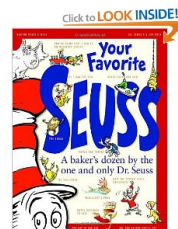


To: Ms. Erin's Lions

### The Book Nook:

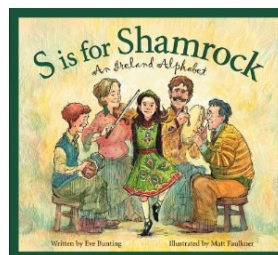
#### Your Favorite Seuss: A Baker's Dozen by the One and Only Dr. Seuss

From his very first book to his very last book, here in one big volume are 13 classic Dr. Seuss stories, everyone's favorites. All of the words and virtually all of the illustrations are included.



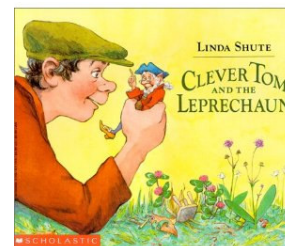
#### S is for Shamrock

An Ireland Alphabet gives readers a guided A-Z tour of this small island country whose influence extends far beyond its sea borders.



#### Clever Tom and the Leprechaun

Clever Tom Fitzpatrick thinks his fortune is made when he captures a leprechaun and forces him to reveal the hiding place of his gold, but the leprechaun is clever too..



# Lion Lowdown

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### Facts about the Irish

- 34 million Americans have Irish ancestry, according to the 2003 US Census. That's almost nine times the population of Ireland, which has 4.1 million people.
- The harp is the symbol of Ireland. The color green is also commonly associated with Ireland, also known as "the Emerald Isle."
- The Irish flag is green, white and orange. The green symbolizes the people of the south, and orange, the people of the north. White represents the peace that brings them together as a nation.
- The name "leprechaun" has several origins. It could be from the Irish Gaelic word "leipreachan," which means "a kind of aqueous sprite." Or, it could be from "leath bhrogan," which means "shoemaker."

### Facts about Clovers

- According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the highest number of leaves found on a clover is 14!
- One estimate suggests that there are about 10 000 regular three-leaf clovers for every lucky four-leaf clover.
- Legend says that each leaf of the clover means something: the first is for hope, the second for faith, the third for love and the fourth for luck.



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### What to Expect in Kindergarten...

#### Lessons:

Sight words: go, for, make, play, said, good, she, all

Letter sounds  
Antonyms/ Synonyms  
Life Process  
Americana and Betsy Ross  
Addition/Subtraction  
Weight

#### Activities:

3/13 & 3/14 Picture Day  
by Teddy Bear Portraits

3/16 Classroom St.  
Patrick's Day Parties  
3:10

3/21 Lula the Clown 10:30

3/22 Edwards Art  
Silhouettes