



### **Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Other stuff (KSAOs)**

**Tots (0-1)** Goal is learning through play.

- Language development at *very* basic level
- *Homework level: none*

**Discoverers (2-3)** Goal is to prepare for a preschool classroom setting with active learning and short lessons

- Shows interest in play
- Ability to interact with other children in their class
- Ability to follow instruction
- Ability to sit still for short periods of time (5-10 minutes)
- Interested in being read to
- *Homework level: none*

**Explorers (3-4, Pre-K)** Goal is active learning and reinforcement of basic skills (e.g., name, colors, family members)

- Ability to follow instruction
- Ability to hold a pencil
- Ability to sit still for short periods of time (e.g., 10-15 minutes quietly)
- Interested in being read to
- Has a beginning interest in letters and sounds
- *Homework level: none*

**Adventurers (4-5, K4-K5)** Goal is enhancing basic skills to provide confidence for independent work

- Ability to sit still for longer periods of time, listen and follow instruction
- Knows letters and sounds
- Learning to read (e.g. Bob books, easy readers level 1, simple sight words)
- Recognizes and understands numbers 1-20
- Learning to count to 100
- Minimal writing involved, mostly tracing

- *Homework level: minimal to none, completed with parental supervision*

**Creators (5-7, K-1st Grade)** Goal is transference of fundamental skills beyond basic categories

- Preparing students to work independently (e.g. writing sentences)
- Learning handwriting and basic writing construction
- Able to write their name and copy words independently
- Reads independently on at least a 1st grade level (e.g. *Little Bear* books, *Henry and Mudge*, *Poppleton*, *Francis* books, *The Cat in the Hat*, *Frog and Toad*, etc.)
- Can recognize and understand numbers 1-100
- *Homework Level: minor work outside of class as needed, parental assistance needed*

**Voyagers (6-8, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade)** Goal is to bridge the gap between Creators (beginning to read) and Philosophers (reading chapter books independently) and to help students begin to work independently.

- Can write sentences independently
- Reading independently on at least a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade level (e.g. *Amelia Bedelia*, *Ready Freddy*, *Judy Moody*, *Junie B. Jones*, *Magic Tree House* books, *The Boxcar Children*, *Mrs. Piggle Wiggle*)
- Can write numbers 1-100 and perform simple addition/subtraction up to 20
- *Homework level: some homework required at discretion of instructor, parental involvement encouraged*

**Philosophers (7-9, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade)** Goal is strengthening ability to work independently.

- Ability to use critical thinking skills to solve problems
- Beginner familiarity with basic computer skills (e.g., typing)
- Can read chapter books independently on at least a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading level (e.g. *Little House on the Prairie*, *A Cricket in Times Square*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Bunnicula*, *Sarah Plain and Tall*, *Frindle*, etc.)
- Ability to write three or four sentences on a topic independently
- *Homework level: some homework required at discretion of instructor, parental involvement minimal*

**Inventors (8-11, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)** Goal is to bridge the developmental gap between philosophers and mentors to support upper elementary age range

- Ability to use critical thinking skills to solve abstract problems
- Ability to complete homework assignments with minimal supervision
- Able to read and comprehend chapter books on at least a 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading level (*The Tale of Despereaux*, *Pippi Longstocking*, *Bud Not Buddy*, *Holes*, *Fablehaven*, *My Side of the Mountain*, *The Courage of Sarah Noble*, *The Black Cauldron*, *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*, *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*)
- Able to write an organized paragraph
- Moderate familiarity with computer (e.g. typing, internet)

- *Homework level: some outside prep or follow up work*

**Mentors (11-15, 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade)** Goal is to enhance understanding of criteria within a particular domain.

- Ability to read and comprehend novels on at least a 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level (*Chronicles of Narnia, Where the Red Fern Grows, The Witch of Blackbird Pond, Treasure Island, Anne of Green Gables, A Series of Unfortunate Events, Little Women, The Dark is Rising, Incident at Hawk's Hill, The Giver, Hatchet, The Cay, The Swiss Family Robinson*)
- Able to write multiple paragraphs on a topic
- Ability to be a 'self starter' and work independently
- Strong working knowledge of standard curriculum beyond math/reading (e.g., history, science)
- *Homework level: regular weekly homework assignments to be completed before class*

**Scholars (13+, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above)** Goal is to earn high school credit through advanced classes

- Able to read and comprehend novels on at least a 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level (*Shakespeare, The Scarlet Letter, Crime and Punishment, Animal Farm, 1984, Invisible Man, Pride and Prejudice, To Kill a Mockingbird*)
- Able to write a five paragraph essay
- Ability to apply high level academic skills across curricula (e.g., reading, writing, outlining, note-taking, evaluating, analyzing, critiquing, etc.)
- Familiarity with computer/basic computer skills
- Ability to voice opinion/unique perspective
- *Homework level: high (preparation for class and follow up on learning activities)*