



# The Kindergarten Chronicles

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## Warming Up with the Speaking & Listening Standards

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### Comprehension and Collaboration

**SL.K.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.**

- ["Teaching Students How to Discuss"](#) - This section is adapted from chapter 5 of *Getting Started with Literature Circles* by Katherine Schlick Noe and Nancy Johnson. The authors describe a three-step procedure in which the teacher supports the students in identifying the elements of a good discussion, experiencing a discussion, and then developing guidelines for discussions.
- [It's Okay to Be Different Lesson](#) - After a shared reading of Todd Parr's *It's Okay to Be Different*, students work in small groups to discuss and write down what makes them diverse.
- [The Wonder of Leo Lionni](#) - This lesson uses picture books by Leo Lionni to engage students in predicting and questioning text. The teacher introduces *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni and models how to make "I wonder" prediction statements about the text.

**SL.K.2 Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.**

- ["Repeated Interactive Read-Alouds in Preschool and Kindergarten"](#) - This article describes a three part read-aloud approach that supports students in answering questions with responses that indicate analytic thinking.
- [Listening and Speaking Strategies](#) - In this lesson on speaking and listening, students will learn how to be a good speaker and listener. Students will be able to practice their speaking and listening skills with their classmates.
- [Literacy Center Activity](#) - In this FCRR activity, students read the text or review the teacher read-aloud. Taking turns, they roll the question cube, read the question, and answer it in relation to the text. Students discuss the answer with a partner or small group.

**SL.K.3 Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.**

- [Asking and Answering Lower-Level Questions](#) - This FCRR link focuses on lower level questioning (Who or What questions) beginning at the sentence level and gradually increasing text length.
- [Answering Higher Level Questions](#) - This FCRR link focuses on higher level questioning (How and Why questions) at the passage level. These routines can be adapted for various texts.
- [3-2-1 Strategy](#) - In this lesson, students in grades K-2 learn to use the 3-2-1 strategy, which can be adapted to speaking and listening.

### Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

**SL.K.4 Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.**

- [Chrysanthemum Lesson Plan](#) - This book by Kevin Henkes is about liking ourselves; the lesson focuses on listening. "Describing" is a component of the lesson.
- ["Group Time: Sharing Personal Stories"](#) - This article from Scholastic provides classroom and learning center ideas to promote story telling that includes descriptions of persons and events.
- [Crowded Places Lesson](#) - Kindergartners describe crowded and uncrowded spaces with the help of photographs in this National Geographic lesson.

**SL.K.5 Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.**

- [I Love You Poem](#) - Using this downloadable template, students draw pictures to complete a poem, which can be read aloud to the class.
- [Imagine That!](#) - This lesson involves creating a creature with art supplies, then describing it through writing or speaking.
- [Imaginary Friends](#) - In this simple lesson, young students make drawings of imaginary friends, and invent stories to go with them.



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**SL.K.6 Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.**

- [Mother Goose Rhymes](#) - This site includes a large list of illustrated rhymes that students can practice reciting.
- [Guess What's in the Bag](#) - In this K-2 lesson plan, students discuss the importance of descriptive language, as well as speaking and listening skills, and then practice describing a series of objects.
- [Repeated Readings Lesson](#) - This lesson will guide and teach students how to process and produce language at higher levels through meaningful, redundant, contextually appropriate, and intrinsically rewarding center-based activities.

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