English Language Arts and Reading, Grade K (ELAR) KB – Syllabus

Course Name

ELAR KB

English Language Arts and Reading, Kindergarten – Semester B

Course Information

ELAR KB is the second semester of this two-semester course.

In Kindergarten English Language Arts and Reading, students engage in activities that build on their natural curiosity and prior knowledge to develop their reading, writing, and oral language skills. Additionally, developing fluency, spelling, and grammatical conventions of academic language must be done in meaningful contexts and not in isolation.

Course Delivery Method

Online

Contacting Your Instructor

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at www.k12.ttu.edu.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, the students should have increased knowledge of

- reading, where students read and understand a wide variety of literary and informational texts;
- writing, where students compose a variety of written texts with a clear controlling idea, coherent organization, and sufficient detail;
- research, where students are expected to know how to locate a range of relevant sources and evaluate, synthesize, and present ideas and information;

- oral and written conventions, where students learn how to use the oral and written conventions of the English language in speaking and writing; and
- listening and speaking, where students listen and respond to the ideas of others while contributing their own ideas in conversations and in groups.

ELAR K addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the Texas Education Agency website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

The required digital textbook for this course is:

- *HMH Into Reading Digital Learning - Grade K*, Texas edition. (2020). Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. ISBN 9780358032267: HMH - Into Reading Texas Grade K

The online textbook must be purchased through the TTU K-12 partner bookstore, MBS (see the TTU K-12 website for a link to MBS). Once you make your purchase, you will receive your credentials to the online textbook and resources via email, and it may take 1-2 business days.

Materials

- small dry erase board and markers
- scissors
- pencils
- crayons

Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard and online HMH textbook materials)
- Email
- Printing capabilities
- Adobe Reader (download from Adobe.com)
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- accessing online learning materials via Blackboard and HMH site
- Internet search engines and browsers

- uploading assignments into Blackboard website (there will be instructions for uploading assignments)

Course Organization

This course consists of five Learning Modules of instruction. Each Learning Module contains the following:

- Introduction and instructions for parent facilitation
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Daily lessons that consist of accessing online books, videos, worksheets, etc.
- Module Assessment

Each day's lesson includes several activities that present content knowledge. Each lesson also includes printable worksheets to ensure that you learn the content that has been presented in the activities. All daily worksheets are to be graded for completion by the parent, not submitted in Blackboard. At the end of each module, a Module Assessment will be submitted in Blackboard to ensure the student is learning the module content. Be sure you read all instructions carefully and ask your instructor for help if something is not clear.

The amount of weeks in each module varies. Although the online textbook categorizes content into four-week modules, the organization of this course reflects the following:

Module	Weeks	Topic	Assessment:
Module 6	Weeks 16-19	Home of the Free and the Brave	Module Assessment 6
Module 7	Weeks 20-23	Zoom In!	Module Assessment 7
Module 8	Weeks 24-27	From Plant to Plate	Module Assessment 8
Module 9	Weeks 28-30	Animal Habitats	Module Assessment 9

With this organization in mind, please note that each daily activity is directing you to specific materials for that day's work, even if the weeks do not align. For example, you might read a book from "Week 17" in the online textbook even though you are only in "Week 16" of the TTU K12 course. It is important to view the instructions for online materials carefully to ensure you are accessing the correct texts and worksheets.

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated by taking an average of the five Module Assessments. Each Module Assessment is worth 200 points, equaling a 1000-point scale for the overall course grade. Students must make a 70% or above to pass the course.

Course Completion and Extensions

- Students may not complete the course in less than 30 days.
- All courses expire six months after the enrollment date.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

"Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Student/Parent Expectations

You will be expected to log into the Blackboard course regularly to be aware of possible announcements/reminders and to pace your student's progress in the course.

The following are prohibited while using the Blackboard interface:

- spamming;
- hacking; and
- using TTU or Blackboard email for commercial purposes;

Inappropriate behavior shall result in consequences ranging from a request to correct the problem, to removal from the course or even the university, depending on the severity of the behavior. Disciplinary actions will be taken according to the TTU K-12 Student Handbook.

In addition to the expectations above, the nature of a kindergarten class requires that parents/adults are actively involved in their student's instruction. Kindergarten is a time when students are learning to read, so adults will need to read the daily instructions to them and assist them in their activities.

The course content designates between instructions for adults and instructions for the student. Text that is italicized and placed in quotes reflects where adults are speaking to the child. For example, a lesson might read:

Ask your child about the dog in the book: *"What color is the dog's tail?"*

In this example, the first part of the text contains instructions for the parent, and the second part are verbal instructions for the student.

Communication

- You can expect a reply from your instructor within 2 business days.
- Use the Blackboard Course Messages tool for sending messages to your instructor.

Submitting Assignments

You will submit all assignments through the Blackboard Assignment Tool, rather than by mail or email.

Technical Difficulties

Getting Help

For student assistance with Blackboard, visit TTU K-12 Support.

Computer Problems

A working computer is necessary for online coursework. Computer problems will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to complete course activities within the allotted time frame. Identify a second computer, before the course begins, that you can use if you experience computer problems.

Server Problems

When the Blackboard server needs to be taken down for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing you of the time and date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems, your course instructor will notify you.

Lost or Corrupted Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of technology failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students' own computer problems, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any disputes, the instructor may request or require you to resubmit the files. In some instances, the instructor may need to open another attempt within Blackboard, so communication with your instructor is critical in these circumstances.