JULIAN MERCER

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Kindergarten teacher with 7+ years in public schools helping five- and six-year-olds become readers, writers, and confident classmates. Builds early literacy and number sense through play-based centers, small groups, and steady routines. Works closely with families, many of them English learners.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kindergarten Teacher Aug 2021 - Present
Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles, CA

- Teach a class of 24 kindergarteners, planning daily literacy, math, and social-emotional lessons aligned to California standards.
- Moved 21 of 24 students to grade-level letter-sound knowledge by winter and 23 by spring through daily phonics and small-group reading.
- Run learning centers four days a week so each child gets teacher time in a group of five or fewer.
- Support the 9 English learners in the class with visual cues, sentence frames, and a weekly check-in with the school's EL coordinator.
- Hold fall and spring conferences with every family, offering Spanish interpretation through the school.
- Introduced a morning calm-down corner and feelings check-in that reduced disruptions during transitions.
- Piloted a weekly family reading night that drew about 15 families, with books and activity bags sent home for every child.

Transitional Kindergarten Teacher Aug 2019 - Jun 2021

- Taught a transitional kindergarten class of 22 four-year-olds, building routines, language, and fine motor skills.
- Kept learning going during remote instruction with short live lessons and take-home activity packets for families without devices.
- Introduced a daily 15-minute shared reading of picture books to build vocabulary, and families reported that children began reading at home.
- Observed and assessed children each trimester using the Desired Results Developmental Profile and shared growth with families.

Teacher's Aide Jun 2017 - Jun 2019
YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles, Northridge, CA

- Assisted lead teachers with a before- and after-school program of about 30 children ages five to eight.
- Led daily story time and art projects, and logged incident reports and parent messages accurately.
- Prepared a sensory table and a daily movement activity for the youngest children, and reported developmental concerns to the lead teacher.
- Supervised student safety during outdoor play and guided conflict resolution among younger children.

CORE SKILLS

Early literacy and phonics | Number sense instruction | Play-based learning centers | Small-group instruction | Classroom routines | Social-emotional learning | English learner support | Family communication | Developmental assessment | Behavior guidance | California standards planning | Seesaw | Parent conferences

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Child and Adolescent Development, California State University, Northridge, Northridge, CA

CERTIFICATIONS

California Multiple Subject Teaching Credential | California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) | CPR and First Aid