**Choctaw Tribal Schools**

**Kindergarten Philosophy and Goals**

**The Kindergarten program is arranged to address social, emotional, physical and intellectual areas of development. The district’s motto, Alla Momat Ikkana Chih (All Children Will Learn), integrates the traditional values of the children’s Choctaw culture and language. The blending of culture with the academics is reflected in the creation of a learning environment directly aligned to the standards and skills of the Mississippi Department of Education’s curriculum design. Daily activities are planned around learning centers including art, social studies, science, reading, writing, and math literacy. Learning centers allow the opportunity to explore, investigate, question and predict.**

**Goals for children attending the Choctaw Tribal Schools’ Kindergarten Program:**

* **Celebrate and respect Choctaw culture and language**
* **Develop an enjoyment for learning**
* **Promote positive relationships with peers, teachers, and other adults**
* **Provide a caring, safe environment that promotes freedom to experiment and explore**
* **Oversee activities promoting cooperation and the ability to work and learn**
* **Provide opportunities for children to become independent, curious learners**
* **Implement a systematic phonics instruction program to promote literacy standards in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and dramatic play**
* **Increase instruction using skills and competencies with mathematical practices and scientific inquiry**
* **Increase physical coordination and motor skills**
* **Provide a high quality research-based program**