Course Overview

Elementary School | Kindergarten | ELA - *Last Updated on July 22, 2025*

DESCRIPTION

K-12 Content Area | Mission & Philosophy Statement
• Foster a love for literacy across diverse backgrounds and abilities, ensuring equitable access to rich learning experiences equipping learners with the skills, mindset, and passion to engage actively as informed readers, writers, and communicators throughout their lives. • Cultivate communicators and critical thinkers, empowering them to inquire, analyze, and create meaningfully from a variety of texts and perspectives, preparing them for the responsibilities of active participation as a citizen in our democracy as well as in an evolving global society. • Engender collaborative and creative environments where learners innovate, elevate diverse voices and modalities to express themselves effectively and imaginatively. • Promote a culturally responsive English Language Arts education that honors the identities, cultures, and experiences of all students, integrating diverse texts and voices to promote empathy, understanding, and respect.

Course Description
The Kindergarten English Language Arts program offers a joyful and structured approach to early literacy by combining **Great Minds Arts and Letters**, the **95 Percent Group Core Phonics Program**, **Geodes decodable readers**, and **Lexia Core5** personalized learning. Through the **Arts and Letters** curriculum, students explore foundational themes such as *The Five Senses*, *Once Upon a Farm*, *America Then and Now*, and *The Continents* using stories, songs, visual arts, and dramatic play. These experiences help build background knowledge, oral language, listening skills, comprehension, and creativity. Complementing this creative work, the **95 Percent Group Core Phonics Program** provides daily, systematic instruction in essential reading skills such as: • Letter recognition and letter-sound correspondence • Phonological and phonemic awareness (rhyming, segmenting, blending) • Beginning decoding and encoding (simple CVC words) • Introduction to high-frequency words and basic spelling patterns Students apply their phonics knowledge while reading **Geodes**—decodable texts designed to build confidence and background knowledge. **Lexia Core5** supports individualized skill development through interactive, adaptive activities that reinforce classroom instruction. **Key Features:**

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- Theme-based exploration of language and the arts
- Systematic, research-based phonics instruction
- Development of early phonemic awareness skills, decoding, fluency, and vocabulary
- Knowledge-building and skills application through Geodes readers
- Personalized support through Lexia Core5

Outcome:
By the end of Kindergarten, students will demonstrate foundational skills in reading and writing, recognize letters and sounds, begin to decode simple words, and express themselves through language and the arts. This well-rounded program lays the groundwork for confident, enthusiastic readers and thinkers.

ATTACHMENTS

A_LModuleSynopsesLevelK.pdf

Kindergarten_95_Percent_Scope_and_Sequence.pdf

Geodes_Kindergarten.pdf

STANDARDS

Pennsylvania - Kindergarten - English Language Arts ELA

CC.1.1.K.A CC.1.1.K.B CC.1.1.K.C CC.1.1.K.D CC.1.1.K.E CC.1.2.K.A CC.1.2.K.B

CC.1.2.K.C CC.1.2.K.E CC.1.2.K.F CC.1.2.K.G CC.1.2.K.H CC.1.2.K.I CC.1.2.K.J

CC.1.2.K.K CC.1.2.K.L CC.1.3.K.A CC.1.3.K.B CC.1.3.K.C CC.1.3.K.D CC.1.3.K.E

CC.1.3.K.F CC.1.3.K.G CC.1.3.K.H CC.1.3.K.I CC.1.3.K.J CC.1.3.K.K CC.1.4.K.A

CC.1.4.K.B CC.1.4.K.C CC.1.4.K.D CC.1.4.K.E CC.1.4.K.F CC.1.4.K.G CC.1.4.K.H

CC.1.4.K.I CC.1.4.K.J CC.1.4.K.L CC.1.4.K.M CC.1.4.K.N CC.1.4.K.O CC.1.4.K.P

CC.1.4.K.R CC.1.4.K.T CC.1.4.K.U CC.1.4.K.V CC.1.4.K.W CC.1.4.K.X CC.1.5.K.A

CC.1.5.K.B CC.1.5.K.C CC.1.5.K.D CC.1.5.K.E

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives for this course are aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and the Common Core State Standards for ELA as outlined in the Scope and Sequence for Kindergarten.

ASSESSMENT TYPES

Forms of Assessment to Measure Course Objectives:

• Diagnostic Assessments

• Formative Assessments

• Summative Assessments

• Criterion-Referenced

• Norm-Referenced

SUGGESTED METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- **Systematic and Explicit Phonics Instruction:** Planned, direct teaching of letter-sound relationships, blending, segmenting, and decoding skills (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Geodes, Lexia Core5).
- **Phonemic Awareness Development:** Activities focusing on sound manipulation, onset-rime, rhymes, and word families to strengthen phonological awareness (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Geodes, Lexia Core5).
- **Decodable Text Practice:** Use of age appropriate, phonics-aligned decodable readers (Geodes, 95 Percent Group Core Phonics) to apply skills and build fluency through repeated readings.
- **Multisensory Learning:** Incorporation of visual, auditory, and kinesthetic activities—such as letter tiles, writing practice, tapping sounds, and interactive digital tasks—to reinforce phonics concepts and engagement (all programs).
- **Small Group & Individualized Support:** Tailored instruction and interventions informed by ongoing assessment data and adaptive technology (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Geodes, Lexia Core5).
- **Background Knowledge & Vocabulary Building:** Content-rich, theme-based lessons and discussions that connect learning to students' experiences, enhancing comprehension and oral language (Great Minds Arts & Letters, Geodes).
- **Integrated Literacy Approach:** Combining reading, writing, speaking, and listening through connected lessons, including writing workshops with explicit instruction on sentence structure and spelling (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Shared Reading & Read-Alouds:** Teacher modeling of fluent reading to build vocabulary, comprehension, and engagement (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Close Reading & Text Analysis:** Encouraging deep thinking about text meaning, structure, and language (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Adaptive, Personalized Learning:** Use of technology (Lexia Core5) to provide interactive, individualized phonics and literacy practice with progress monitoring and motivational tools.

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RESOURCES

District Approved Program Resources	District Approved Supplemental Resources	District Approved Technology Resources
▪ Great Minds PBC. (2025). *Arts & Letters: Kindergarten English language arts curriculum*. ▪ 95 Percent Group LLC. (2022). *95 Phonics Core Program™, Kindergarten*. 95 Percent Group LLC.	• Great Minds PBC. (2025). *Inside Geodes® Level K* [Teacher guide]. Great Minds PBC. • Great Minds PBC. (2025). *My Geodes® Level K* [Print and digital reader]. Great Minds PBC.	• Lexia Learning Systems, LLC. (2025, April 16). *Lexia Core5 Reading* (Version 5.3.5) [Educational software]. Lexia Learning Systems, LLC. https://www.lexialearning.com/core5