



Grade Level Summary: Kindergarten

Art

Students learn various techniques, skills and artistic applications by studying historic content and culture through the eyes and hands of an artist. Studies overlap and integrate with other grade-level subjects and classes.

Language Arts

Kindergarten uses California Wonders program and additional supplemental resources for Language Arts. This consists of daily, explicit instruction with beginning phonemic awareness and phonics with guided practice and blending. Spelling instruction directly connects with phonics instruction. High-frequency words follow a read, write, spell routine. Decodable texts are used in Reading/Writing Workshop where students practice foundational skills and vocabulary. Students reread to unlock meaning using researched-based routines: Read, Reread, Integrate. Authentic texts are used to enhance themes and support comprehension. Additionally, Kindergarten has adopted the Orton-Gillingham approach to teaching reading and spelling. The OG approach teaches students that there is a reliable system for learning how to read and spell.

Library

In Kindergarten, students are engaged in library activities that provide opportunities for them to learn to access, evaluate, use and integrate information literacy skills into all areas of learning. They begin to understand the organization of the library, learn to check out library materials responsibly, distinguish fact from fiction, and understand whom to ask for help in the library.

Mathematics

Kindergarten uses the enVision Math curriculum and other supplemental resources to teach students math concepts. In Kindergarten, students develop an understanding of numbers and the counting sequence from 1 to 100. Students compare numbers from 0 to 20. Students learn to collect and record data. Students are introduced to place value with a focus on tens and ones. Students learn to compose and decompose numbers from 1 to 20 (addition and subtraction). Students identify, describe and create flat and solid shapes. Kindergarten students are also introduced to the concept of measurement.

Music

Students explore their voices and learn about beat versus rhythm. They also learn the basic concepts of slow and fast, soft and loud, and high and low. They use rhythmic speech patterns and poems to further their understanding of beat and rhythm. They spend a great amount of time on their Mother Goose Rhymes and the songs that support them. They learn how to sing with expression and perform in front of an audience.

Physical Education

In Physical Education, students experience the joy of movement while building skills that reflect our school's core values. Meeting four times each week, classes emphasize teamwork, leadership, and personal growth. Every student has the chance to step into a leadership role, practicing what it means to lead by example, follow directions, and support peers as positive teammates. Through a variety of activities, students not only develop new skills but also gain confidence while developing the muscles of diligence and resilience.

Science

Kindergarten students participate in a program called Project Lead the Way. The goal of this program is to engage young minds in science, technology, engineering, and math to build confidence, explore interests, and set themselves up for success in middle school, high school, and beyond. The science curriculum taps into the students' natural curiosity and enthusiasm to empower them to become problem solvers. Students use structured approaches, like the engineering design process, and employ critical thinking. The units of study explore life, physical, and earth sciences. Units in Kindergarten focus on life science and include living things, their needs and impacts, sunlight and weather, and finally, pushes and pulls. Students apply newly acquired knowledge and skills as they utilize the design process to design, sketch, build, test, and reflect on all of their structures.

Social-Emotional Learning

Kindergarten Social-Emotional Learning class uses the Toolbox Project curriculum to help students explore and develop their emotional and social skills. Students are introduced to 12 "tools" that they can use to understand themselves and interact positively with others. Through practical and relatable activities, children learn about resilience, empathy, and effective communication, building a strong foundation for self-awareness and meaningful relationships. The ultimate aim of this class is to empower children to navigate life's challenges with confidence and kindness.

Spanish

Students comprehend and use daily greetings in Kindergarten Spanish class. They are taught basic calendar terms and concepts. Students become familiar with vocabulary for season, colors, parts of the body, clothing, colors, shapes, classroom objects and some foods. They develop an elementary understanding of vocabulary specific to holidays and some customs of Hispanic cultures.

Technology

This year in Technology, Kindergartners will learn: the various components of different devices and their functions; how best to use technology and when to take a break from it; and how to navigate various interfaces (mostly on the iPad). They will use Scratch Jr. to develop their coding creations and Common Sense Media (commonsensemedia.org) to learn about digital responsibility.