

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE TO GRADE

K



EVERY DAY
COUNTS



WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



The Canon-McMillan School District believes in providing a well-rounded education that is strong in core academics: Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. In addition, students are provided with engaging experiences in the areas of Library, Music, Physical Education, and Character Education.

The Kindergarten Curriculum Guide provides a snapshot of the learning experiences students will engage in during the school year. To view each content area's curriculum, please visit the [Curriculum and Instruction](#) page on the District website.

In the core content areas, instruction is teacher-led and includes modeling, guided practice, and frequent opportunities for students to demonstrate their understanding. High-quality print materials; including student workbooks, readers, and journals are an essential component of daily instruction. Research shows that students learn best when they engage with printed materials. Using print materials leads to greater focus, deeper understanding, and stronger retention. In return, students are able to apply what they have learned with confidence and independence.

The mission of the Canon-McMillan School District, in partnership with the community, is to teach, to challenge, to motivate and to support all students to maximize their full individual potential.



CANON-McMILLAN
SCHOOL DISTRICT EST. 1954

BIG MACS
BIG
POSSIBILITIES



READING & WRITING



Kindergarten is an exciting year as students take their first steps toward becoming confident readers and writers. Our literacy program uses a Structured Literacy approach, an evidence-based method that teaches reading and writing through clear, explicit instruction. Students build foundational skills one step at a time, beginning with letter names and sounds before progressing to reading words, writing sentences, and understanding what they read.

Throughout the year, students develop the foundational skills that make reading possible, including phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, spelling, language development, and comprehension. These skills are taught through engaging, hands-on lessons and daily practice that help students grow in both confidence and independence.

The kindergarten literacy block is designed to help students build strong reading and writing skills through a balance of Foundational Skills and Knowledge Building using Heggerty, a phonemic awareness program, Wilson Foundations, a multisensory program that develops foundational reading and writing skills, and Geodes, decodable knowledge building books.

HEGGERTY

Heggerty provides kindergarten students with daily lessons that build the listening and sound-awareness skills needed for reading and writing. Through engaging activities, students practice rhyming, blending, segmenting, and manipulating sounds in words, creating a strong foundation for phonics instruction and future reading success.

WILSON FOUNDATIONS

Wilson Foundations provides kindergarten students with a structured approach to helping them become accurate, confident, and fluid readers and writers. Through explicit instruction, students build phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, spelling, handwriting, and word recognition skills.

BRIDGE TO WRITING

Kindergarten students learn how to write through the Bridge to Writing program. Through explicit instruction and guided practice, students learn to express their ideas through drawing and writing while building letter formation, sentence construction, vocabulary, and writing conventions such as capitalization, spacing, and punctuation.

KINDERGARTEN QUICK FACTS

- ✓ 30-60 minutes of literacy instruction daily
- ✓ Teacher- led explicit, systematic instruction with research-based programs to develop reading and writing fluency
- ✓ DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) given beginning- middle-, and end- of year to monitor students' reading development.



Learn more about [Canon-McMillan's Structured Literacy Program](#).



MATHEMATICS



Beginning in kindergarten, enVision+ Mathematics introduces students to the joy of learning mathematics through hands-on exploration, play-based activities, and meaningful problem-solving experiences. Students build number sense by counting, comparing, composing and decomposing numbers, and developing an understanding of addition and subtraction within 10. They investigate geometry, measurement, data, and patterns while developing critical thinking and collaboration skills. Students learn how to share their mathematical thinking and make meaningful connections between concepts to build a positive attitude toward mathematics.



INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH

Using the "I Do, We Do, You Do" approach, teachers provide clear, direct instruction by modeling and explaining new concepts ("I Do"), guide students through supported practice ("We Do"), and then give students opportunities to apply their learning independently ("You Do").

This research-based approach ensures students receive the instruction, practice, and feedback needed to build mastery and become confident, independent learners.

ENVISION KINDERGARTEN TOPICS

TOPICS 1–6: Students build a strong foundation in number sense by counting, comparing, composing, and decomposing numbers through 10 while developing an understanding of addition and subtraction.

TOPICS 7–8: Students explore two- and three-dimensional shapes by identifying their attributes, comparing shapes, and combining shapes to create new designs.

TOPIC 9: Students investigate measurable attributes, such as length, weight, and capacity, by comparing, describing, and measuring objects.

TOPICS 10–11: Students extend their understanding of numbers through 20 by counting, representing, composing, and decomposing quantities while building fluency with number relationships.

TOPIC 12: Students deepen their understanding of numbers through 100 by recognizing patterns, counting, and developing foundational place value concepts.

KINDERGARTEN MATH FACTS

- 175 minutes of instruction weekly
- Strong focus on helping students develop number sense
- Hands-on activities with math manipulatives
- Use of visual models, counters, connecting cubes, and ten-frames



Learn more about each topic by visiting the [Kindergarten enVision+ Resource Page](#) for families.



KNOWLEDGE BUILDING



SOCIAL STUDIES

Students begin building an understanding of themselves, their school, and the world around them through engaging, hands-on learning experiences. They learn what it means to be a responsible citizen by exploring classroom rules, responsibilities, cooperation, and problem-solving. Students develop map skills, investigate weather and seasons, learn about important American symbols and holidays, and begin to understand the concepts of time, community, and history. Through stories, discussions, role-playing, activities, and collaborative projects, students develop the knowledge and skills needed to become active, respectful members of their school and community.



Learn more about the [Kindergarten Social Studies Curriculum](#).

SCIENCE

Kindergarten science encourages students to explore the natural world through hands-on investigations, observation, and inquiry. Throughout the year, students study trees and seasonal changes, investigate how pushes and pulls affect motion, and learn about plants, animals, and farms. Through experiments, classroom discussions, and real-world experiences, students develop an understanding of living things, life cycles, forces and motion, and how farms provide the food and resources people use every day. These engaging experiences help children ask questions, make observations, and build a strong foundation for future scientific learning.



Learn more about the [Kindergarten Science Curriculum](#).



KINDERGARTEN QUICK FACTS

- ✓ Science and social studies are taught weekly. Due to half day, instructional minutes vary from week to week for each subject.
- ✓ Through these subjects, students get opportunities for hands-on exploration through collaborative teacher-led activities.
- ✓ Science and social studies help students develop curiosity about the world around them while building observation, communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.



RELATED ARTS



Related arts classes are an important part of every student's elementary school experience. Throughout the school year, students participate in Art, Music, Physical Education, and Library, where they develop skills and interests that complement their core classroom learning. Students also participate in Character Education lessons taught by the school counselor. These classes encourage creativity, curiosity, collaboration, healthy decision-making, and personal responsibility while giving students opportunities to discover new talents, build confidence, and develop lifelong interests. The elementary related arts program supports the growth of the whole child by helping students become well-rounded learners.

LIBRARY

- Practice active listening and participate respectfully during storytime.
- Explore folktales and identify the characteristics of this genre.
- Learn the roles of the author and illustrator and identify parts of a book.
- Build library vocabulary, including terms such as title, library, librarian.
- Learn how to choose books that match their interests and reading level.
- Practice caring for books and using library materials responsibly.
- Identify the basic parts of a book, including the front/back cover, spine, and pages.

MUSIC

- Sing simple songs from memory from a variety of genres, styles and cultures
- Perform simple rhythms vocally and on classical instruments
- Call and response singing
- Read icon notation
- Relate music to other learning
- Move and play to a steady beat

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Find joy and excitement in physical activity
- Practice exhibiting good sportsmanship skills to show respect to self and others
- Understand importance of physical activity in all environments (classroom, home, and community)
- Develop knowledge, motor/social skills, and confidence needed to live a healthy active lifestyle
- Work on both locomotor and non-locomotor movements
- Learn the ability to move at different speeds, in space and in distance
- Develop manipulative skills such as ability to throw, catch, kick, punt and dribble.
- Complete basic cardiovascular, flexibility, muscular endurance and muscular strength exercises.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

- Build kindness and learn ways to help others.
- Learn how to be a positive role model.
- Develop a positive attitude and learn how to respond to mistakes and challenges.
- Practice accepting and respecting differences in others.
- Learn simple problem-solving strategies for everyday situations.
- Build resilience by learning to persevere and bounce back from setbacks.
- Learn strategies to prevent and respond to bullying.