



Kindergarten Curriculum 2023-2024

K English Language Arts

The Language Arts program focuses on the study of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The components of the program emphasize the development of skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas.

Reading

The textbook used for reading is *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) Into Reading*. Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills:

- comprehension & retelling details
- characters, setting, & major events
- asking questions about unfamiliar words
- types of texts
- identifying author & illustrator
- relationship between illustrations & story
- comparing & contrasting
- inferences & predictions
- story structure
- conclusions
- main idea & details
- summarizing & sequencing events
- concepts of print
- book handling
- environmental print
- first & last names
- left to right reading
- punctuation
- book parts
- forming letters, words, & sentences
- phonics/phonemic awareness
- letter sounds & recognition
- beginning, middle, & end sounds
- rhyming
- onset & rime
- blending phonemes & words
- high frequency words

abc

*In addition to *Into Reading*, *The Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Program* is used daily to further provide support to reading instruction.

Writing

The textbook used for writing and grammar is *Voyages in English* from *Loyola Press*.

Students will be able to act, write, and dictate their own stories. The students' stories will begin with pictures, and throughout the year, it will grow. By the end of the year, students will be able to provide a beginning, middle, and end to their writing.

Students will work on drawing, dictating, and writing the following pieces:

- personal narrative
- friendly letter
- directions
- description
- book report
- informational & opinion writing



Zaner-Bloser Handwriting

Students will begin learning formal handwriting skills. Emphasis is on letter formation.

Centers

Centers reinforce math & literacy skills that were taught in class. The students are placed in small groups that change weekly to provide better understanding of skills & to provide differentiation opportunities. In addition to academic skills, social emotional, teamwork, independence, fine motor, and communication skills are reinforced.

K Mathematics

Kindergarten students acquire knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems in everyday situations. The University of Chicago *Everyday Mathematics-Common Core Edition* is the text used for instruction.



Emphasis is on:

- recognizing & writing numbers
- counting to 100+
- counting on from any number
- counting & representing sets of objects
- cardinal order
- greater than, less than, and equal to
- decomposing numbers
- solving number stories & sentences
- writing number sentences
- sorting objects
- repeating patterns
- graphing groups
- identifying 2D & 3D shapes
- drawing & creating shapes
- describing a shape's attributes
- finding shapes in an environment
- identifying relative position
- describing weight & length

K Science

Kindergarten students will explore different areas of science using the program called *Mystery Science*.



Students will explore the following:

- the five senses
- animal & plant needs
- severe weather
- seasonal patterns
- sun's energy
- pushes & pulls

K Social Studies

Students will learn about the foundational concepts of identity, diversity, cooperation, and citizenship. Themes are woven into a discovery of significant places, and historical events. Children will also be introduced to using primary sources, maps, and timelines to learn about the world around them. The textbook series used is *Impact Social Studies: Learning & Working Together* published by McGraw Hill.

Students will explore the following:

- How Do People Learn and Work Together?
- Where Do We Live?
- What Does It Mean to Be an American?
- How Has Our World Changed?
- Why Do People Have Jobs?



K Religion

Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in Religion class, but in all learning. Students will learn about the Catholic faith through stories, activities, scripture, prayer, discussion, reflection, & art. The text used for instruction is *Finding God* from *Loyola Press*.

Service Theme: God's Creation

Kindergarten focuses on caring for God's Creation. On Service Day, students visit Palo's Children's Farm.

Emphasis is on:

- Major people & events in Old Testament
- Jesus as both divine & human
- Christmas & the Holy Family
- Catholic symbols & objects
- The Sacrament of Baptism
- The Golden Rule
- Making good choices
- Forgiveness
- Being a disciple of Jesus
- Lives of Saints
- Participation in worship ministry
- Service to others
- Religious diversity
- Prayer in a variety of forms





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K-2 Art

Students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms.

Emphasis is on:

- identifying the elements of line, shape, space, color, and texture, as well as the principles of repetition and pattern
- using various types of tools appropriately when painting, drawing, and constructing
- creating visual works of art using manipulation, eye-hand coordination, building, and imagination
- using art vocabulary appropriately



K Music

Students will have the opportunity to participate in music activities and to develop an appreciation for music.

Emphasis is on:

- singing in groups & during performances
- involvement in music ministry
- learning about & exploring beat, pitch, voice, melody, rhythm, meter, duration, dynamics, & tempo
- introduction to four instrument families of the orchestra: woodwinds, brass, percussion, & strings



K-2 Physical Education

Students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Emphasis is on:

- development and demonstration of gross motor and locomotor skills
- sportsmanship & participation in cooperative group games and activities
- personal health and fitness
- following rules and utilizing strategies in various activities



K-2 Spanish

Students will continue to explore basic concepts of the Spanish language by listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

Emphasis is on:

- learning everyday Spanish words through song and toys
- pronouncing words correctly
- repetition of Spanish words introduced through yes or no questions
- responding to and asking simple questions with prompts
- using common forms of courtesy, greetings, and farewells
- responding to and recognizing information from stories or songs
- engaging in simple conversations on familiar topics
- learning & reciting prayers in Spanish



K-3 Technology

Students in grades K-3 each use a school-owned iPad in their classrooms. Technology skills are taught through content areas with a focus on good digital citizenship. Use of the devices complements student learning standards and objectives. Students use the application *Seesaw* to create a digital portfolio to showcase their learning.

