

Kindergarten

Syllabus

2018-2019

Programs Taught

Reading Mastery Signatures Kindergarten: This program begins by teaching the sounds letters make. Students learn different letters of the alphabet in a unique order and initially they do not learn the name of the letters. The program moves on to reading words, paragraphs and then stories as well as building vocabulary and comprehension skills. Reading lessons move quickly and involve lots of discussion among the students and teacher. Students are grouped by how well they read which is based on tests they have taken early in the year. Once the program is underway, students are tested every 5 lessons to ensure that they are on track with the group.

Language For Learning: This program teaches children words, concepts, and statements that are important to written and oral language. Kindergarteners will master basic information such as days of the week, seasons, months of the year, object identification, and locations. Workbook activities are aimed to let the student demonstrate mastery of the lesson. Mastery tests will be administered every 10 lessons.

Language For Thinking: This program is a continuation of the *Language for Learning* program. This program enriches children's words and statements which is important to how they speak and then to how they will write. Both programs emphasize language as a means of describing the world as a tool for thinking and solving problems. The language that is taught helps to describe learning and instruction. Key components in the program include reasoning and critical thinking, vocabulary development, observing and describing, comprehension concepts, and interpreting graphic displays.

Singapore Math: This program focuses on in-depth understanding of the essential math skills using text books and manipulatives. These textbooks have a consistent and strong emphasis on problem solving and model drawing. Explanations of math concepts are exceptionally clear and simple and at times may seem slow paced, but build a strong math foundation for future math levels. This program is based on the idea that mathematical concepts should be taught from concrete to pictorial to abstract.

Grades

Tests: two parts (roughly 67%)

Classwork/Participation: one part (roughly 33%)

Report Cards:

P - Proficient

I - In Process

N - Needs Development

Effort Grades:

1 - Outstanding

2 - Satisfactory

3 - Unsatisfactory

Behavior:

S - Satisfactory

U - Unsatisfactory

Very often parents are most concerned with the letter portion of the grade. If you have any questions you should always contact the teacher. To give some insight, as teachers, we feel that a Kindergartener "in progress" is not only common but also expected on some level. We urge you to pay most attention to the Effort section of the grade. This is denoted with a number. We feel that the effort put forth by a student can set the tone for the trajectory of their entire school career. Please urge your child to do their best. A "P" might be impressive, but accompanied with a 3 is still a cause for concern. We further urge you to focus on the behavior portion of the report card as well. If your child is receiving an Unsatisfactory it should not be a surprise. Please check your child's daily folder for the color dot left on the behavior chart. If you are seeing a reoccurrence of yellow and/or red be advised that this will be reflected on this portion of the report card. Hopefully, if there is a behavior issue, contact has already been made before report cards are issued. Keep in mind awards are given for conduct and effort at the end of the year ceremony.

To be promoted from Kindergarten, students must complete Reading Mastery I and Language for Learning

Skills Taught and Nurtured

- Work habits
- Listening skills
- Social skills
- Emotional skills
- Speaking skills
- Language skills
- Math skills
- Healthy habits
- Reading skills
- Fine motor skills

Centers

Academic:

Math Centers - pattern blocks, tangrams, patterning, puzzles, sorting

Language Centers - sequencing, before and after, classifying, memory games

Fine Motor Centers - cutting, lacing, handwriting, shoe-tying, links, play dough,

Science Center - magnifying glass, nets, books, goggles, bugs, bug boxes

Literacy Center - sound cards, word cards, story writing, magnetic letters, rhyming game

Social:

- Housekeeping
- Library
- Board games
- Play dough
- Blocks
- Puppets
- Dinosaurs
- Computer
- Dramatic play

Study Topics

During Enrichment and Read Aloud students are able to study important thematic topics while focusing attention on meeting the Common Core State Standards. Standards are used every day in many different ways during reading, language, and math but using the Core Knowledge program and other outside books allows for a richer focus of these standards. Here a few topics studied and examined throughout the year:

- Nursery rhymes
- The five senses
- Plants
- Rules and manners
- Friendship
- Farm life
- Healthy life styles
- Holidays
- Fairytales
- Gardens
- Seasons
- Black history

Projects

Winter – 100 Days of School

****More information to come later****

Portfolios

Student work will be collected throughout the year and put into portfolios. These portfolios will consist of student class work. These samples will come from projects or activities that show high levels of learning and understanding. Portfolios demonstrate student growth over the academic year.

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