KINDERGARTEN LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY

Kindergarten students develop their reading and language arts skills through a balanced literacy approach. Students will develop their reading and language arts skills through a balanced literacy approach. Students will be immersed in the National Geographic Reach for Reading program and will learn to apply skills in authentic literary and informational texts throughout the course of the year The focus is on learning the alphabet and the sounds associated with these letters. Skills also involve rhyming, matching words with the same beginning sound and blending sounds into words. Kindergarteners also begin to learn about the reading strategies that develop and strengthen comprehension across all content areas. Students build their knowledge of vocabulary. They begin to use writing in any combination of drawing, dictation, writing letters and or words to share information, and ideas. Students learn to: · Identify and name the letters of the alphabet (uppercase and lower -case), match those letters with their sounds, and print them. · Distinguish between beginning and ending sounds. · Demonstrate understanding of concepts of print: front and back of a book, where writing starts, one-to-one correspondence, return sweep (left to right progression), spaces between words, difference between a letter and a word. · Apply phonemic awareness skills to: recognize and produce rhyming words, decode simple consonant-vowel-consonant words, and to write words using phonetic spelling. · Recognize, read and use common high frequency sight words. · Make predictions using prior knowledge, pictures and text. · Demonstrate understanding of a story by retelling, giving opinions, and answering questions. · Ask and answer questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud. · State an opinion or preference about a topic or book in writing. · Write first and last name using appropriate case, letter formation, and size. · Participate in classroom discussions following agreed upon rules, learning to take turns and listening to others.

MATHEMATICS

Everyday Mathematics is the curriculum program used for math instruction. Instructional activities include whole class, small group and independent tasks. Number skills and mathematics are linked to relevant situations and contexts in everyday life. Students learn a variety of strategies to solve real life problems. Students also develop mathematical vocabulary while learning core concepts through hands on experiences and paper and pencil tasks.

Students will learn to:

Counting and Cardinality

- Know number names and the count sequence.
- Count to tell the number of objects.
- Compare numbers.

Example:
How many apples are in the picture below?

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.

Example:

Jane had 4 Goldfish crackers and Michael had 2 Goldfish crackers is a story that models addition (putting together).

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value.

Measurement and Data

- Describe and compare measurable attributes.
- Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category.

Example: *Students will sort groups of objects and describe the attribute of the objects within a group.*

Geometry

- Identify and describe shapes (squares, circles, rectangles, triangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, and spheres).
- Analyze, compare, create and compose shapes.

Example:

A student can identify the above listed shapes.

A students can create a square by combining two triangles.

Basic Math Facts & Computational Strategies

- Students will add and subtract within ten using mental strategies such as counting on, making ten, breaking down numbers, using the relationship between addition and subtraction, and finding equivalent but easier sums.

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE

Learning about history and social science in kindergarten is built on student's experiences in their families, school, community, state and country. Students listen to stories about the people and events we celebrate in our national holidays and learn why we celebrate them. They also become familiar with our national symbols Students will learn to: · Use correct words and phrases to identify sequence, chronology, and time. · Use correct words and phrases to indicate location and direction. · Identify and describe the events people celebrate during national holidays. · Describe the location and features of the places in the

immediate neighborhood of the student's home or school. · With support retell stories that illustrate honesty, courage, friendship, respect, responsibility and authority, and explain how characters in these stories show these qualities. · Give examples of different kinds of jobs that people do, including work at home, and explain why people work. · Recognize important American symbols and customs (American flag, national anthem, Pledge of Allegiance etc.).

GENERAL SCIENCE

Kindergarteners learn science by doing investigations, reading about science, and writing or drawing scientific explanations. Students are active participants engaged in hands-on experiments and activities that focus on the development of inquiry skills.

Skills of Inquiry

- Conduct investigations based on questions - recording and representing their observations
- Use and describe tools needed to gather information (e.g. magnifying glass, thermometer, scale)

Life Science

- Differentiate between living and nonliving things
- Identify structures of plants and recognize plants as living things that grow, reproduce, and need food, air, and water
- Recognize that people and animals interact with the environment through their sense of sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste

Earth Science

- Describe weather changes from day to day and from one season to the next
- Recognize that water, rocks, soil, and living organisms are found on the earth's surface

Physical Science

- Sort objects by observable properties such as size, shape, texture, color, weight, and buoyancy
- Explore, classify, compare and contrast the properties of different objects
- Identify and describe the characteristics of natural materials and human-made materials

DIGITAL LITERACY and COMPUTER SCIENCE in the English Innovation Pathway

Elementary scholars are introduced to foundational concepts by integrating basic digital literacy skills with simple ideas about computational thinking.

The strands covered Kindergarten through second grade include:

1. Computing and Society
    - Safety and security
    - Ethics and Laws
    - Interpersonal and Societal Impact
2. Digital Tools and Collaboration

- Digital Tools
- Collaboration and Communication
- Research

3. Computing Systems
    - Computing Devices
    - Human and COmputer Partnerships
    - Networks
    - Services
4. Computational Thinking
    - Abstraction
    - Algorithms
    - Data
    - Programming and Development
    - Modeling and Simulation

Incorporated Use of Technology as outlined in the Common Core English Language Arts:

Scholars in kindergarten will use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers. Students accomplish this through their exposure to:

- iPad apps: My Story, Tell About This, Chatterpix Kids, etc.
- Microsoft Word, PowerPoint
- Google Apps for Education