

Kindergarten Curriculum

Literacy:

The kindergarten reading curriculum uses a workshop approach to teach the skills and strategies necessary to become a good reader. Students are nurtured through the initial phases of print recognition and sound symbol association. Individualized instruction is based on each student's reading ability. Word study includes phonics, spelling, and vocabulary.

Writing:

The Writer's Workshop method is used for writing. Writer's Workshop views writing as an ongoing process in which students follow a given set of procedures for planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing their writing. It allows students to be at various stages of the writing process at one time.

Handwriting:

We use the D'Nealian writing program which introduces the letter and number forms, size, slant and spacing used for manuscript and cursive handwriting from the start.

Math:

Through the use of manipulatives, students will develop an understanding of small numbers, quantities, and simple shapes in relation to their environment. Students will investigate money, the concept of time and measurement. Counting and comparing of small numbers will be introduced, identified and developed. Students will organize and collect data using picture graphs.

Science and Social Studies:

Science and Social Studies is integrated throughout thematic units. The information is taught through whole group instruction and centers. A few of these units include: Around the World, Land and Water and Maps, Plants, Oceans, Seasons and Holidays, and Insects.

Chorus:

All Atlanta Academy students in grades K-3 participate in the Chorus. The goals in chorus are to develop the unique voice while making music. Other goals of the program are to develop musicianship through singing, sight-reading, theory practice, and listening

to, analyzing and critiquing music. The chorus performs multiple times throughout the year including Grandparent's Day, Christmas, and Night of the Arts.

Music

Children participate in creative movement, imitating and creating rhythmic patterns on instruments as well as through body percussion. Emphasis is put on developing steady beat, developing listening skills and singing on pitch through simple music games and songs.

Technology

Throughout the year students are introduced to computer basics while using PCs and Apple computers. Open Court Online Phonics is used to reinforce phonics rules and to help students improve their reading skills while learning basic computer navigation. Kid-Pix and Microsoft Word 2008 are also implemented throughout the year. Students learn how to capitalize letters, type complete sentences, use punctuation, and auto-formatting with Microsoft Word 2008.

Library

Students continue to receive library orientation and learn Media Center behavior patterns and procedures. Classes come to the Media Center on a weekly basis. Skills from the previous year are reviewed and expanded upon. Alphabetical order is emphasized as children learn to apply this to the arrangement of Media Center materials. Library terms are expanded upon, reviewing author, illustrator, fiction and nonfiction. Students are introduced to additional terms including Title, Cover, Spine, Title Page. Georgia Book Awards and the Caldecott Award are discussed. Literary forms of Fairy Tales, Biography and Poetry are introduced. Students continue to develop listening skills while being exposed to a variety of literature and authors through read-aloud and other media.

Spanish

Students will demonstrate receptive and productive knowledge of themes such as colors, numbers, calendar, weather, emotions, school supplies, family, body parts, foods, and animals. Throughout the year, students will also learn about Hispanic culture and holidays. The language is taught with emphasis on speaking.

Art

Students have weekly art instruction where they are introduced to many different mediums and processes. The emphasis is on the creative process, art production and following directions. They will develop and begin to master: caring for materials, drawing skills, painting skills, manipulating clay, cutting, gluing, manipulating paper, printmaking, collage, and sculptures.

Projects are designed to allow students to practice and refine basic skills focusing on color, shape, line, value and texture. Students are introduced to the balance, emphasis and proportion of design. Students learn to use and recognize differences in art media. They will learn to mix primary colors to make secondary colors, make colors lighter and

darker, use watercolors and make crayon resists. Students manipulate clay and learn to score and join clay pieces, while also learning the process of glazing clay. Students are exposed to the area of different cultures, the different styles of art and famous artists. Students will learn to recognize, appreciate and create the art of different cultures and famous works of art. There is an emphasis to expand art vocabulary and exposure to famous works of art.

Physical Education

Physical Education in Kindergarten focuses on fundamental movement skills. Circuit training is used to introduce skills such as: jump rope, sit-ups, catching & throwing, dribbling, and kicking. Good sportsmanship and teamwork are very important. Students participate in team sports including: soccer, parachute, and modified floor hockey.