

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT **KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM OVERVIEW**

English Language Arts

Journeys is a research-based reading program that offers effective instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing. This program also provides leveled interventions targeted to each individual child's needs.

Goals of the Kindergarten program:

- To introduce students to the alphabet and how it works
- To develop an understanding of concepts of print
- To provide students with an introduction to how the sounds of the language work together
- To strengthen listening, speaking, and oral comprehension skills
- To give students early reading and writing experiences at which they can be successful
- To help students focus not only on the importance of learning but also on the joy that learning brings to our lives

To accomplish these goals, Kindergarten instruction focuses on:

- Phonemic awareness
- Letter recognition and sounds of letters
- Handwriting: introduction of manuscript letters
- Big Books, read alouds, and story time selections
- Writing
- Differentiating instruction: Workshop
- Beginning decodable skills
- Pre-decodable/decodable books

Resources:

Journeys (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), computer software, children's literature
Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum: Kindergarten 2020

Mathematics

Math in Focus is the U.S. version of Singapore's most popular and proven math curriculum. Based on a framework developed by the Singapore Ministry of Education, *Math in Focus* draws on best practices from around the world and highlights problem solving as the focus. This research-based program is effective in balancing mathematical skills, hands-on experiences and problem solving to help all students achieve greater mathematical success.

Math in Focus introduces Kindergarten children to thinking mathematically about problems and their solutions. Children are given opportunities to investigate, discover, explore, and apply their own solutions to mathematical problems. Children learn to use numbers to make connections and realize the relationships between them in relation to real life situations.

To accomplish these goals, Kindergarten instruction focuses on:

- Numeral Recognition
- Oral Counting
- Counting on and Counting Back

- Numbers to 100: Counting by 5s, 10s
- Number Facts
- Comparing and Ordering by Size, Length, Weight, or Position
- Patterns
- Classifying and Sorting
- Comparing Sets
- Solid and Flat Shapes
- Measuring

Resources:

Math in Focus: Singapore Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) by Marshall Cavendish
Computer Software and Manipulatives

Health, Science, Social Studies

Thematic units, seasonal activities, environmental study, Earth Science and holiday projects

Art

The Kindergarten curriculum serves as a building block for further visual arts instruction. Emphasis is on the introduction to the world of art, sensory and motor development, the interconnectedness of art to other areas of learning, and the unique and valuable expressions of each child's artistic ideas. There is no formal assessment in this exploratory year; however students will learn to participate in art discussion and production. Kindergarten art class is twice a month for thirty minutes.

Library

Students come to the library once a week for thirty minutes. During their visits, students are introduced to various authors and illustrators through stories. Terms such as librarian, author, illustrator, title page, and borrow are discussed. After students are introduced to the library and the procedures, students check out one book during each visit.

Music

All elementary students participate in music and performance through singing, listening, and playing musical instruments. This academic discipline enhances logical and spatial reasoning skills by incorporating and strengthening the auditory and kinesthetic learning modalities.

Kindergarten vocal music classes meet twice a month for thirty minutes each. The curriculum is based on matching pitch, matching steady beat, group performance, and proper use of the voice through a variety of repertoire. Although assessments are informal, students are assessed on skill competency and concept knowledge, as well as self and social responsibility. Hampton Township School District's Music Curriculum is based on the National Standards for Music Education.

Resources:

MusicPlayOnline

Physical Education

The curriculum for Kindergarten Physical Education focuses on body and special awareness. Kindergartners are introduced to health-related fitness activities and social skills that are related to game play and sportsmanship. Tennis shoes and loose, comfortable clothing are required. Kindergarten Physical Education classes meet twice a month for thirty minutes.