

Kindergarten Themes

Our curriculum themes in kindergarten grow from the overall concept of community. By starting the year learning about “Myself and Others” and “The Five Senses” children are able to further their own self-concept and self-esteem, to learn more about their classmates and new friends, and to articulate basic observation strategies that we will use in science for the rest of the year. We journey outward from there, shifting the focus from ourselves to our families, our friendships, our communities, and our world. All the while, we foster cooperation and cohesiveness, without which all other academic learning would be difficult to accomplish.

Interwoven into the foundations of community are many other more specific themes and skill-based units of study, especially within our Writing, and Math Workshops. In addition, the children tell us who they are, what they know, and what they want to learn. They guide the curriculum and require us to be flexible in our planning. Therefore, changes may be made in some of the sequencing or timing of certain segments of the curriculum. Within our broad curriculum themes and play during Choice Time, student interest determines the specific topic we study. For example, when we study community, will we make an ice cream shop...or a barber shop? The Junior Kindergarten will even use an art based curriculum: Beautiful Stuff. It is always interesting to start out the year with our curriculum plans in place, and then see how events of the school year and the children themselves extend it in new and unforeseen directions!

Junior Kindergarten

September	October	November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: How we are alike and different through our cultural dances ● Science: Nature/Fall ● Literacy: Friends and Feelings ● Math: Colors and Shapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies:Experiments ● Science: Creating Simple machines ● Literacy: Speaking and listening and asking inquiry based questions ● Math: Sorting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: History of Castles ● Science: Architecture, Medieval structures ● Literacy: Vocabulary and background knowledge ● Math: One to one counting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Long Ago ● Science: Volcanos ● Literacy: Comprehension of stories ● Math: Patterns
January	February	March	April
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Places animals live ● Science: Habitats ● Literacy: Interest in books ● Math: Sequencing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Outerspace ● Science: Planets ● Literacy: Book handling/knowledge ● Math: Lengths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Construction ● Science: STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) ● Literacy: Knowledge of text structure ● Math: Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Transportation ● Science: Water—sinking and floating ● Literacy: Phonological/phonemic awareness ● Math: Base 10
May/June			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Jobs ● Science: Water pressure/How things grow ● Literacy: Emergent writing ● Math: Writing number symbols 			

Kindergarten

September	October	November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Our Community ● Science: What is a Scientist? ● Writing: Storytelling, Drawing and Writing Notebooks, and Handwriting ● Reading: Names, Letters, and Rhymes ● Math: Counting, identifying and sorting by attributes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Our Community ● Science: 5 Senses ● Writing: Drawing and Writing Books (Drawing Focus) ● Reading: Making Connections; Initial Sounds and Symbols ● Math: Counting larger quantities, measurement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Local Geography ● Science: Animals and Habitats ● Writing: Drawing and Writing Books (Writing Focus) ● Reading: Retelling; Matching Letters to Sounds and Pointing to Words ● Math: Counting larger quantities, measurement, 2D Geometry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Local Geography ● Science: Animals and Habitats ● Writing: Drawing and Writing Books (Writing Focus) ● Reading: Retelling; First and Last Letters, Words, and Sounds ● Math: 2D Geometry, Collecting sets, counting and measuring
January	February	March	April
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Local Geography ● Science: Animals and Habitats ● Writing: Introducing Booklets ● Reading: Exploring Fiction and Drama; Getting Ready to Read By Myself ● Math: 3D Geometry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Geography, jobs ● Science: Construction ● Writing: Booklets ● Reading: Exploring Fiction and Drama; Getting Ready to Read By Myself ● Math: Addition and subtraction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: Geography and jobs ● Science: Construction ● Writing: Re ● Reading: Visualizing; Expressive Ways to Read and Reading By Myself ● Math: Modeling with Data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Science: Our Earth, sustainable systems ● Social Studies: National Holidays ● Writing: Writer’s Craft and Reflection; Poetry ● Reading: Poetry; Expressive Ways to Read and Reading By Myself ● Math: Subtraction and Addition fluency
May/June			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Studies: National Holidays ● Science: Our Earth, recycling ● Writing: Exploring Non-Fiction ● Reading: Non-Fiction; Honing Reader Tools ● Math: Teen numbers and Ten Frames 			