



BEGINNING SCHOOL CURRICULUM 2011-2012

LANGUAGE ARTS

Three-Year-Old Program

Reading:

- Introduction to letters and sounds
- Literature appreciation—teacher introduction of reading materials
- Vocabulary expansion
- Uses multi-sensory approach to teaching letters and sounds
- Development of listening skills

English/Speech:

- Development of listening skills
- Introduction to nursery rhymes, poetry, finger plays
- Vocabulary expansion
- Encouragement of good speech habits
- Encouraging use of complete sentences
- Introduction to speaking before a group—programs, show and tell, etc.

Writing:

- Introduction to writing instruments—correct grip
- Air writing to integrate formation, sound of letters
- Development of letter formation using finger, hand control
- Introduction to writing of first names
- Introduction of straight, curved lines using a crayon

Library:

- Introduction to care of books
- Introduction to front/back of books
- Introduction to turning pages
- Introduction to left-to-right orientation of print
- Introduction of illustrations as a reading cue
- Literature appreciation—listening to teacher read books and stories
- Development of listening skills

Four-Year-Old Program

Reading:

- Identification and blending of letters and sounds
- Formal reading according to readiness and ability
- Comprehension
- Phonetic introduction to reading using multi-sensory approach
- Initial, ending sounds
- Rhyming sounds and words
- Word families
- Sight words
- Short and long vowels
- Literature enrichment

Writing:

- Introduction to writing of first and last names
- Introduction to letter formation with a pencil, with and without a grip
- Air writing to integrate formation and sound of letters
- Writing simple sentences—statements, questions, exclamations
- Introduction to basic punctuation—period, question mark, exclamation mark
- Writing numbers

English/Speech:

- Acting out rhymes and stories
- Vocabulary expansion
- Development of communication skills
- Development of good speech habits
- Memorization of simple verse
- Nursery rhymes, poetry, finger plays
- Continued development of public speaking skills—programs, show and tell, etc.

Library:

- Development of book skills
- Development of left-to-right orientation of print
- Awareness of author, illustrator
- Continued reinforcement of illustrations as reading cues
- Literature appreciation—listening to teacher read books, stories, poetry
- Development of listening skills

Young-Five Program

- Introduction to creative writing
- Poetry memorization/recitation
- Vocabulary expansion
- Acting out stories
- Synonyms/antonyms
- Writing across the curriculum

MATHEMATICS

Three-Year-Old Program

Counting to 50
Classification, sorting
Identification of basic shapes
One-to-one correspondence to ten
Recognizing and creating patterns
Number relationships—comparing
Math manipulatives
Reading numbers to 20
Introduction to the calendar—days of the week, months
Introduction to graphing
Measurement—length, weight using non-standard units of measurement
Directional concepts
Numeration—order and sequence
Size—small, medium, large

Four-Year-Old Program

Counting to 100 by ones, tens, and fives
Classification and sorting
One-to-one correspondence to 20
Patterning and sequencing
Math manipulatives—geo-boards, pattern blocks, etc.
Number relationships—comparisons
Introduction to problem solving
Reading numbers to 100
Continued calendar work—days, weeks, months, seasons
Introduction to money—pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters
Measurement—length, width, height
Introduction to deductive reasoning
Basic addition, subtraction
Tangrams
Attribute blocks
Time to hour/half hour
Continued graphing skills
Continued color and shape recognition—geometric shapes
Using a recipe
Writing numbers to 30

Young-Five Program

Fractional parts— $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$
Addition and subtraction
Money—pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, dollars
Introduce time to the half-hour, five minutes
Numeral recognition to 100
Counting by fives, tens
Introduction to counting by twos
Math board games
Deductive reasoning
Create and interpret graphs

SCIENCE

Introduction to gardening—planting seeds, bulbs, plants
Introduction to the five senses
Introduction to the four seasons
Concept of living/nonliving
Introduction to animals—their habits and features
Introduction to birds
Introduction to reptiles
Introduction to insects
Cooking projects

Gardening—planting seeds, bulbs, plants
Parts of plants, trees, flowers
The four seasons
The five senses
Development of awareness of the characteristics of:
• Animals • Reptiles
• Birds • Insects
Animal habits and animal families
The desert
Introduction to the human body
Science experiments as appropriate with topics listed
Basic introduction to maps, globes
Introduction to research
Magnet exploration
Cooking projects

Integrated writing with science
Introduction to scientific method
Hands-on experiments

SOCIAL STUDIES

Three-Year-Old Program

Community helpers
Introduction to communities: school, city, and state
Introduction to holidays and celebrations
Presidents—Washington, Lincoln
The child's world
Introduction to famous historical figures—Columbus, Martin Luther King, Jr.
Introduction to geography
Special research topics developed by teachers

Four-Year-Old Program

Holidays and celebrations—Nevada Day
The child's world—communities: school, city, and state
Community helpers
Presidents—Washington, Lincoln
Basic introduction to our state and country
Development of basic understanding of geography/geographical areas
Appreciation of different cultures
Special research topics developed by teachers

Young-Five Program

Integrated writing with social studies
Map skills—continents, oceans
Compass rose
Map key
United States capitals

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Three-Year-Old Program

Movement exploration
Following auditory instructions
Introduction to cooperative play
Development of large muscle skills—
balance beam, hopping, galloping,
jumping
Simple group games
Introduction to yoga
Learning to take turns
Major body parts
Introduction to nutrition
Introduction to healthy habits

Four-Year-Old Program

Movement exploration
Following auditory instructions
Introduction to organized games and
relays—teamwork
Introduction to good sportsmanship
Development of large muscle skills—hopping,
skipping, jumping
Development of ball-handling skills
Balance beam—walking forward and backward
Continued yoga skills and body control
Major body parts
Nutrition
Healthy habits

Young-Five Program

Extension of organized games and
movement activities

MUSIC

Three-Year-Old Program

Introduction to singing skills—rhythm,
pitch
Creative movement to music
Singing games
Rhythm band
Introduction to instruments of the
orchestra
Introduction to music appreciation
Children's song/songs for the holidays
Introduction to simple dance

Four-Year-Old Program

Creative movement to music
Introduction to singing skills—rhythm,
pitch
Music appreciation
Singing games
Introduction to simple dance
Rhythm band
Introduction to instruments of the
orchestra
Children's song—songs for the holidays, etc.

Young-Five Program

Music appreciation—the masters
Annual class performances on
stage
Integrated writing with music

ART

Three-Year-Old Program

Creative drawing, painting from
imagination
Introduction to various mediums—clay,
paint, cut paper
Teacher-directed art activities to develop
listening skills, following directions
Introduction to scissors, paint brushes, art
tools
Collage—use of mixed media
Art activities to reinforce letter sounds—
alphabet book

Four-Year-Old Program

Creative drawing, painting from imagination
Continued introduction to various mediums—
clay, paint, tissue paper, cut paper, etc.
Teacher-directed art activities to develop
listening skills and following directions
Continued introduction to art tools—smaller
brushes, design scissors, foam, collage
materials
Multi-step art projects
Nursery rhyme books

Young-Five Program

Art appreciation—the Masters
Experimentation with painting in the
style of the Masters
Extended creative art exploration
Integrated writing with art

SPANISH

Three-Year-Old Program

Introduction to basic vocabulary

- Clothing
- Weather
- Feelings
- Zoo animals
- Parts of the body
- Members of the family
- Colors

Calendar—days of the week

Introduction to greetings

Development of listening skills

Songs, games, manipulatives
to reinforce vocabulary

Introduction to counting to ten
in Spanish

Four-Year-Old Program

Basic vocabulary

Greetings

Development of listening skills

Colors

Counting to ten in Spanish

Members of the family

Rooms of the house

Shapes

Calendar—days of the week,
months of the year

Clothing

Parts of the body

Weather

Feelings

Food

Zoo animals

Songs, games, and manipulatives to
reinforce vocabulary

Young-Five Program

Asking/answering
questions in Spanish

Vocabulary extension