



Elementary Course Descriptions

Kindergarten Courses

Language Arts

This Kindergarten Language Arts course will teach students to identify and write all letters, produce letter sounds and also frequently used phonograms. Students will also master weekly sight words and reading and comprehension strategies to grow as readers. All Common Core K LA standards are met in this course.

Math

Students will learn foundational math facts. They will learn to count to 12, how to compare sizes, ordinal numbers putting items in order, what a number line is and its uses, basic measurements such as inches and feet, and how to tell time on digital and analog clocks. Students will have many opportunities to practice these new concepts by interacting with online confirmation exercises and filling out worksheets off line. A special emphasis is for students to have fun with numbers, finding success with concepts such as bigger and smaller and being comfortable in an online environment. Students learn to count to twenty. They work with comparing objects using the terms tall, longer, and shorter as well as comparing two objects using the terms lighter and heavier. They will continue their exploration of basic geometric shapes such as cones and spheres. They will work with the concept of first, middle, and last. Projects include making paper fingers and thumbs and creating designs with them.

Science

In Kindergarten Science, students in this course will use their senses to explore their world. Students experience nature walks, gardening, and imitative games by exploring varying concepts. Students in this course will continue using their senses to explore their world. Students experience nature walks, gardening, and imitative games by exploring varying concepts.

Social Studies

This course introduces students to their place in the community and the responsibilities of being a member of society. Great figures of U.S. history such as Pocahontas, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are a focus of learning in this semester. Students will also learn about everyday heroes, the responsibilities of pet ownership, the importance of rules, table manners, and eating well. A skill that students will practice throughout the semester is retelling stories. Students may do this by recording audio, retelling the stories orally, or writing their observations. They will learn how to use details and basics of narratives. Projects will help students think about what pets need and defining emotions. Students are introduced to map reading skills. They will be taught to read maps of the U.S. and the world. From learning about location to how water is represented to floor plans, students are introduced to map skills that will last a lifetime. Students will also learn about symbols of the U.S. such as the American flag and the eagle. From there students learn about holidays with a particular focus on Thanksgiving. Another focus is on currency. They will be introduced to what money is, how money can be spent, the power of buying locally, and the difference between wants and needs. Projects will include a piece on distinguishing facts from fiction, buying locally, and focusing on the differences between needs and wants.

Grade 1 Courses

Language Arts

This First Grade Language Arts course will teach students to identify and write all letters, produce letter sounds and also frequently used phonograms. Students will also master weekly sight words and reading and comprehension strategies to grow as readers. All Common Core 1 LA standards are met in this course.

Math

During the first semester students will build fluency with basic math facts. They will learn to count to 100, basic addition and subtraction facts, and how to add double-digit numbers. Students will be introduced to such new concepts as word problems, Venn diagrams, and basic geometric concepts. During the second semester students will begin counting by twos, fives, and tens. They will learn both vertical addition and subtraction. Students are introduced to multiplication and division and the signs used in those operations. They will also study even and odd numbers. There is an emphasis on learning practical skills such as reading thermometers, looking at maps, and understanding the value of coins. Students will have multiple opportunities to practice new skills and knowledge through using integrated online practice problems.

Science

In First Grade Science, students in this course will complete projects that are designed to allow for exploration and discovery. Students observe their surroundings and through observations of the natural world conduct inquiries into topics related to their healthy development.

Social Studies

Students begin to explore basic fundamentals of social studies including map skills, cardinal directions, and will begin to examine maps of the U.S. and the globe. Students will also be introduced to important figures from American history such as Pocahontas, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Clara Barton. A skill that students will practice throughout is retelling stories. Students may do this by recording audio, retelling the stories orally, or writing their observations. They will learn how to use details and basics of narratives. Students will also make maps of their homes, neighborhoods, as well as a personal timeline. Projects will help students think about thoughtful words, showing respect, and being honest. Learners will write, draw, and perform in these projects.

Grade 2 Courses

Language Arts

The 2nd Grade Language Arts course will teach students to spell and write vocabulary, read more fluently, apply grammar concepts, and participate in handwriting and writing activities through thematic units. Students will also continue to master weekly sight words and reading and comprehension strategies to grow as readers. All Common Core 2 LA standards are met in this course.

Math

During the first semester students will build fluency with basic math facts and add and subtract within 100 to solve word problems using strategic methods. Students will also manipulate numbers to 1000 using knowledge of hundreds, tens, and ones. Lastly, students will demonstrate arrays with repeated addition. During the second semester students will use place value to add and subtract within 1000. They will use place value to estimate and solve word problems to demonstrate skills. Students will measure and compare length and represent it on a number line. They will work with money and time to compare value. Students will collect data and represented on graphs to discuss it. Lastly, they will recognize common 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes by specific characteristics.

Science

Second Grade Science introduces students to the process of observation and how important it is to the study of science. Learners will identify their five senses and why they are critical to observation. Students will use these observation skills throughout the course as they examine many different types of animals and their environments. Students begin by observing ants in their own environments and continue onto learning the different types of birds. Students will come to understand plant and animal rhythms and will perform small experiments with plants. Stories will be used to teach the students about nature and interactions that humans have with nature. They will continue to learn about animals and their characteristics habitats, and needs. Students will learn through video, audio stories, hands-on participation and observation with nature. The teachers will conduct live assessments for the topics that had been covered throughout the week's lessons. Grade 2 Science provides students with the opportunity to expand their minds and see for themselves the way that animals and nature are a part of their everyday lives.

Social Studies

In second grade, students in this course will begin to explore the basic fundamentals of social studies including culture, geography, and economics. Students will explore the Ancient Cultures of China, Africa, and the Celts. Students will explore these cultures through ancient folk tales and fables. Learners will create a photo book that describes the significant events in their own life. They will also examine the importance of geography and direction. Students will learn how to locate boundaries while using a world map. Students will identify the places that were discussed in the previous lessons including Africa, China, and the British Isles. They will develop a rudimentary understanding of map symbols as they locate continents, the equator, and oceans. Students will also learn to identify on a road map where they live, rivers, mountain ranges and lakes nearby their homes. Learners will follow a step-by-step approach for successfully completing each lesson, which includes storytelling, repetition, projects, arts and crafts, and videos.

Grade 3 Courses

Language Arts

This Third Grade Language Arts course will teach students to reading comprehension skill and strategies to help them become stronger readers. Students will also master weekly spelling and vocabulary words and grammar concepts that will help them become stronger writers. All Common Core Third Grade LA standards are met in this course.

Math

During the first semester, students will build flexibility with numbers as they master addition and subtraction facts as well as multiplication and division facts. Students will understand relationships between addition and subtraction, multiplication and addition and multiplication and division as they learn to borrow, carry, and regroup in order to find sums and differences of two whole numbers up to 10,000. Students will also comprehend the place value of base ten numbers up to 1,000,000 in order to find patterns and make estimations. Lastly, they will implement a 4-step approach to solving problems and express numbers differently including translating them into Roman Numerals or expressing them as ordinal numbers. During the second semester, students will explore concepts of measurement including linear measurement, weight, volume, temperature, and time. They will also recognize, compare, and convert fractions. Students will write amounts of money and make change using as few coins as possible. Lastly, students will examine lines, polygons, and solid figures as they are introduced to basic concepts of geometry.

Science

Third grade science introduces students to experimentation as they journey through the earth and its many miracles. They will begin by learning about the earth, the sun and the moon. By participating in simple experiments students will explore the water cycle, gravity, the weather and it's patterns, various types of terrain, and the role of plants in the production of oxygen and their importance to human survival. Learners will expand their knowledge through video, pictures, short readings, projects, and hands on experiments. Learners will understand that experiments require the use of instruments, observation, recording, and drawing evidence based conclusions. Grade 3 science provides students with the opportunity to expand their minds and see for themselves the way that science is a part of their everyday lives.

Social Studies

In third grade, social studies students will begin to explore the basic fundamentals of social studies including geography, civics, and economics. Learners will begin by looking at the beginning of civilization and examining the ancient Hebrew civilization, the Phoenicians, and the Kush tribe of ancient Africa. They will then move on to examining the Native American tribes of the Cherokee, Sioux, and Hopi. Students will also look at the first explorers of the Americas and learn about the beginning of the United States. In the first semester students will learn important geographical factors in the ancient civilizations, Native American tribes and in the developing United States. Students will increase their skills by creating maps and looking at the landscapes. They will take a close look at their own personal heritage by mapping their ancestry. Learners will follow a step-by-step approach for successfully completing each lesson, which includes storytelling, repetition, projects, arts and crafts, and videos. The second semester begins with introducing learners to economics and the role that money plays in every civilization. Students learn the difference between natural, human, and capital resources. They also examine the production of goods, trade, specialization, and interdependence, and come to understand the importance that each individual plays in a society's economy. Learners are introduced to Civics by discussing the governmental structure of the Ancient Hebrews and Phoenicians. The purpose and importance of laws and how they are enacted as well as the establishment of government are shown through stories of the Ancient Phoenicians and Native Americans. The course ends by discussing the purpose and nature of government as it relates to the United States.

Grade 4 Courses

Language Arts

Fourth grade Language Arts curriculum integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of vocabulary and grammar in a way that engages today's learners and supports them in building a broad and diverse set of literacy skills. Students study classic literature as well as more contemporary forms, including media and multimedia products. Writing assignments focus on narrative and persuasive modes and emphasize the use of reasoning and details to support opinions. Each writing assignment spans several lessons and guides students through a writing process that begins with prewriting and ends by emphasizing one or more aspects of conventions of standard written English. Students also learn how to participate in collaborative discussion and peer review sessions. In each lesson, engaging and relevant models and step-by-step instruction guide students toward mastery and appreciation of 21st century communication in all its forms and functions.

Math

Grade 4 math uses a varied amount of instructional material to reinforce and teach new math skills to the 4th grade learners. Instruction includes creative videos, mathematical storytelling, practical math applications and repetition to reinforce skills throughout the course. Three areas are focused on and students will finish the course with a strong knowledge in these content areas. The first is developing an understanding and fluency with multi-digit multiplication, and developing the understanding of dividing to find quotients involving multi-digit dividends. The second is developing an understanding of fraction equivalence, addition and subtraction of fractions with like denominators, and multiplication of fractions with whole numbers. The third has learners continuing to work with fractions. They will learn to multiply fractions and convert them to decimals. Students will also begin to learn to equivalent measurements of length, weight, mass, and capacity. They will also learn helpful skills in understanding time, distance, and money. Students will develop an understanding that geometric figures can be analyzed and classified based on their properties, such as having parallel sides, perpendicular sides, particular angle measures, and symmetry. Lessons on rectangles, line plots, angles, figure drawing, polygons, and symmetry will be taught.

Science

Grade 4 Science includes the three main domains of science which are physical, life, and earth and space science. Learners will use various kinds of experimenting, including field studies, systematic observations, models, and controlled experiences. The course begins with the explanation of the scientific method which the students continue to use and build upon throughout the course. The big picture of the earth is examined as students review the life on planet earth, salt and fresh water, and fast and slow changes that occur on the planet. Students go beyond planet earth, though, as they study galaxies, the solar system and other planets. Students examine the ways that forces and motion can be measured and the concept that a single kind of matter can exist as a solid, liquid or gas. Grade 4 science uses many modes of instruction including video presentations, enrichment activities, and hands-on experimentation.

Social Studies

In grade 4 Social Studies learners will use their understanding of social studies skills to explore their local states and communities. They will begin the course by learning the topography of their particular area. Students will do this by creating a detailed landscape model. This project will be hands-on and require students to do research of their communities. Learners will also research local animals and gain an understanding of local Native American ground in their part of the country. This course walks students through the research and report writing steps that will be vital to their continuation of social studies. They will continue to focus on their individual states as they do projects based on local geography, state capitols, as well as nearby natural wonders and landforms. The year also includes an introduction to Colonial history and looking further into frontier life of the early American settlers. Students end by creating a time capsule that demonstrates what was important to early settlers from their particular states. The course uses video, enrichment activities, and project-based learning to enhance the student's social studies skills.

Grade 5 Courses

Language Arts 5

The fifth grade Language Arts curriculum integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of vocabulary and grammar in a way that engages today's learners and supports them in building a broad and diverse set of literacy skills. Students study classic literature as well as more contemporary forms, including media and multimedia products. Writing assignments in semester A focus on narrative and persuasive modes and emphasize the use of reasoning and details to support opinions. Each writing assignment spans several lessons and guides students through a writing process that begins with prewriting and ends by emphasizing one or more aspects of conventions of standard written English. Students also learn how to participate in collaborative discussion and peer review sessions. In each lesson, engaging and relevant models and step-by-step instruction guide students toward mastery and appreciation of 21st century communication in all its forms and functions.

Math 5

Students will learn math topics outlined in this course drawing from a variety of sources, including hands-on activities, interactive lessons, and practical math applications. Students will focus on several critical areas including but not limited to developing fluency with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of fractions. They will also learn to extend division to 2-digit divisors, integrate decimal fractions into the place value system, and increase an understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths. They will develop a fluency with whole numbers and decimal operations. The semester begins with operations and expressions, moves into decimals and money, and ends with more work on fractions. Learners will gain valuable skills as they carry out activities that model real life situations like grocery shopping throughout the semester.

Science 5

Grade 5 Science continues to build on the science skills that have been obtained in years previous. There will be an emphasis on earth and space science, life science, and physical science. Students will begin the course by focusing on earth and space science by looking at the solar system and planets. Students will come to an understanding of the concept of the earth as a sphere and the earth's place in the solar system. The course continues with a focus on physical science and the different tools that can measure force, time, and distance. They will also grow in their understanding of how light and sound travel and interact with each other as well as the different types of energy. Instruction will include real life application, hands-on projects and assessments, and video and short research projects.

Social Studies 5

Grade 5 Social Studies combines the study of United States History through the Civil War with a geographical exploration of the United States and what it has to offer. Students will use their understanding of social studies skills and concepts as they study the development of the United States. The first semester begins with early settlements of North America and allows learners to take an in-depth look into what life was like for colonists and Native Americans. Students will come to understand the causes of the Revolutionary War and the people that played a significant role in it. The semester ends with students examining the new nation and what life was like for European immigrants and those on the frontier. Learners will then look at slavery and what led to the Civil War. The course then takes a departure from American history and takes a more in-depth look into cultures, people, and the geography of the United States from past to present. Students will learn through the use of video, journaling, and varied types of creative instruction.