

3rd and 4th Grade Focus

English

English is literature based, with a focus on comprehension, the development of a more robust vocabulary, exploration of cause and effect, use of prediction and alternative sequencing.

Language Skills

Students will practice to identify and use of parts of speech, focus on past, present, and future tenses and look for linguistic patterns and rules.

Writing Development

Students will explore and experience Poetry and Creative Writing, Narrative writing, Information Reports, Persuasion Papers, and Letters. They will practice and develop editing techniques through prewriting activities, research reports and projects. In class activities will include journaling and cursive writing refinement.

Spelling is based upon the introduction and the practicing of spelling rules.. Students will practice spelling correctly across the curriculum through the inclusion of vocabulary word lists.

Science

3rd grade:

Science will consist of the study and exploration of the concepts of simple machines, different materials and their physical properties, animal adaptation, food chains, biomes, soil, geological formations, and the interdependence of systems.

4th grade:

Science in the 4th grade will consist of the study of Physics (includes Physical Science), Chemistry, Earth Science (includes Geology, Theories of the origin of the Universe, Astronomy), and Biology (which includes Life Science).

In all classes, we will build upon student knowledge from previous years and cover the Scientific Method and proper lab writing techniques. Students will also be asked to create Individual Science Projects

Social Studies

3rd grade

Students will explore history of Europe and the discovery of America, grid maps, latitude and longitude, producers of goods and services as a part of economics, functions of government, famous members of our governments and their contributions, and various traditions and ethnic origins.

4th grade

In 4th grade, students focus on Virginia history from the colonial period through Civil War. They will also explore present day Virginia in the form of its economy, regions, and cultural makeup.

Math

3rd grade

Concepts for 3rd grade math include: Place Value, Rounding, Estimation, Fractions and Simple Computations, Intro to Decimals, Multiplication and Division, Money and Time, Unit Conversions, Sides and Angles, Drawing Geometric Figures, Make Charts, Ordered Pairs, and Equivalent vs. Inequivalent statements.

4th grade

In 4th grade math, students will explore Number and Number Theory, Computation and Estimation, Multiplication and Division, Decimals, Fractions. They will receive ongoing and every increasing instruction in Geometry, Algebra, Measurement and Graphing, and Probability.

Health and P.E.

Students will look take and individual assessment of their habits in relation to Healthy Living, Healthy Eating, Personal Care, Disease Prevention, Managing Stress, Exercise, and Cardiovascular Fitness as is developmentally appropriate. Students will also continue to look at the culturalto explore Substance Abuse and the Effects on the Body. Socially, students will learn Conflict Resolution skills and develop stronger Interpersonal Skills, as well as adopt Physical Activities and Exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle. Within the classroom, students will take part in Rhythmic Movement and develop skills for different muscular and movement activities.

Music and Arts

Through school activities students will explore how to sing in tune and with clear tone quality. They will also experience group singing, music reading, rhythmic dance, folk dance and/or choreography, and creative percussion. They will explore instrumental music groups, and learn to identify instruments from other cultures, as well as to identify different parts on sheet music. All students will gain experience with musical history periods and composers.

In art, students will explore hue, line, shape, shades, texture, space, value, and perspective to create work. They will also reproduce artwork from a historical time period. Students will be called to create their own expressions through artwork in different media. Media can include: Computer art, three-dimensional art, line Art, bas-relief, and many more. Students will use art and architecture to compare cultural differences in societies, and look for the influence of events, media and subject matter in work. Cultural areas of study will include Pre-Columbian, African-American, Colonial American and European art. Student will learn to discuss likes and dislikes concerning a