

## *Dayschool Program Description*

Our Dayschool curriculum is designed to give students active, hands-on experience in science, math and technology. Students focus on developing foundational skills while pursuing advanced interests. Students are encouraged to develop critical thinking skills, observational skills and to communicate effectively through written, oral, and presentational skills.

Within the classroom, teachers focus on thematic teaching, tying subjects together to effectively enhance learning. A top-down approach to content allows students to take in advanced information as they are interested and ready. We utilize a spiraling and tiered method of instruction in which students revisit many content areas throughout their academic experience. This allows them to build continually on what they already know and gives them confidence in areas with which they are already familiar.

Differentiated instruction allows students to experience the same subjects in formats more fitting their learning styles. It also enables students to progress beyond the basic objectives in different areas as they are ready.

We encourage all students to become active learners; to take in information from the world around them. Students learn to discern patterns in their environments. Information is synthesized from data. Information becomes knowledge when students can draw conclusions from the information they have collected. And knowledge, when applied, becomes wisdom.

### *Kindergarten Focus*

#### *Writing Development*

Students will develop skills in letter formation, including upper and lowercase letters. Students will also develop skills in word patterns for spelling, sentence development, capitalization and punctuation.

#### *Language Skills and Reading*

Sight words and CVC words will form a basis for language and reading development. Children will be read to, participate in group readings, and will be encouraged to read independently. Students will become familiar with additional word families, such as consonant blends, silent e, vowel pairs, and compound words. Poetry, songs, and other repetitive literature will be used to reinforce word recognition. Student sight words will be assessed each quarter.

#### *Math*

Base 10, Number Value, and Counting Strategies form the basis for the math focus in the Kindergarten class. Students will develop skills in addition and subtraction, skip counting, number recall and recognition, and problem solving. Students will be introduced to critical thinking strategies. They will also develop skills in measuring, comparing, observing, characterizing, and working with time and money.

### *Social Studies and Science*

Science concepts, such as plants and animals, habitats, adaptation, weather, cycles, simple machines, light and sound, will be introduced to help students develop a basic understanding of their physical world. Concepts, such as culture, location and maps, community, and careers and jobs, help the students to understand the contributions, changes, adaptations, past, present and future goals of people all around us and around the globe.

### *Music and Arts*

Students will be introduced to the following objectives in music and art and will continue to explore these areas through out their academic career: Group singing, Rhythmic Dance, Creative Percussion, Instrumental Music Groups, Identify Instruments from Other Cultures.

In art, students will also explore hue, line, shape, shades, texture, space, value, and perspective. They will then use these tools to create work, reproduce artwork from a historical time period, and express themselves through their own individual art work. Art work can take the form of computer art, three-dimensional art, line art, bas-relief, painting, drawing, or mixed media.

Students will use art and architecture to, compare cultural differences in societies, look for the influence of events, media and subject, matter in work. Cultural areas of study can include Pre-Columbian, African-American, Colonial American and European. Students will be asked to discuss likes and dislikes concerning a piece of artwork, categorize work by media, subject, artist and genre, and also by representational, nonrepresentational and abstract.

### *Health and P.E.*

Students will develop practices in Healthy Living, Healthy Eating, Personal Care, Disease Prevention, Managing Stress, Exercise, and Cardiovascular Fitness as is developmentally appropriate. Students will also begin to 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.

### *Homework*

1 subject will be given on 2 to 3 nights per week for about 20 mins. Weekends are used only for long-term projects. Homework is used for repetitive practice for skills introduced in class, projects and activities that may need parental supervision or involvement.