

A Quick Reference Guide to Kindergarten at Hopewell Area School District Elementary Schools



Welcome to Kindergarten!

Kindergarten children are inquisitive, always asking why. They are eager, active, and always ready to try new things. Their creativity is boundless and they attack life and tasks with energy and enthusiasm. Our job is to guide and help them develop skills, self-reliance, and an understanding of concepts of themselves and the world around them. We teach with love, involving the children in activities that will open doors to learning new ideas.

Math

The Everyday Mathematics curriculum shows the children that number concepts are an integral part of their daily life. They will learn number concepts from 0 to 30, basic geometry, measurement, patterns, and thinking skills. The children will be encouraged to observe, question, manipulate, and experiment.

Language Arts

The McGraw-Hill Wonders program for Kindergarten guides and encourages the children to listen and participate in reading activities as well as stimulates their creativity and imagination. It shows the children that literature can be a source of pleasure and enrichment as it stimulates and encourages them to develop a love for reading. It also will make the child aware that each letter has a sound relationship and help build the children's writing

The district has also begun to implement a new reading program called Guided Reading by Scholastics. Each student will be assessed and placed into small reading groups where students can read about topics they are interested in and on their reading level.

Science

The Science program will stimulate curiosity and a desire for understanding within the children. It gives the children opportunities for investigation, exploration, and a realization that Science is an integral part of their lives.

Social Studies

The Kindergarten Social Studies program encourages the children to learn about themselves and their relationship to their environment. It helps the children recognize and understand that the past is a link to the present and future.

Homework Policy

Homework is to be returned the day the child returns to school. All papers should be colored in their entirety and any printing or writing should be done in pencil. We ask that the parent help the child to understand the directions and instill a pride in their work by encouraging your child to do his best.

Library

Children in Kindergarten visit the library each week to select books to read with their families. They begin to learn about library rules and routines and the care of books. Each week we read and discuss a picture book. The children respond to the book orally and complete a follow-up activity that relates to the book.

Computers

Students in Kindergarten begin their technology journey by identifying basic parts of the computer and resources within the computer lab. They also begin to develop mouse skills through online activities. Students are introduced to illustrating tools that they use to connect to eBooks. Focusing on directional language and sequencing, students begin to develop coding skills using robots and other online resources. Online safety is also introduced through basic qualities of a good Digital Citizen.

Art

The most important factor in art is that the Kindergarten child makes a personal statement through art. The child focuses all his experiences on himself. The child will become acquainted with and know the different ways to use crayons, scissors, paper, paints, etc. The child will learn to care for all tools, materials, and supplies according to procedure and safety. They will also clean up the work area.

Music

The students in Kindergarten sing songs, enjoy listening to selections and create the expressive quality of music by moving and playing instruments.

They sing songs by rote and clap rhythm patterns. The students sing songs related to special holidays. They demonstrate their musical talents at special performances throughout the year. The students study and develop music that can form a foundation for a lifelong interest in music.

Physical Education

Students will identify and use a variety of basic and advanced movement forms such as running, skipping, hopping, galloping, and sliding. Non-locomotor skills consist of bending, twisting, stretching, turning, and lifting. Students learn control in travel activities, balance activities and basic object control skills. Activities include circle games, ball skills of soccer, kickball, floor hockey and balance skills.