



Hawthorn School District 73

Curriculum Guide for Parents: Kindergarten

What you can expect your child to learn and be able to do.

This guide shares important information about Hawthorn Learning Standards, which are aligned with the Illinois Learning Standards. These standards outline state requirements for your child's learning program and what students across the state should be able to do in certain subjects.

A good educational system provides many tools that help children learn. Curriculum standards are useful for making sure:

- ★ teachers know what is to be taught;
- ★ children know what is to be learned; and
- ★ parents and the public can determine how well the concepts are being learned.

The following pages provide information about learning standards for English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, technology, physical development and health, and fine arts for Kindergarten. For a more comprehensive list, which includes all of the performance indicators, you may view our Curriculum Guide online at www.hawthorn73.org.

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An in-school field trip for Kindergarten students featured Dr. Richard James who brought many of the creatures the students had been studying in their "creepy crawlers" unit. This live ostrich was a highlight of the presentation.

English Language Arts

Through the study of the language arts, students will learn to read fluently and understand a broad range of written materials. They must be able to communicate well and listen carefully and effectively. They should develop a command of the language and demonstrate their knowledge through speaking and writing for a variety of audiences and purposes. In addition, students must be able to study, retain, and use information from many sources.

Big Idea/Topic: Developing Ways to Communicate.

By the end of kindergarten, students will be able to...

Literacy

(Reading/Listening/Speaking)

- ★ Recognize and identify upper and lower case letters.

- ★ Produce and match beginning letter sounds.
- ★ Demonstrate rhyming.
- ★ Blend vowel-consonant sounds orally to make words.
- ★ Demonstrate book sense.
- ★ Use picture clues to gain meaning from text.
- ★ Apply prior experience and knowledge to comprehend reading materials.
- ★ Recognize his/her own name.
- ★ Demonstrate interest in literature activities.
- ★ Recall the characters and setting of a story.
- ★ Draw pictures to convey the main idea of a story.
- ★ Recall a story sequence.
- ★ Recall a story plot.
- ★ Participate in language activities.
- ★ Respond appropriately to questions.

- ★ Take turns when speaking.
- ★ Seek answers to questions through exploration.
- ★ Follow two-step instructions.
- ★ Organize words, pictures, and objects into basic categories.
- ★ Recognize different types of books and their uses.

Writing

- ★ Write upper and lowercase letters correctly and use capital letters when using the word “I” and writing his/her own name.
- ★ Communicate an idea with pictures and words.
- ★ Write words based on how they sound, using initial consonants and ending sounds.
- ★ Write simple sentences.

Mathematics

Mathematics is a language we use to identify, describe, and investigate the patterns and challenges of everyday living. It deals with numbers, quantities, shapes, and data, as well as numerical relationships and operations. Mathematics is a way of approaching new challenges through investigating, reasoning, visualizing, and problem solving with the goal of communicating the relationship observed and problems solved to others.

Big Idea/Topic: Developing Concepts and Skills in Math.

Number Sense

- ★ Identify whole numbers to 20 and recognize placement on number line.
- ★ Count to 20.
- ★ Count one-to-one using manipulative to 50.
- ★ Count by 5s and 10s to 50.
- ★ Write numbers to 20 in order.
- ★ Count and compare the number of objects in a set using math language (more, less, and numbers).
- ★ Demonstrate an understanding of number stories using manipulatives.

- ★ Solve beginning addition and subtraction equations using manipulatives up to 10.
- ★ Count backward from 10 to 1.
- ★ Order quantities from least to most and most to least.

Estimation and Measurement

- ★ Measure objects using a variety of tools.
- ★ Estimate numbers of objects in a set.
- ★ Recognize the attributes of length, volume, and weight.
- ★ Estimate using nonstandard measurement tools.

Algebra and Analytical Methods

- ★ Sort, classify, and order objects by size, number, and other properties.
- ★ Solve problems using everyday situations.
- ★ Solve beginning addition and subtraction equations using manipulatives or pictures.
- ★ Create, describe, and extend patterns.
- ★ Use the words “all”, “none”, and “some” to describe objects in a set.

Geometry

- ★ Identify, create, and describe two-dimensional shapes.
- ★ Sort, classify, and compare familiar shapes.
- ★ Show understanding of and use direction, location, and position words.
- ★ Identify and describe objects in real life that have geometric shapes.
- ★ Build and take apart structures formed with geometric shapes.

Data Analysis and Probability

- ★ Answer questions and make predictions based on given data.
- ★ Read and interpret data from pictographs and bar graphs.
- ★ Collect and organize data to create a simple graph.
- ★ Use the word “NOT” to organize some information and explain why it is used.
- ★ Describe patterns in nature and daily routines.

Science

The goal of science education is to develop in learners an understanding of the inquiry process as it is related to key concepts and principles of the life, physical, and earth/space sciences. The curriculum addresses the integration of the sciences with technology and society as students learn to connect the importance of scientific knowledge to its application in everyday life.

Scientific Inquiry and Technological Design

- ★ Observe, identify, and discuss scientific topics.
- ★ Collect, describe, compare, and record information using simple tools and equipment.
- ★ Seek information through observation, exploration, and investigation.
- ★ Use senses to explore and observe materials.

Life Science: Characteristics of Living Things

- ★ Observe, categorize, and describe characteristics of living things.
- ★ Describe and group objects in terms of observable physical properties.
- ★ Group and classify animals in more than one way.
- ★ Identify animal parts and tell their jobs.

Physical Science: Properties of Objects and Materials

- ★ Use senses to make observations.
- ★ Use observations to make predictions.

Earth /Space Science: Properties of Earth Materials

- ★ Explore and describe properties of rocks, soils, water, and air.
- ★ Classify earth materials in more than one way.
- ★ Conduct tests on earth materials.

Science, Technology, and Society

- ★ Demonstrate safe science practices in school settings.
- ★ Describe how technology makes life and work easier.
- ★ Describe where technology can be found in real life situations.

Safety and Practices of Science

- ★ Identify and reduce potential hazards in science activities.
- ★ Identify and demonstrate proper use of laboratory equipment.

Social Studies

The study of social studies helps students develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good. Students are preparing to become citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world. The curriculum integrates the disciplines of social science to promote civic competence.

Big Idea/Topic: All About Me.

Political Science/Government

- ★ Name rules and responsibilities, which students have at home, in school, and in public places.
- ★ Describe rules that help students treat each other fairly.
- ★ Demonstrate ways students help each other (e.g., taking turns, sharing).
- ★ Describe a person who provides positive leadership for others at home, school, and community.
- ★ Describe a situation where people discuss a problem and decide what to do.

Economics

- ★ Know that people work to have food, clothing, and shelter.
- ★ Describe the jobs they do at home.
- ★ Identify workers they see at school.
- ★ List things you want and label them as “wants.”
- ★ Identify a choice when buying something you want.

History

- ★ Know your birthday.
- ★ Know important holidays and why they are important.
- ★ Place a series of events that happened in your lifetime in the order they happened.
- ★ Describe a family tradition.

Geography

- ★ Know where you live.
- ★ Know what it is like where you live.
- ★ Describe daily changes in the weather and in the seasons where you live.
- ★ Identify the globe as a model of the Earth.

Social Science

- ★ Explain all of my roles. (Son/ daughter, sister/brother, classmate, etc.)
- ★ Tell and show how my roles are the same or different from others in my classroom.

Technology

Technology is one of many tools that students have at their disposal as they engage in the learning process. Educational technology is the application of technology to the learning process. Technologically literate students access and acquire knowledge, exchange ideas and opinions, solve problems, and

create, innovate, and express themselves through the skillful use of a variety of technologies. Technology is integrated into the classroom through regular planned activities and is used by students when its use will increase understanding and enhance learning.

Tools, Knowledge, and Skills

- ★ Open and close windows.
- ★ Use basic keyboarding keys (letter, number, space bar, enter, backspace, shift).
- ★ Create computer-generated drawings.
- ★ Demonstrate respect for computer equipment.

Physical Development and Health

Physical development programs offer students the opportunity to enhance the capacities of their minds and bodies. Healthy minds and bodies are basic to academic success and, later in life, to enhancing the ability to contribute to a productive work environment. The health curriculum focuses on health promotion, safety, and understanding the human body and how it grows and develops. Problem

solving, communication, responsible decision making, and team-building skills are major emphases, as well. More specific goals are outlined in the curriculum guide in the following areas: movement skills, physical fitness, team-building, principles of health promotion, human body systems, and promoting health and well-being.

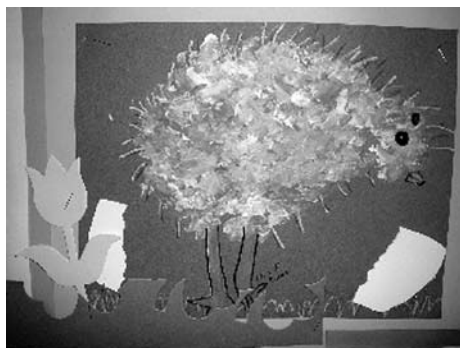
Movement and Me

- ★ Understand that rules help us to be safe and make good decisions.
- ★ Develop good social skills and relationships.
- ★ Know how to improve physical fitness.
- ★ Understand the importance of physical fitness and exercise for life-long healthy habits and lifestyles.
- ★ Be able to keep yourself safe.

Fine Arts

In addition to their intrinsic value, the arts contribute to children's development and enrich the quality of life. The fine arts—dance, drama, music, and visual arts—are fundamental ways of knowing and thinking. The fine arts curriculum addresses the language of the fine arts, sensory elements, organizational principles, expressive qualities, and how the arts are similar, different, or related to one another. Students also learn

how to interpret visual images, sounds, movement, and story. The creation and performance of the arts is emphasized along with the role of the arts in civilization.



The Arts and Me

- ★ Understand that there are a variety of elements in each of the arts.
- ★ Use tools and processes of the arts appropriately.
- ★ Find and share how the arts are everywhere in their environment.