

**Nursery** students (children who have turned 3 by July 31) are in for an exciting year, filled with developmentally appropriate, child-centered curriculum. Meaningful, hands-on learning activities help each child progress through the unique stages of development with support from a low student-teacher ratio in the classroom. Social and emotional development, as well as intellectual growth, are promoted and reinforced through theme-based experiences as well as daily routines.

The school's curricular benchmarks begin in Nursery, building and spiraling through subsequent grades. Here, the foundation is set for children to become active problem solvers and critical thinkers. Nursery curricular benchmarks include:



## Literature/Language Arts

Develop listening proficiencies ♦ Build rich vocabulary through oral language and high-quality literature ♦ Exposure to and concepts about print ♦ Linguistic awareness through games, rhymes, rhythmic activities ♦ Dictate ideas about work, the environment and factual knowledge ♦ Develop writing skills through manipulative and fine motor activities

## Mathematics

Identify, describe and create with shapes ♦ Measure objects using non-standard units ♦ Create simple graphs ♦ Match and sort objects according to attributes ♦ Draw, paint and build using math ideas ♦ Represent quantities and concepts with objects ♦ Define and solve problems by trial and error and object manipulation

## Social Studies

Develop awareness of humans' basic needs and similarities ♦ Extend understanding of themselves and the world ♦ Carry out leadership roles in classroom

- ♦ Make individual and group decisions
- ♦ Order events in sequence to establish a sense of order and time
- ♦ Expand knowledge of the geography of Community School and class community
- ♦ Country studied: United States

## Science

Foster an appreciation for the natural world ♦ Experiment with simple tools ♦ Experiment with objects and materials to gather information and observe reactions ♦ Respect physical environment and its conservation ♦ Explore physical properties and characteristics, solve problems and represent observations on the physical and natural world, in earth and space ♦ Understand that all humans have basic needs and similarities ♦ Develop critical thinking skills

## French

Learn vocabulary and language structures through listening, singing, miming, fingerplays, games and activities ♦ Experience monthly themes including greetings, clothing, food, animals,

counting, colors, shapes and family members ♦ Incorporate movement and activity with vocabulary

## Physical Education

Practice locomotor and non-locomotor actions ♦ Develop spatial and outdoor awareness ♦ Experience rhythmic patterns in large and small muscle movements ♦ Practice ball skills ♦ Participate in creative movement activities

## Music

Develop listening skills ♦ Practice locomotor and non-locomotor actions ♦ Experience rhythm and beat patterns, in large and small muscle movements ♦ Perform fingerplays, songs, rhymes and poems ♦ Explore voice concepts ♦ Play various percussion instruments ♦ Practice speaking and singing into a microphone

## Art

Promote creativity ♦ Develop problem solving and critical thinking skills ♦ Experience a variety of media ♦ Develop basic fine motor skills ♦ Introduce great master artists through art history ♦ Communicate ideas through art

## Drama

Practice tracking performers ♦ Demonstrate appropriate audience behavior ♦ Identify difference between actor and audience ♦ Practice expression through theatre games

