

# The Kindergarten Day

The activities listed will take place every day or in some cases most days, but will not necessarily take place in the order in which they are listed.

## English Language Arts (ELA)

- Whole group reading using big books and teacher read alouds of poetry, classic fiction, classic children's books and nonfiction. During this time we will address many concepts including, but not limited to early reading readiness skills (such as book handling and concepts about print), comprehension skills, story elements, and character analysis.
- Literacy Centers: Small group activities focused on reading readiness skills
  - Letter recognition
  - Letter sound correspondence (beginning and ending sounds)
  - Letter formation
  - Rhyming
  - Sight word work
  - Listening
  - Poetry
  - Syllabication
  - Word families
  - Fine motor practice (clay, lacing letters, threading letter beads, cutting, tracing...)
  - Reading the room and familiar charts
  - Independent reading
  - Buddy reading (and more!)
- Guided Reading (This will start at varying times of the year for students depending on readiness): This is small group direct reading instruction at each child's level. Guided reading takes place during literacy center time.
- Writing Workshop:
  - There will be whole group minilessons followed by small group instruction. Students will begin as soon as the year starts. We will write with pictures at first working on adding more detail to our pictures to help tell our stories. As the year progresses we will start to use letter sounds to approximate spelling and add words to our stories.
  - Students will also have free writing time in their journals each morning.

## Math

- Calendar time: many math concepts will be covered during our calendar routine each day including days of the week, months, number recognition, number sequencing, rote counting, patterning, place value, graphing, and problem solving to name a few.
- Math Centers: Learning centers will be set up for hands on exposure to the various concepts we are working on. For example if we are practicing patterning then we may have a center with pattern blocks, one with snap cubes, another with plastic links, a fourth with lacing beads, and possibly one more with plastic animals. Students would engage in a patterning activity using each material.
- Literature connections: There are many books which teach math concepts. I try to have several books to read to the class which can be applied to the various concepts that we are teaching. For example for our patterning unit we will be reading Pattern Bugs and Pattern Fish. For some concepts we will author our own Math books.

Science and Social Studies: We will have various Social Studies and Science themes throughout the year which will often coincide with a specific time of the year. One recurring Science theme throughout the year will be the theme of cycles as we study the life cycles of various plants, insects, frogs, and also the water cycle. Literacy and the arts are thoroughly integrated into the Science and Social Studies curriculum.

Recess will be given every day for one half hour of active play.

Students will attend special classes each day in one of the following areas: Library, PE, Art, Library, and Computer. We will rotate specials based on a six day cycle. I will remind you of the day and special on the snack calendar.

Lunch in the cafeteria and snack in the classroom will also be part of our daily routines.

Naps will be given on an individual basis. If an individual child desires or requires a nap he or she will be allowed to take one during our free read time, but a class nap time will not be given.

## Snack Day and Birthdays

Each child is assigned at least one snack day every month. On their snack day they should bring the following:

1. A healthy snack for the entire class. We currently have 16 students.
2. A Show and Tell item. (This is the only day they are allowed to bring toys from home.)
3. A favorite book they would like read to the class.

I will assign your child snack on their birthday or as close to their birthday as is possible. On their birthday they will be allowed to bring in cupcakes for snack. If you choose not to have your child celebrate a birthday, then please let me know, and I will respect those wishes.