

KINDERGARTEN COURSE OF STUDY

Kindergartens in Los Altos Schools are committed to maintaining students' natural curiosity and confidence in themselves as learners while developing students behaviors that will enable them to become active and focused learners in a classroom setting. The following summary of the instructional program provides an overview of the Kindergarten year. Expectations are modified or expanded to meet a child's needs and abilities. The Kindergarten program builds on skills and knowledge children learn at home or pre-school.

Curriculum standards are what all grade-level students are expected to know and be able to do by the end of a school year. Key standards of kindergarten education are highlighted below. If you would like a complete description of kindergarten standards, you may download them from the [California Department of Education](http://www.cde.ca.gov/bs/ed/si/pd/curriculum/standards/standards_kinder.asp) website.

If you have questions about curriculum, please contact your child's teacher.

MATHEMATICS

Adopted Programs	Scott Foresman envision
<i>Number Sense</i>	Compares two or more sets of objects (Up to 10 objects in each group) Counts, recognizes, represents, names and orders a number of objects up to 30 Use concrete objects to determine the answers to + & - problems less than 10
<i>Algebra and Functions</i>	Sorts objects and describes their attributes
<i>Measurement & Geometry</i>	Uses measurement skills (length and weight) Demonstrates understanding of concepts of time (morning, afternoon, today, etc.) Compare familiar plane and solid objects by common attributes
<i>Statistics, Data & Probability</i>	Poses information questions, collects data and records using graphs Identifies, describes, and extends simple patterns

READING-LANGUAGE ARTS

Adopted Programs	Houghton Mifflin Medallions Edition, Reading
<i>Reading</i>	
Concepts of Print:	Demonstrates understanding of how books work
Phonemic Awareness:	Names all upper case letters in random order Names all lower case letters in random order Rhymes words
Decoding:	Knows all short vowel sounds Knows all consonant sounds
Word Recognition:	Reads simple one-syllable words
Comprehension:	Retells familiar stories
<i>Writing</i>	
Organization:	Writes by moving from left to right and top to bottom
Application:	Copies letters and words
Spelling:	Writes own first name correctly Writes words using phonetic or standard spelling
Penmanship:	writes letters of the alphabet independently

Listening and Speaking

Comprehension:	Speaks clearly and understandably Follows simple two-step directions Sits and remains focused on a 15-minute lesson
Applications:	Describes common objects and events Recites short poems rhymes, and songs in a group Speaks in complete sentences Shares ideas and takes part in class discussions

SCIENCE

Adopted Programs	FOSS, Wood and Paper (Physical), Animals 2 x 2 (Life), Trees (Earth)
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Scientific Process Skills

Has knowledge of scientific process
Communicates observation orally or in drawings

Life, Physical or Earth Sciences

Matter:	Describes objects by physical properties Knows that the properties of water can change
Plants & Animals:	Names the main parts of plants Names the main parts of animals
Land, Air & Water:	Knows Earth is composed of land, air, and water Demonstrates understanding the changes in seasons and weather

SOCIAL STUDIES

Adopted Programs	Scott Foresman, Here We Go
Geography:	Understands how maps are used
Community:	Understands how people work together to create a community

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Adopted Programs	SPARK PE
Developing large and small muscles through body movement activities.	

FINE and PERFORMING ARTS

Singing, music appreciation, classroom instruments, rhythmic movement, visual and performing arts.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

For children who qualify, the District offers programs for English Language Learners, Gifted and Talented, Speech and Language Development, Special Education, Psychological Testing and Counseling, and Home Teaching.