

St. Mary of Gostyn School

Kindergarten Curriculum Guide



Social Studies

Kindergarten students develop an awareness of the world around them.

The focus will be:

- Families
- Friends
- Neighborhoods
- Working together
- How we travel
- Celebrations

Religion

Kindergarteners will learn through stories, activities, Scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection about their Catholic faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in all subject areas.

The focus is on:

- Traditional common prayers
- Creation
- God, Jesus, Mary and the Holy Spirit
- Celebrating liturgy
- Baptism
- How to respect each other
- Lives of saints

Physical Education

In Kindergarten, students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Students will:

- Maintain personal fitness
- Acquire an awareness of personal health needs
- Demonstrate gross motor skills
- Participate in cooperative group games

Science

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning and explaining.

Students will study:

- Plant and animal growth
- Investigating habitats
- Senses
- Seasons
- Force and motion
- Weather

Math

Kindergarten students will acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems using the text My Math.

Students will:

- Identify and count numbers from 0-100
- Add and subtract numbers up to 10
- Understand the concept of zero
- Solve simple word problems
- Chart, compare and graph data
- Compare height and weight
- Use a calendar
- Sort by size and shape
- Compare numbers
- Identify patterns, shapes
- Count to 100 by fives and tens
- Identify and describe characteristics of shapes
- Use manipulatives to solve for an unknown

Music and Spanish are also offered in our curriculum to enhance the learning and culture in our school community.

Language Arts/Writing

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas. The textbook used for reading is Wonders.

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Readings/Literature:

Children through the series experience authentic literature in the form of poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, biographies, fantasies and plays.

Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills:

- Linking spoken and written language
- Using word identification strategies
- Developing vocabulary (includes listening and sight)
- Using structural analysis
- Comprehending the main idea
- Sequencing events of a story
- Analyzing details
- Using context clues
- Distinguishing fact from fantasy
- Making predictions
- Using glossary & dictionary

Writing:

Kindergarten students use writing to convey meaning.

Students will:

- Write effectively using words and pictures to convey thoughts
- Write simple sentences
- Apply spelling knowledge (skills are developed through a variety of spelling and phonetic patterns)
- Apply grammar and mechanics
 - Capitalization
 - Complete sentences
 - Basic punctuation

Listening/Speaking:

Kindergarten students will listen for understanding, follow directions, and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions.

Students will:

- Present material orally
- Participate in discussions
- Read & retell stories

STEAM Lab

The Robotics and Programming section of STEAM will focus on technology activities including the Sphero robotics program. These activities will be more teacher-led and focused on using critical thinking and problem-solving skills to program and code the robots to solve problems and accomplish goals.

The Makerspace section of STEAM will focus on hands-on activities in which students will work independently and collaboratively with their peers to devise solutions to problems and utilize a wide variety of tools to accomplish goals. The Makerspace is more student-led and explorative, while still maintaining structure with students working towards a common goal.