



K / 1
2018-2019 Curriculum Overview
(alternates yearly)

Social Studies	<p>This year, the K/1's explore the following units of study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is family?• What is community? <p>Related Field Trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• K/1 Field Day at Lake Temescal• All-School Field Day at Lake Temescal
Reading	<p>In the K/1 classrooms we use a balanced literacy approach throughout our daily reading program. Activities include meaning-based as well as phonics-based instruction. Children work independently, in small groups, and with the whole class to develop as readers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guided Reading group (<i>Teachers College</i>) strategies: directionality, one to one matching, initial sound, skipping, picture cues, and context clues• Fluency development• Phonics activities (<i>Teachers College</i>): letter sounds, blends, digraphs, short and long vowels, word families, and spelling patterns• Partner reading• Poems and songs• Comprehension strategies (<i>Making Meaning</i> and <i>Mosaic of Thought</i>): making predictions, making connections, visualizing, and retelling• Read-alouds• Morning message• Library visits• Self-selected literature• Sight word study• Literature connections across the curriculum
Writing	<p>Our balanced writing program incorporates creative, as well as content-based, writing. Writing Workshop is based on the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project model. Students edit their work for meaning as well as for conventions. Authors publish at the culmination of each unit. Children also write non-fiction with a purpose. Writing at the K/1 stage looks different for each student. Some are dictating, some are sound spelling, and some are writing more conventionally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing Workshop units<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Launching Workshop/Narrative Writing○ Information Writing○ Opinion Writing○ Fiction Writing• Poetry• Letter writing• Class books (often social studies based)• During weekly handwriting instruction (<i>Handwriting Without Tears</i>) K/1 students learn and practice letter formation.

Math

Our math program (*Bridges in Mathematics, 2nd Edition*) is a balance of whole-class investigations, small group explorations, and individual work. Children use math manipulatives, play games, work collaboratively and individually, share problem solving strategies, and communicate their mathematical thinking.

Kindergarten units:

- Numbers to Five and Ten
- Numbers to Ten
- Bikes & Bugs: Double, Add and Subtract
- Paths to Adding, Subtracting and Measuring
- Two-Dimensional Geometry
- Three-Dimensional Shapes & Numbers Beyond Ten
- Weight and Place Value
- Computing and Measuring with Frogs and Bugs

1st grade units:

- Numbers All Around Us
- Developing Strategies with Dice and Dominoes
- Adding, Subtracting, Counting and Comparing
- Leapfrogs on the Number Line
- Geometry
- Figure the Facts with Penguins

Science "Land"

In the K/1 science program children develop a deep knowledge and respect for the world around them. Students learn the science curriculum through multiple modalities. Hands-on experiments come from [Full Options Science Systems](#) (FOSS kits) developed at the Lawrence Hall of Science. Students share their previous knowledge, learn new facts, make predictions, observe, and record data as they gain experience in the scientific method. Children learn using movement, visual art, and music. Their studies culminate in a science themed class play each year. Students also participate in meaningful service learning projects.

Essential questions:

- Who lives here?
- What do they need to live?
- How can we help?

Units of study:

- Trees
- Weather
- Redwood Forest
- Land Animals

Possible field trips:

- Lindsay Wildlife Museum
- Joaquin Miller Park
- Berkeley Botanical Garden
- Tilden Naturalist Program

Social- Emotional Learning

Aurora uses the [Open Circle](#) Social Emotional Program developed at the Stone Center at Wellesley College. [Open Circle](#) is an evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum. This innovative program proactively develops children's skills for recognizing and managing emotions, empathy, positive relationships and problem solving. [Open Circle](#) helps schools build communities where students feel safe, cared for, and engaged in learning.

Elements of Open Circle:

- Managing ourselves
- Strengthening relationships
- How to sort problems
- Problem solving

Other elements of the K/1 SEL curriculum include:

- Morning Meeting (*Responsive Classroom*): class promise, greetings, games, songs
- Conflict resolution (*Talk It Out*)
- All-school *Community Creators*
- Partner Pals
- Ally Week