



K/1 Year B
2023-2024 Curriculum Overview
(alternates yearly)

Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This year, the K/1's explore the following units of study:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What is community?○ Aurora School • Possible related field trips<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Lake Temescal Park○ Holy Names High School○ East Bay Community Space/Bushrod Community Garden○ Rockridge Public Library
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 (Teacher's College) strategies: directionality, one to one matching, initial sound, skipping, picture cues, and context clues○ Fluency development○ Phonics activities (Teacher's College Phonics Units & Foundations): letter sounds, blends, digraphs, short and long vowels, word families, and spelling patterns○ Partner reading○ Poems and songs○ Comprehension strategies: making predictions, making connections, visualizing, and retelling○ Read alouds○ Library visits○ Self-selected literature○ Just right book bags○ Sight word study○ Literature connections across the curriculum

Writing

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.

- Writing Workshop units
- Small Moments / Narrative Writing
- Nonfiction Chapter Books / Information Writing
- Persuasive / Opinion Writing
- Letter writing
- Class books (often social studies based)
- During handwriting instruction (*Handwriting Without Tears* and *Foundations*) 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.

K 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
- 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
- One Hundred & Beyond
- Changes, Changes

Science

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 FOSS (Full Options Science Systems) 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.

Essential questions:

- What in the world is made of wood, paper, and fabric? What properties make these materials useful?
- How can we use materials in engineering structures?
- How can we change the motion of an object?
- What is sound and how can we change the properties of sound?
- What is shadow?
- How does light travel and change direction?
- How do animals (including humans) use light?

Units of study:

- Materials & Motion
- Sound & Light

Possible related field trips:

- Exploratorium
- Lake Temescal Park

Social- Emotional Learning

At the K/1 level children work to establish a respectful, cooperative learning community. Children work together while exploring, creating, problem solving, and communicating. Students learn about themselves, their responsibilities to others, and their world. Topics of study include: inclusion, celebrating differences, feelings, and community building.

Elements of Open Circle:

- Managing ourselves
- Strengthening relationships
- Problem solving

Other elements of the K/1 SEL curriculum include:

- Morning Meeting (*Responsive Classroom*): class promise, greetings, games, songs, mindfulness practice
- Conflict resolution (*I Message*)
- All-school Community Creators
- Star of the Week
- Self-regulation (e.g. take a break)
- Writing class books
- Story plays
- Read alouds