

Community School Curriculum Concepts

Early Learner & Lower Elementary

Social & Emotional

- Takes turns; shares with others
- Takes responsibility for classroom chores
- Takes care of his/her own belongings
- Respects others' belongings
- Demonstrates spatial awareness
- Distinguishes between fantasy and reality
- Abides by Community School's "Big One"
- Abides by Community School's procedures, classroom rules, and playground rules
- Understands consequences for not abiding by Community School's procedures and rules
- Develops an appreciation of others
- Articulates needs and wants in a polite manner
- Develops the skills to work with others in small and large group settings
- Follows one- and two-step oral directions
- Follows standards for conversation
- Arrives at school on time
- Speaks in an appropriate voice for a given situation
- Participates in class discussions

Physical

- Participates in activities to encourage small motor development
- Participates in activities to encourage large motor development
- Participates in creative movement activities
- Speaks so that others can understand
- Arrives at school well-groomed; practicing good hygiene techniques
- Eats breakfast before arriving at school; eats a healthy fruit break and lunch
- Arrives at school well-rested
- Develops strategies to handle stressful situations
- Participates in a classroom activity for an age appropriate length of time

Language Arts

- Participates in choral speaking and recitations of short poems, rhymes, songs, and stories with patterns
- Participates in creative dramatics

Three- to Five-Year Olds

- Recognizes specific books by cover
- Pretends to read books
- Understands that books are handled in particular ways
- Enters into a book-sharing routine with caregivers
- Labels objects in books
- Looks at a picture in a book and understands it is a symbol for a real object
- Scribbles
- Distinguishes between drawing and writing
- Produces some letter-like forms and scribbles with some features of English writing
- Understands that alphabet letters are a special category of visual graphics that can be individually named
- Recognizes environmental print
- Understands that it is the print that is read in stories
- Understands that different text forms are used for different functions of print (grocery list vs. menu)
- Pays attention to separable and repeating sounds in language
- Uses new vocabulary and grammatical constructions in own speech
- Shows an interest in books and reading
- Connects stories with real-life experiences
- Asks how and why questions
- Displays reading and writing attempts
- Identifies about ten alphabet letters, especially from own name
- Writes (scribbles) messages as a part of dramatic play

Four- to Seven-Year Olds

As above and...

- Recognizes his/her own name
- Prints his/her own name
- Identifies parts of a book and their functions
- Begins to track print when listening to a familiar text being read or when rereading own writing
- "Reads" familiar texts emergently
- Recognizes and can name all uppercase and lowercase letters
- Understands that the sequence of letters in a written word represents the sequence of sounds (phonemes) in a spoken word
- Recognizes some common words by sight
- Uses new vocabulary and grammatical constructions in own speech
- Makes appropriate switches from oral to written language styles
- Notices when simple sentences fail to make sense
- Connects information and events in texts to life and life experiences in text

- Retells, reenacts, or dramatizes stories or parts of stories
- Identifies and discusses elements of a story (characters, setting, problem, and solution)
- Listens attentively to books being read to class
- Names some book titles and authors
- Demonstrates familiarity with a number of types or genres of text
- Correctly answers questions about stories read aloud
- Makes predictions based on illustrations or portions of stories
- Demonstrates understanding that spoken words consist of sequences of phonemes
- Sorts words orally according to shared beginning, ending, or medial sounds
- Given spoken segments, merges them into a meaningful target word
- Given a spoken word, produces another word that rhymes with it
- Independently writes many uppercase and lowercase letters
- Uses phonemic awareness and letter knowledge to spell independently (kid spell)
- Writes (unconventionally) to express own meaning
- Builds a repertoire of some conventionally spelled words
- Shows awareness of distinction between “kid writing” and conventional writing
- Writes most letters and some words when they are dictated

Mathematics

Three- to Five-Year Olds

- Recognizes the number of objects in small groups with and without counting
- Understands that number words refer to quantity
- Uses one-to-one correspondence to determine quantity of objects
- Matches written numeral to corresponding number given orally
- Orders objects using ordinal numbers orally
- Discusses relative position of objects (above, below, and next to)
- Draws basic geometric shapes (circle, triangle, square, rectangle, and oval)
- Sorts and classifies objects by similar and different attributes
- Sorts and classifies objects by measurable attributes (more, less, or equal)
- Identifies measurable attributes such as length, height, and weight
- Solves problems by making comparisons of objects on the basis of measurable attributes
- Creates simple patterns

Four- to Seven-Year Olds
As above and...

- Creates, interprets, and discusses picture and bar graphs
- Solves word problems orally using basic addition and subtraction
- Identifies and creates patterns
- Recognizes the number in a small set
- Counts the numbers in combined sets
- Counts forward and backward
- Writes numerals in order
- Skip counts by twos, fives, and tens
- Identifies basic geometric shapes
- Identifies basic three-dimensional shapes such as spheres, cubes, and cylinders
- Identifies measuring instruments such as a clock, thermometer, scale, calendar, and ruler
- Tells time to the nearest hour on an analog and on a digital clock
- Identifies, by name, types of United States currency
- Recognizes and compares basic fractions

Science Themes

Sorting and classifying by attributes

Senses and sensory words

Identification and creation of colors

Textures

Properties of water

Basic life needs of plants

Basic life needs of animals

Seasons and calendar

Social Studies Themes

Holidays and cultural studies

Seasons

Geography (relative location and simple maps)

Middle Elementary

Social & Emotional

- Takes turns; shares with others
- Takes responsibility for classroom chores
- Takes care of his/her own belongings
- Respects others' belongings
- Distinguishes between fantasy and reality
- Abides by Community School's "Big One"
- Abides by Community School's procedures, classroom rules, and playground rules
- Develops an understanding of and demonstrates appropriate field trip behavior
- Understands consequences for not abiding by Community School's procedures and rules
- Develops an acceptance of others
- Interacts appropriately with children of different ages during buddy programs
- Articulates needs and wants in a polite manner
- Develops the skills to work with others in small and large group settings
- Follows three- to five-step oral directions
- Follows standards for conversation
- Arrives at school on time
- Speaks in an appropriate voice for a given situation
- Participates in class discussions
- Demonstrates responsibility for class work and homework
- Attempts new challenges

Physical

- Participates in activities to encourage small motor development
- Participates in activities to encourage large motor development
- Participates in creative movement activities
- Speaks so that others can understand
- Arrives at school well-groomed; practices good hygiene
- Eats breakfast before arriving at school; eats a healthy fruit break and lunch
- Arrives at school well-rested
- Develops strategies to handle stressful situations
- Participates in a classroom activity for an age appropriate length of time

Language Arts

- Engages in a variety of literacy activities voluntarily
- Counts the number of syllables in a word
- Decodes one-syllable words

- Uses letter-sound correspondence to sound out unknown words when reading
- Recognizes common, irregularly spelled sight words
- Blends or segments the phonemes in most one-syllable words
- Monitors own reading and self-corrects when identified word does not fit with cues provided by the letters in the word or the context surrounding the word
- Develops a reading vocabulary of 300-500 sight words and easily sounded-out words
- Reads and comprehends both fiction and nonfiction that is developmentally appropriate
- Reads and understands simple written instructions
- Predicts and justifies what will happen next in stories
- Discusses prior knowledge of topics in expository texts
- Uses how, why, and what-if questions to discuss nonfiction texts
- Describes new information gained from texts in own words
- Distinguishes whether simple sentences are incomplete or are illogical
- Answers simple written comprehension questions based on the material read
- Spells correctly three- and four-letter short vowel words
- Creates own written texts for others to read
- Composes fairly readable first drafts using appropriate parts of the writing process
- Uses invented spelling or phonics-based knowledge to spell independently
- Demonstrates spelling consciousness or sensitivity to conventional spelling
- Uses basic punctuation and capitalization
- Begins cursive handwriting
- Identifies and uses various parts of speech orally and in writing
- Produces a variety of types of compositions using printed text, illustrations, and other graphics
- Makes reasonable judgments about what to include in written products
- Discusses ways to clarify and refine own writing and that of others
- Attends to spelling, mechanics, and presentation for final products
- Produces a variety of types of compositions (e.g., stories, reports, correspondence)
- Studies and composes various forms of poetry
- Participates in dramatizations, oral presentations, fantasy play, etc.
- Compares and contrasts live drama productions with classroom literature studies

Mathematics

- Recalls basic addition and subtraction facts
- Identifies and writes numerals up to 100
- Self-corrects inverted numeral formations

- Skip counts by twos, fives, and tens
- Identifies odd and even numbers
- Identifies place value to 1000
- Identifies place value to 10,000
- Compares numbers using comparative symbols (<, >, and =)
- Adds columns of single digit numbers
- Adds columns of double digit numbers without regrouping
- Adds columns of double digit numbers with regrouping
- Subtracts columns of single digit numbers
- Subtracts columns of double digit numbers without regrouping
- Subtracts columns of double digit numbers with regrouping
- Measures using appropriate instrument
- Compares measurements
- Determines area and perimeter
- Tells time to the half hour and quarter hour
- Tells time in five minute increments
- Recognizes United States currency
- Determines value of a variety of bills and coins; makes basic change
- Recognizes and compares basic fractions
- Identifies symmetry and congruency
- Creates, interprets, and discusses picture, pie, and bar graphs
- Determines appropriate mathematical operation needed to solve simple word problems given orally or in writing
- Explores uses of a calculator
- Uses sets of manipulatives to determine basic multiplication facts

Science Themes

Scientific method of inquiry

Identification and use of scientific tools

Weather patterns

Conservation and environmental awareness

Life needs of plants

Life needs of animals

Life processes

Natural cycles

Seasonal changes and their causes

Motion (push, pull, and vibrate)

States of matter

Magnetism

Social Studies Themes

Multicultural awareness and appreciation

Relation of seasonal events to history

Geographical landforms

Historical perspective on everyday life
Historical representation using timelines
Simple cause and effect
Maps and map symbols

Upper Elementary

Social & Emotional

- Takes turns; shares with others
- Takes responsibility for classroom chores
- Takes care of his/her own belongings
- Respects others' belongings
- Distinguishes between fantasy and reality
- Abides by Community School's "Big One"
- Abides by Community School's procedures, classroom rules, and playground rules
- Understands consequences for not abiding by Community School's procedures and rules
- Develops an understanding of and demonstrates appropriate field trip behavior
- Develops an appreciation of others
- Interacts appropriately with younger and older children
- Articulates needs and wants in a polite manner
- Develops the skills to work with others in small and large group settings
- Follows three- to five-step oral directions
- Follows written directions
- Organizes time wisely
- Organizes materials necessary for class work and homework
- Follows standards for conversation
- Arrives at school on time
- Speaks in an appropriate voice for a given situation
- Participates in class discussions
- Demonstrates responsibility for class work and homework
- Expresses opinions in non-threatening manner
- Works toward consensus and compromise
- Demonstrates trustworthiness
- Attempts new challenges
- Accepts and acts upon constructive criticism
- Identifies personal goals (with guidance from teachers and parents/caregivers)
- Determines a plan to reach personal goals

Physical

- Participates in activities to encourage small motor development
- Participates in activities to encourage large motor development
- Participates in creative movement activities
- Speaks so that others can understand
- Arrives at school well-groomed; practices good hygiene

- Eats breakfast before arriving at school; eats a healthy fruit break and lunch
- Arrives at school well-rested
- Develops strategies to handle stressful situations
- Participates in a classroom activity for an age appropriate length of time

Language Arts

- Alphabetizes a list of words
- Identifies and utilizes a dictionary, thesaurus, table of contents, and index
- Identifies and uses various parts of speech orally and in writing
- Identifies compound words, contractions, possessives, and plurals
- Identifies synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
- Reads developmentally appropriate text aloud with fluency and comprehension
- Uses letter-sound correspondence knowledge and structural analysis to decode words
- Develops an appreciation for reading
- Reads a variety of literature
- Reads longer fictional selections and chapter books independently
- Participates in dramatizations, oral presentations, fantasy play, recitations etc.
- Identifies specific words or wordings that cause comprehension difficulties
- Summarizes major points from fiction and nonfiction texts
- Interprets underlying theme or message in fiction
- Asks how, why, and what-if questions in interpreting nonfictions texts
- Locates textual information to support opinions, predictions, and conclusions
- Distinguishes between cause and effect, fact and opinion, main idea, and supporting details
- Infers word meaning from taught roots, prefixes, and suffixes
- Correctly spells previously studied words and spelling patterns in own writing
- Begins to incorporate literacy words and language patterns in own writing
- Writes legibly
- Writes a well-organized paragraph of at least five complete sentences using appropriate punctuation and capitalization
- Uses, with guidance, all aspects of the writing process in producing own compositions and reports
- Combines information from multiple sources in writing reports
- Implements, with assistance, editing and revisions to clarify and refine own writing
- Uses figurative language orally and in writing
- Presents and discusses own writing with other students and responds helpfully to other students' compositions

- Independently reviews work for spelling, mechanics, and presentation
- Produces a variety of written work in a variety of formats including multimedia forms

Mathematics

- Recalls basic addition and subtraction facts
- Rounds whole numbers to the nearest 10 and 100
- Identifies place value to 1,000,000
- Compares numbers using comparative symbols ($<$, $>$, and $=$)
- Adds columns of single digit numbers
- Adds columns of double digit numbers without regrouping
- Adds columns of double digit numbers with regrouping
- Subtracts columns of single digit numbers
- Subtracts columns of double digit numbers without regrouping
- Subtracts columns of double digit numbers with regrouping
- Estimates with some accuracy
- Defines and determines probability
- Solves for mean, median, and mode
- Recognizes and compares basic fractions
- Compares fractions with like denominators
- Simplifies fractions
- Adds and subtracts fractions with like denominators
- Changes mixed numerals to improper fractions and vice versa
- Multiplies and divides fractions with like denominators
- Finds percent
- Adds, subtracts, multiplies, and divides decimals
- Recognizes the relationship between decimals, fractions, and percents
- Measures using appropriate instrument
- Compares measurements using length, weight, and volume
- Determines area and perimeter
- Identifies, creates, and measures lines, line segments, angles, and rays
- Tells time from an analog and a digital clock
- Explores uses of a calculator
- Determines value of a variety of bills and coins; makes change
- Identifies symmetry and congruency
- Uses manipulatives to enhance understanding of spatial relations
- Identifies corners, faces, and edges in plane and solid geometry
- Creates, interprets, and discusses picture, pie, and bar graphs
- Determines appropriate mathematical operation needed to solve word problems given orally or in writing
- Uses logical reasoning to solve problems
- Recalls multiplication facts through ten
- Finds factors
- Solves 2-digit by 1-digit multiplication problems

- Solves 2-digit by 2-digit multiplication problems
- Relates multiplication and division as inverse operations
- Solves 2-digit by 1-digit division problems
- Identifies order of operations and variables (basic pre-algebra equations)

Science Themes

Scientific method

Identification and use of scientific tools

Conservation and environmental awareness

Seasonal changes and their causes

Water cycle

Solar system

Motion (push, pull, and vibrate)

Simple machines

Energy sources

Behavioral and physical adaptations of animals

Food chains

Social Studies Themes

Multicultural awareness and appreciation

Interaction between social, political, and economic life in areas studied

Geographical landforms

Historical perspective on everyday life

Historical representation using timelines

Simple cause and effect

Maps and map symbols including latitude and longitude

Virginia history

Citizenry; interaction between rights and responsibilities

Importance of current events

Middle School

Social & Emotional

- Takes responsibility for classroom chores
- Takes care of his/her own belongings
- Respects others' belongings
- Abides by Community School's "Big One"
- Abides by Community School's procedures, classroom rules, and playground rules
- Understands consequences for not abiding by Community School's procedures and rules
- Respects and is considerate of others
- Articulates needs and wants in a polite manner
- Articulates needs and wants in an effective manner
- Demonstrates ability to work independently and with others in a small and large group settings
- Follows multi-step oral directions
- Follows written directions
- Organizes time wisely in order to meet deadlines
- Organizes materials necessary for class work and homework
- Demonstrates responsibility for class work and homework
- Demonstrates appropriate conversational, discussion, and debating skills
- Expresses opinions in an appropriate manner
- Works toward consensus and compromise
- Demonstrates trustworthiness
- Attempts new challenges
- Accepts constructive criticism
- Identifies personal goals (with guidance from teachers and parents/caregivers) and creates a plan to reach them
- Recognizes their roles in a variety of communities

Physical

- Understands benefits of exercise for physical and mental well-being
- Participates in creative movement activities
- Speaks so that others can understand
- Arrives at school well-groomed; practices good hygiene
- Eats breakfast before arriving at school; eats a healthy fruit break and lunch
- Arrives at school well-rested and on time
- Develops strategies to handle stressful situations
- Participates in a classroom activity for an age appropriate length of time
- Identifies and avoids risky lifestyle choices

Language Arts

- Develops an appreciation for reading
- Reads of variety of literature
- Analyzes literature to understand plot structure, character development, underlying meanings, conflict, theme, motif, metaphor, descriptive language, etc.
- Analyzes literature, using support from texts to generate opinions, predictions, and conclusions
- Compares and contrasts various works of literature
- Recognizes that writing is a multi-step process; organizing ideas, creating a rough draft, proofreading, rewriting, and critique
- Develops and applies knowledge of grammar and mechanics in writing
- Writes in a variety of expository styles including literary critique, historical essay, persuasive essay, and personal essay
- Writes both creative and informative pieces; understands different purposes for writing
- Gives oral presentations and creates other projects to demonstrate knowledge of material read and discussed
- Understanding poetic techniques and devices
- Utilizes a library system to find resources
- Utilizes the Internet, safely and effectively, for research purposes
- Researches independently and writes research report (skims materials for an overview, develops notes that include concepts, paraphrases, and summarizes; organizes informational charts, maps, and graphs)
- References and cites sources appropriately
- Reflects on writing and reading progress; sets appropriate goals
- Views and participates in dramatic performances
- Recognizes that the English language is an amalgam of multiple languages and that spelling reflects these influences

Mathematics (Through Pre-Algebra)

- Basic operations: accurate computation and appropriate application to word problems
- Automatic recall of multiplication and division facts
- Decimals: conceptual understanding, round and compare values, multiplication, and division
- Problem solving: set up a plan, apply a variety of strategies, document work, and check solutions
- Fractions: addition and subtraction with like and unlike denominators, multiplication and division, and simplification
- Statistics and probability: identify landmarks (mean, median, mode, and range), construct and interpret graphs (line, bar, circle, box-and-whisker plot, and stem-and-leaf)
- Identifies patterns and functions

- Ratios and proportion
- Geometry: classification of angles and triangles, coordinate graphing, concepts of parallel and perpendicular, define and identify quadrilaterals and polygons, and understand the concepts of similarity and correspondence
- Pre-algebra skills: order of operations, operations with integers, set up and solve equations, and simplify algebraic expressions
- Measurement: perimeter, area of regular plane figures and irregular polygons, volume of solid figures, circumference and area of circles, standard and metric length, standard and metric weight/mass, liquid volume, standard and metric; temperature, Celsius and Fahrenheit and conversions

Mathematics (Algebra I using *Algebra I: Applications and Connections* published by Glencoe-McGraw-Hill)

- Variables and expressions
- Properties: distributive, commutative, associative, identity, and equality
- Rational numbers: comparing, ordering, adding, and subtracting
- Integers and inequalities and the number line
- Problem-solving strategies
- Solving equations with more than one operation and with the variable on both sides
- Ratios and proportions
- Percent: calculating percent change, discounts, tax, and interest rates
- Solving and graphing inequalities
- Scientific notation
- Polynomials: adding, subtracting, and multiplying
- Multiplying and dividing rational expressions
- Dividing polynomials
- Factoring quadratic equations
- Graphing linear relations
- Slope of a line, writing and graphing slope-intercept equations
- Statistics and probability

Science Themes

Years 1-3

Three year loop of: magnets, electricity, construction, simple chemistry, matter, and physics.

Methodology will include:

Scientific method

- Emphasis on the use of the scientific method: observing, inferring, identifying, and manipulating variables, predicting, hypothesizing,

organizing and interpreting data (data tables and graphs), and investigating experiments using surveys

Experimentation

- Create an experiment using the scientific method; record observations

Written communication

- Maintain a legible lab book to record all pertinent information (date, title, hypothesis, purpose, results, and conclusion)

4th Year

Earth sciences: planetary science, formation of the solar system, plate tectonics, physiographic regions of Virginia, classification of rocks, historical geology, paleontology, meteorology, and oceanography

Life sciences: taxonomy and classification, allopatric speciation, the species concept, survey of the animal kingdom, biology of flowering plants, energy flow of ecosystems, population biology, biomes and ecosystems, and animal behavior

Social Studies Themes

Three year loop of: ancient civilizations, early American settlements to the Civil War, and American history of the 20th century. Instruction incorporates the school-wide theme.

- Analyzes the development of societies
- Recognizes the principles and origins of the United States government
- Recognizes the principles and origins of other forms of government
- Recognizes and appreciates the cultural diversity in our own community, state, and nation
- Recognizes the correlation between historical cycles and current events
- Recognizes that history is not a series of isolated events, but a continuum of small actions that allow great events to occur
- Recognizes the correlation between political and social history
- Demonstrates proficiency interpreting a variety of maps; locate physical and political features
- Uses library resources independently; navigates the Internet for research purposes
- Writes an organized and coherent paper on an assigned topic
- Designs and presents information in a creative manner
- Conducts historical research using primary and secondary sources
- Synthesizes research and paraphrases information in written work
- Answers factual and inferential questions related to reading material
- Documents sources accurately