



Pinewood School

Course Catalog

Grades K–6

477 Fremont Avenue | Los Altos CA 94024 | 650-209-3050
327 Fremont Avenue | Los Altos CA 94024 | 650-209-3030

www.pinewood.edu

revised 04/29/26

Table of Contents

Mission Statement	2
Portrait of a Graduate	2
Portrait of an Educator	3
Technology Policy	3
Curriculum by Subject Area	
<i>Language Arts</i>	4
<i>Mathematics</i>	11
<i>Science</i>	14
<i>History and Geography</i>	16
<i>Spanish</i>	19
<i>Musical Theatre</i>	20
<i>Music</i>	21
<i>Visual Arts</i>	23
<i>Computer Science and Engineering</i>	25
<i>Physical Education</i>	27
Curriculum by Grade Level	
<i>Kindergarten</i>	28
<i>Grade 1</i>	32
<i>Grade 2</i>	36
<i>Grade 3</i>	40
<i>Grade 4</i>	45
<i>Grade 5</i>	50
<i>Grade 6</i>	54

Mission Statement

*Pinewood students seek **knowledge**, demonstrate **character**, build **confidence**, and experience **joy** in an uplifting **community**.*

Our mission statement reflects who we are and serves to guide our steps into the future. We accomplish our mission by following our guiding principles:

- to inspire joyful learning by cultivating curiosity, creativity, and character in our students
- to provide a well-rounded and engaging experience led by teachers who motivate their students through a challenging, content-rich curriculum that promotes academic stamina
- to foster empowering relationships that enable students to flourish as dignified and confident individuals
- to help students develop upstanding behavior by learning core values based on respect
- to graduate students who are productive, purposeful, and compassionate citizens and active members of their current and future communities.

Portrait of a Graduate

Pinewood's student WISCRs outline our goals for student growth and integrate our mission into the daily school experience.

Pinewood graduates are...

Well-rounded Individuals

Pinewood graduates never stop learning and participating as they honor their passions while embracing new challenges.

Insightful and Critical Thinkers

Pinewood graduates develop solutions to complex problems through thoughtful exploration, critical analysis, and the effective application of knowledge.

Self-Motivated

Pinewood graduates lead by example with confidence and tenacity, embracing responsibility as an opportunity to grow and improve.

Clear Communicators

Pinewood graduates employ their exceptional listening and observation skills to deeply connect with others through a variety of media—written, spoken, and visual.

Respectful Individuals of Character

Pinewood graduates demonstrate integrity while honoring the differences of each individual and seeking to resolve conflicts through kindness and compassion.

Portrait of an Educator

Pinewood's faculty WISCRs detail our aspirations for every educator, guiding us in achieving our mission and our student learning outcomes.

Pinewood educators are...

Welcoming

Pinewood educators value everyone's unique experiences and perspectives, promoting an inclusive environment where everyone can be themselves.

Inspiring

Pinewood educators foster a culture of learning by sharing their specialized knowledge and passion, sparking curiosity in students and encouraging them to embrace new challenges.

Student-Centered

Pinewood educators prioritize each individual student's growth, believing strongly in their unlimited potential.

Community-Focused

Pinewood educators build meaningful relationships with colleagues, students, and families, creating a supportive community.

Role Models

Pinewood educators live by our values of compassion, joy, purpose, belonging, and respect, acting as role models as they guide students to become confident individuals of character.

Technology Policy

Our goal is to utilize technology to personalize and deepen the educational experience of our students by developing critical thinking and problem solving skills. We aim to enhance the way students learn, communicate, and connect with the world around them by promoting innovation, creativity, and collaboration.

At Lower Campus (grades K–2), the primary modality of instruction focuses on invaluable kinesthetic and tangible experiences. Technology use is woven throughout the curriculum and is readily available for student and teacher use when developmentally appropriate. To help enrich our curriculum, classrooms have smart TVs and each student has access to an iPad to use as a tool to deepen understanding, reinforce course content, explore topics through a new lens, and to record and share work and performances.

At Middle Campus (grades 3–6) we embrace our responsibility to educate our students to be life-long learners as well as safe and responsible digital citizens. The role that critical thinking skills and technology play in that success is extremely important. Technology at Middle Campus is readily available for teacher and student use. Applications for technology are woven throughout the curriculum to enrich the learning environment as our teachers actively pursue effective strategies for increasing student engagement and enhancing learning outcomes. All 3rd through 6th grade students work with iPads as tools, have access to Apple laptops, and classrooms are equipped with smart TVs.

Curriculum by Subject Area

Language Arts Curriculum

The Language Arts curriculum develops a mastery of skills in reading, spelling, writing, and grammar. Oral reading in small groups with the teacher provides training in reading accuracy and meaningful expression. Students learn principles and components of English grammar as it is essential for writing skills as well as for comprehension of spoken and written language. Students understand each stage of the writing process and gain the capacity to work diligently on every phase of creating a fine written piece.

Kindergarten Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Use full sentences when responding to open-ended questions
- Expressively recite nursery rhymes and poems
- Verbalize the steps in the process of forming letters as the letters are written
- Orally summarize material that has been read
- Speak with appropriate volume and articulate phonemes clearly and accurately

Penmanship

- For ease and neatness in printing, use the correct grip for crayons and pencils.
- Use penmanship as kinesthetic reinforcement of letters and sounds for spelling and reading
- Learn proper letter formation

Phonics for Spelling and Reading

- Know the names and order of the letters in the alphabet and be able to alphabetize words by first letter
- Identify names and all sounds of English phonograms
- Perceive separate sounds in sequential order in syllables and words
- Explain the differences between consonants and vowels
- Identify and label the rules that determine vowel sounds in syllables
- Introduce specific rule(s) that govern the spelling of a word
- Identify, label, and explain open and closed syllables
- After hearing a word, identify the sequence of phonograms while writing that word, sound by sound, using best penmanship

Reading and Auditory Comprehension

- Create and verbalize vivid mental images when reading words, sentences, and paragraphs without the aid of pictures
- Respond orally to comprehension questions after reading words or sentences
- Develop a rich vocabulary including words needed for following directions
- Use grammar as a tool of comprehension by identifying the action (verb) and words that tell “who” and “doing”
- Identify the main idea of sentences
- Recall and retell from memory sentences and poems
- Identify reading materials as “narrative,” “informative,” or “narrative-informative”
- Identify and describe characters, setting, and plot
- Predict outcomes
- Summarize reading material by a word and by a sentence

- Build vocabulary and comprehension by listening to works read aloud by the teacher that are above reading level but appropriate for comprehension level

Literature

- Enjoy and recite classic nursery rhymes
- Read appropriate level fiction and non-fiction out loud and independently
- Understand and follow left-to-right direction for reading using index finger to keep place and retain focus when reading
- Read sentences “rhythmically” and expressively thereby revealing comprehension of content
- In all literature activities, discuss new vocabulary, recall content, and experience the lives of others vicariously
- To build character, discuss the virtues and vices that each fine literature piece provides.
- Books and authors students read include: *Muncha, Muncha, Muncha* by Candace Fleming, *The Very Lazy Ladybug* by Isobel Finn and Jack Tickle, and *Apples* (a Spaulding reader)

Writing

- Learn proper punctuation for sentences
- Compose original sentences orally
- Write original sentences
- Read written compositions aloud to the class
- Recognize and know the labels for comma and end punctuation—“period,” “question mark,” and “exclamation point”

1st Grade Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day
- Answer questions and speak using full sentences
- Learn and apply techniques for excellence in oral presentation

Penmanship

- Produce neat printing with correctly formed letters and appropriate spacing between words

Phonics for Spelling and Reading

- Recognize, recite, and produce examples of the patterns and rules that govern English and use these to encode (spell) and decode (read)
- Drill phonetic patterns daily with auditory, visual, kinesthetic, and verbal activities
- Spell and read daily the most commonly used words for K–3rd grade to achieve accuracy in spelling and automatic recognition in reading
- Exercise visual and short-term memory by recalling the words on spelling lists

Grammar and Punctuation

- Define, identify, and label in a sentence nouns (common/proper, singular/plural), verbs (action/linking, present/past tense), adjectives, and pronouns
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple sentences
- Identify, label, and produce examples of subject, verb, direct object, and predicate nominative
- Use capitalization and correct ending punctuation in daily writing

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from challenging text each day and participate in a teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation of the classics

- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that enhance mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to analyze and summarize
- Read and enjoy poetry
- Listen to works read aloud by the teacher that are above students' reading level but appropriate for auditory comprehension level
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *The Story About Ping* by Marjorie Flack, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter, and *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett

Writing

- Create sentences and simple paragraphs and receive instruction to correct spelling and grammar
- Organize sentences in logical sequence within the paragraph
- Create personal narratives, stories, poems and informative writing and receive input from teacher and peers
- Compose opinion paragraphs (topic and support) with teacher support

2nd Grade Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day in oral reading groups
- Answer questions and speak using full sentences
- Give oral presentations

Penmanship

- Produce neat cursive with correctly formed letters at a fluent pace

Phonics for Spelling and Reading

- Recognize, recite, and produce examples of the letter patterns and rules that govern English and use these to encode (spell) and decode (read)
- Drill phonetic patterns daily with auditory, visual, and kinesthetic activities
- Spell and read the most commonly used words for K–4th grades
- Exercise visual memory by recalling words in spelling lists

Grammar and Punctuation

- Analyze and label parts of speech
- Experience, identify, and produce examples of regular and irregular verbs in present and past tenses
- Practice subject/verb and pronoun/antecedent agreement
- Distinguish between subjective and objective pronouns
- Recognize, label, and diagram base sentences
- Use commas after each word in a series, in letter greetings and closings, and dates
- Correctly use apostrophes in possessive nouns and contractions in basic sentences
- Correctly use quotation marks

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature each day and participate in a teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation of the classics
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that practice mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze.
- Read and enjoy poetry
- Incentivize and support daily independent reading at home
- Label genres and types of literature

- Listen to works read aloud by teacher that are above reading level but appropriate for auditory comprehension level
- Learn and discuss new vocabulary words from works of literature
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Mirette on the High Wire* by Emily Arnold McCully, and *Old Mother West Wind* by Thornton W. Burgess

Writing

- Create sentences and simple paragraphs and receive instruction to correct spelling and grammar
- Organize sentences in logical sequence within the paragraph
- Create personal narratives, stories, poems and informative writing and receive input from teacher and peers
- Compose opinion paragraphs (topic and support) with teacher support

3rd Grade Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively on a daily basis
- Give oral presentations of creative book reports
- Learn and apply techniques for excellence in oral presentation

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Exercise visual memory by recalling the order of words in poems
- Memorize and apply knowledge of all phonograms and their sounds
- Identify patterns in morphology and synthesize and describe these in spelling rules and apply these rules to reading and writing
- Understand types of nouns, adjectives, verbs, and adverbs using a formal grammar program
- Experience, identify, and produce examples of regular and irregular verbs in the past, present, and future tenses
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple sentence types including words that modify each part
- Reinforce ability to label the parts of a sentence, adding adverbial prepositional phrases
- Use commas in addresses and dates, and in a series
- Identify the four purposes of a sentence: declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and imperative

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature and participate in teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze.
- Read and appreciate poetry and memorize and recite two poems a month
- Write and respond to questions that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature
- Produce answers and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Read and discuss the elements of literature using: *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White, *The Cricket in Times Square* by George Selden, *Misty of Chincoteague* by Marguerite Henry, and *The Courage of Sarah Noble* by Alice Dalgliesh

Writing

- Learn and practice the writing process
- Write guided paragraphs and essays that have a main idea, supporting details, transitions, and a conclusion which use varied sentence structures
- Organize sentences in logical sequence within the paragraph and learn to vary sentence structure
- Produce examples of informative, narrative, and informative-narrative genres.
- Write personal narratives, stories, and poems and receive input from teacher and peers
- Write a research paper or project in conjunction with the history class
- Create a digital writing portfolio combining technology and language arts in a creative way

4th Grade Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Practice discussion techniques of listening, agreeing or disagreeing, and building on ideas through literature analysis
- Engage in partner discussion to reinforce learning and express ideas in all areas
- Learn to use expression, cadence, intonation, volume, and body language effectively in poetry and reading
- Give book talks on interesting reads

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Exercise visual memory by recalling words in poems
- Identify patterns in morphology and synthesize and describe these in spelling rules and apply these rules to reading and writing
- Understand types of verbs, nouns, and pronouns and their function in a sentence.
- Study modifiers, including adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases, and identify their role within the sentence and label and diagram accordingly
- Learn proper use of commas and basic sentence punctuation

Literature and Comprehension

- Read from a challenging work of literature and participate in teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze
- Close read, analyze, enjoy, and memorize poetry
- Write and respond to questions that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature
- Produce answers and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Learn different genres of literature through book talks, partner discussion, and a rich classroom library
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo, *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls, and *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- Enjoy and discuss novels and illustrated read alouds to develop reading skills such as inference, synthesis, prediction and making connections, and critique and analyze excellent writing

Writing

- Train students to use strong and pertinent ideas organized with a clear beginning, middle, and end

- Improve fluency and voice by writing sentences that flow smoothly, are easy to read, and have carefully chosen words
- Use clear and grammatically correct writing conventions
- Produce examples of expository, descriptive, narrative, and persuasive writing
- Respond to literature through writing summaries, reflective writing, and application of text

5th Grade Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day in oral reading groups
- Give oral presentations in all subject areas
- Learn to use expression, cadence, intonation, volume, and body language effectively in oral presentations and reading

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Exercise visual memory by recalling poems
- Continue identifying and analyzing the functions of nouns, verbs, and modifiers
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentence types
- Reinforce ability to label the parts of a sentence, adding indirect objects.
- Use commas for appositives, after introductory elements, and after nouns of direct address

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature each day and participate in teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze
- Read and enjoy poetry and memorize and recite two poems a month
- Write and respond to questions that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature
- Produce answers and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech, *Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame, and *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

Writing

- Continue practicing the Six traits of writing and the writing process
- Experience expository writing in response to literary and informational texts
- Continue to produce examples of expository, descriptive, and persuasive writing including creative writing and poetry writing
- Respond to literature and informational texts through writing and be able to write summaries
- Write one research report on history related topics, which could include Mesoamerican cultures, shapers of history, or westward expansion

6th Grade Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day in literature
- Give oral presentations on a variety of topics
- Learn to use expression, cadence, intonation, volume, and body language effectively in

oral presentations and reading

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Study a vocabulary program that includes regular assessments
- Define, label, and identify the parts of speech in all of their functions and parts of a sentence
- Review all types of clauses
- Practice subject/verb agreement with sentences having indefinite pronouns, intervening phrases, and compound subjects
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple, compound, complex, and compound- complex sentence types
- Identify and label all types of verbals
- Review use of commas and practice using them with nonessential elements and sentence interrupters
- Use grammar as a tool for comprehension and effectiveness in writing

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature each day and participate in discussions to enhance comprehension, analysis, and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze
- Read, study, memorize, and enjoy poetry
- Respond to a variety of prompts that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature and informational texts
- Complete exercises and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass, *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson, *Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep, *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, as well as primary and secondary sources and essays deepening understanding of history and science

Writing

- Develop a clear topic and establish its validity by providing supporting details
- Identify and use reference materials for research reports and data based questions
- Develop an outline that shows the relationship of details to main ideas
- Apply the conventions of the English language and organizational structure to writing
- Collaborate with the history teacher to respond to informational texts through expository writing
- Become a competent, confident writer with a distinctive personal style
- Practice and perfect different genres of writing including, expository, compare and contrast, research report, descriptions, narratives, persuasion, poetry, and literary analysis

Math Curriculum

The mathematics curriculum focuses on students acquiring strong basic computational skills, developing an understanding and proficiency in core concepts, and sharpening logic reasoning and problem solving skills. The students also learn to understand how math relates to everyday life. Through teacher-directed class instruction and opportunities for independent trial and group activities, students are able to show logical steps in their written work, compare strategies for finding solutions, and develop an understanding of each concept. Students review previously studied material for retention and automaticity which improves speed and accuracy while also mastering the fundamentals which supports an understanding of new concepts.

Kindergarten Math

- Add and subtract within 20
- Understand place value (tens and ones)
- Count, read, and write numbers to 120
- Order and compare two-digit numbers
- Identify basic patterns and improve spatial sense
- Understand whole and parts
- Identify plane and solid shapes
- Introduce skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s
- Introduce telling time on whole and half hours
- Increase understanding and retention of basic skills and vocabulary through songs, games, movement, manipulatives, and simulated experiences
- Apply math facts and skills to problem solving and critical thinking challenges

1st Grade Math

- Understand place value (hundreds, tens and ones)
- Add and subtract within 20
- Add and subtract two- and three-digit numbers using place value strategies
- Order and compare three-digit numbers
- Identify patterns and improve spatial sense
- Tell time to the nearest five minutes
- Practice skip counting by 2s, 5s, 10s, and 100s
- Learn to identify plane and solid shapes
- Identify pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters
- Increase understanding and retention of basic skills and vocabulary through songs, games, movement, manipulatives, and simulated experiences
- Apply math facts and skills to problem solving and critical thinking challenges

2nd Grade Math

- Understand place value to thousands
- Add and subtract within 20
- Develop understanding of multiplication and division through models and strategies
- Multiply and divide within 100
- Add and subtract multi-digit numbers using place value strategies
- Order and compare multi-digit numbers
- Identify patterns and improve spatial sense
- Identify, sort, classify, and measure plane and solid shapes

- Learn about elapsed time
- Understand fractions as parts of a whole and on a number line
- Represent and interpret data using graphs
- Calculate area and perimeter

3rd Grade Math

Whole Number Operations

- Understand place value through millions
- Compare, order, round, add, and subtract multi-digit whole numbers
- Multiply and divide multi-digit numbers
- Identify factors and multiples
- Divide with remainders and regrouping
- Follow order of operations in whole number calculations
- Identify, generate, and explain numerical patterns

Fractions and Decimals

- Recognize and generate equivalent fractions
- Compare fractions with different numerators and denominators
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators
- Relate fractions and decimals to hundredths

Measurements and Data

- Use customary and metric units of measurement
- Solve problems involving time and elapsed time
- Collect, organize, and interpret data using tables and graphs

Geometry

- Draw and classify lines and angles
- Identify symmetry in two-dimensional figures
- Classify two-dimensional shapes

4th Grade Math

Whole Number Operations

- Read, write, and understand place value with whole numbers and decimals
- Compare, order, and round whole numbers and decimals
- Multiply and divide multi-digit whole numbers
- Write and evaluate numerical expressions using order of operations
- Assess reasonableness of answers using estimation

Fractions and Decimals

- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals
- Relate fractions and decimals

Measurements and Data

- Convert and display units of measurement
- Interpret and display data using graphs and line plots

Geometry

- Graph points on the coordinate plane
- Calculate volume of rectangular prisms
- Classify two-dimensional shapes

5th Grade Math

Whole Number, Decimals, and Fractions

- Write and evaluate numerical expressions using exponents
- Identify factors and multiples, including GCF and LCM
- Compare and order fractions, decimals, and percents
- Perform operations with fractions and decimals

Measurements and Data

- Calculate area, surface area, and volume
- Analyze data using measures of center and variability

Ratio, Proportion, and Percent Relationships

- Solve problems using ratios and unit rates
- Solve percent problems

Integers and Algebra

- Compare and operate with integers and rational numbers
- Write and simplify algebraic expressions
- Solve one-step equations

6th Grade Math

Patterns and Relationships

- Use order of operations with rational numbers
- Apply exponents and powers

Integers and Rational Numbers

- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers
- Compare and order rational numbers

Algebra

- Write, simplify, and evaluate algebraic expressions
- Solve equations and inequalities
- Represent solutions on a number line

Ratio, Proportion, and Percent Relationships

- Solve problems involving ratios, proportions, and percents

Graphs and Functions

- Graph linear relationships on the coordinate plane

Measurements and Data

- Analyze and interpret statistical data
- Calculate probabilities of simple and compound events

Geometry

- Classify geometric figures and measure angles
- Calculate surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures

Science Curriculum

The science curriculum focuses on discovery and experimentation. Students experience fascinating specimens and creative lessons that capture the imagination and instill a love of science. Through hands-on experimentation, demonstrations, lectures, discussion, and class field trips, students acquire the subject area knowledge essential for critical thinking in this field. Throughout the year, they engage in problem-solving strategies, scientific challenges, and learning proper laboratory techniques and procedures.

Kindergarten Science

- Explore animals and plants and learn important facts about their lives
- Properly care for animals and plants in our indoor/outdoor classroom
- Observe the effects of climate, weather, and seasons on plants and animals
- Identify the sun's effects on plants and animals
- Explore the effects of human impact on the environment
- Grow plants and animals
- Seek a sense of order in nature

1st Grade Science

- Identify the structures and functions of plants and animals
- Explore inheritance and variation of traits
- Observe and identify patterns in the sky
- Take action for conservation—learn to reduce, reuse, recycle, and repurpose
- Explore practical applications of earth and physical science
- Apply a sense of order (or not) to nature

2nd Grade Science

- Describe an animal's or plant's purpose in its ecosystem and our impact on them.
- Observe effects of water on plants
- Define properties of rocks and minerals
- Explore pollination and seed dispersal
- Create a pollinator
- Understand conservation of land and water through rainbow trout
- Put what we have learned about animals and habitats into rainbow trout life cycle, body parts, and needs
- Replicate fast and slow Earth events
- Nurture the classroom creatures and the outdoor garden
- Explore practical applications of earth and physical science
- Apply a sense of order (or not) to nature

3rd Grade Science

- Experiment with the properties of water by performing various experiments
- Learn about water scarcity and the importance of conserving water resources
- Grow various plants and fungi
- Learn about the life cycles of plants
- Use microscopes to study the cells within plants and animals
- Build comfortable habitats for small animals (crickets)
- Compare and contrast biomes of the world

- Study food chains, food webs, and the energy transfer between predator and prey

4th Grade Science

- Learn how rocks transform through the rock cycle and transition from igneous to sedimentary to metamorphic states
- Identify well-known rocks and minerals by examining samples
- Learn how crystallization occurs naturally in the earth, as well as how jewelry can be made from precious metals and gemstones
- Identify the layers of the Earth and tectonic plates
- Understand the relationship between plate tectonics and natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis
- Examine fossils found in rocks and make connections to scientists' understanding of the Earth's history
- Learn how trash never goes away, and how it leads to environmental problems in our air, land, and oceans
- Learn how recycling and composting programs work
- Learn how the 3 R's (reducing, reusing, and recycling) can reduce the amount of trash that individuals and societies produce

5th Grade Science

- Become familiar with physical forces that govern our world
- Learn about simple machines that make work easier
- Grow familiar with Isaac Newton's Three Laws of Motion
- Grow familiar with the steps of the scientific method.
- Design and present a Science Fair Project

6th Grade Science

- Learn the relationship between potential and kinetic energy
- Learn how energy can be transformed into different forms
- Learn the three types of energy transfer
- Become familiar with units of energy (Joules) and Power (Watts)
- Identify energy chains and chain reactions
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of renewable and non-renewable energy sources

History and Geography Curriculum

The history curriculum follows the Core Knowledge sequence for history and geography as outlined by the Core Knowledge Foundation. This progression provides rich content as knowledge and skills build cumulatively from year to year. Students study American history, world history, and geography. The goals of the program are to have students internalize a passionate fascination with history and enter each new grade ready to learn the next layer of subject matter. The artfully planned sequence also prevents repetitions and gaps in the history curriculum.

Kindergarten History and Geography

- Learn the concept of geography, the purpose of maps and the names and locations of the seven continents
- Study the regions and lifestyles of four different Native American tribes and reenact a Hopi village
- Understand early American history highlights including the voyage of Columbus, the Pilgrims, and the principles behind Independence Day, democracy, and slavery
- Learn in detail about the four Mount Rushmore Presidents; Lincoln, Washington, Jefferson and Roosevelt
- Identify the origins and/or locations of our national symbols; the American Flag, the Statue of Liberty, and the White House
- Learn lessons in civics: communities, rules, laws, US citizenship
- Focus on special units: Black History (February) and Women in History (May)

1st Grade History and Geography

- Understand how to read a map by using a key, legend and/or symbols
- Review the seven continents and four major oceans and locate the Equator, poles, hemispheres, and Pinewood's continent, country, state, and community
- Gain a basic understanding of the development and contributions of the early world civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt
- Introduce and compare various traditions, beliefs, and customs associated with the three major world religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam
- Celebrate the rich culture of modern day Mexico
- Learn how the earliest American civilizations of the Maya, Aztecs, and Incas developed and fell
- Learn about the first European explorers and settlers of America
- Learn the key figures, significance, and events of the American Revolution and the evolution from colonies to independence
- Gain an introductory knowledge of the early exploration of the American West
- Recognize and become familiar with the Liberty Bell, the current US President, the American Flag, and the Bald Eagle

2nd Grade History and Geography

- Introduce various geographical features and locations of Canada and the Americas
- Gain a basic understanding of the development and contributions of the early Asian civilizations of India and China
- Celebrate and introduce the modern civilization and culture of Japan
- Learn about the great contributions, traditions, cultures, wars, and influential leaders from ancient Greece
- Introduce the Constitution and the organization of the American Government

- Learn about the key participants, battles, events and effects of the War of 1812
- Study Westward Expansion across the United State
- Understand the controversy over slavery while learning about the key parties and events of the Civil War
- Introduce the Civil Rights Movement
- Recognize and become familiar with the significance of the American Flag, the Statue of Liberty, and the Lincoln Memorial
- Explore the United States as a nation of immigrants, highlighting the experiences of newcomers, the growth of diverse communities, and the responsibilities and processes of citizenship

3rd Grade History and Geography

- Analyze important myths to identify themes such as bravery, consequences, and problem-solving, while making connections to students' own lives
- Describe key events and people during the rise and fall of the Roman Empire
- Learn about the major rivers of the world and the role they play in the establishment of world civilizations
- Understand geography, key events, and people of the original US colonies
- Study the first American settlers, specifically the Inuit to the Anasazi and their contributions to the United States
- Write a research paper on a Native American tribe of North America, to be presented orally in history class—this is a cross-curricular project with the language arts class
- Explore how geography, religion, and political systems shaped medieval Europe
- Examine the beliefs and practices of Islam, the expansion and cultural achievements of Muslim civilizations, and how interactions with Europe—including the Crusades—shaped trade, knowledge exchange, and connections across regions
- Learn about the rise and fall and the geography of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca empires

4th Grade History and Geography

- Learn and use mapping skills in order to locate landmarks on a map
- Learn and identify the major mountain ranges by continent as well as the highest mountain peaks in the world
- Explore the Renaissance as a period of renewed interest in classical ideas, artistic and scientific advancement, and expanding curiosity about the world
- Examine the causes and impacts of European exploration, including the pursuit of trade and religious expansion, the rise of global trade networks and colonization, and the development of the plantation system and transatlantic slave trade
- Exploration of North America - Identify the major early Spanish explorers and the major events of the settlement of North America
- Study westward expansion in the United States, focusing on geographic influences, the motivations and challenges of settlers, the impact on Native Americans, and how ideas like Manifest Destiny and events such as the annexation of Texas shaped the nation's growth
- Learn California history and geography and visit Old Mission San Juan Bautista and enjoy a 2-day trip to the Gold Country

5th Grade History and Geography

- Learn to apply the lens of Cultural Characteristics of Place as a tool to compare and contrast different societies and civilizations
- Develop a deep understanding of the diversity and complexity of indigenous populations and the effects of their collision with colonizing nations

- Deepen understanding of colonization through the study of motives and means of the great colonizing nations of Europe
- Understand the influence of France, Holland, Great Britain, and Spain on North America through their battles for it and related land transactions
- Develop a deep understanding of the diversity of the 13 colonies, their efforts at self-governance, their relations with indigenous populations, and their economies
- Understand the role the French and Indian War played in inspiring thoughts of independence from the crown
- Research and understand all of the events that led to the Continental Congress and the grievances from the crown that led to the Declaration of Independence
- Develop a deep understanding of the components of the Declaration of Independence.
- Gain an understanding of the important people, battles and outcomes of the Revolutionary War
- Learn about the unfulfilled promise of the French and Indian War for the colonists as Westward Expansion takes shape under the justification of Manifest Destiny

6th Grade History and Geography

- Explore the history of world religions through the study of belief bubbles that show the range of ideas from theism to atheism and the First Amendment that protects all of those ideas
- Gain an introduction to government through its evolution as it transitioned from Monarchy to Oligarchy, Tyranny and ultimately Democracy in Ancient Greece
- Explore the ideas of Newton, Descartes, Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau, and Voltaire and their influence on modern thought and modern government
- Deepen the understanding of government and the struggle for power through exploration of the French Revolution and the influence of the American Revolution on it, the Old Regime and the Three Estates in French Society, King Louis the XIV, XV, and XVI, the Declaration of the Rights of Man, the Reign of Terror, and Napoleon Bonaparte
- Explore the Industrial Revolution and its effect on society through the study of the technology that drove it, and the shift from farm system to factory system
- Gain an introductory understanding of Capitalism and Socialism through the study of Adam Smith, the law of supply and demand, income inequality, income redistribution, Karl Marx and the Communist Manifesto
- Explore the history of immigration to the United States through the study of the push and pull factors, the ebb and flow between nativism and pro-immigration attitudes and the legislation enforcing those attitudes with a specific focus on the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
- Study the causes and implications of the Civil War

Spanish Curriculum

Our K–6 Spanish program builds a joyful and lasting foundation for language acquisition through a Comprehensible Input (CI) approach. By prioritizing listening and reading skills, we allow students to "acquire" the language naturally, developing a vocabulary base, intuitive grammar, and pronunciation before moving into production. Aligned with ACTFL proficiency standards, the curriculum focuses on building a "comprehension-first" engine, where interpersonal and presentational speaking emerge naturally as students grow. Beyond the mechanics of language, our creative and participatory lessons foster a deep respect for global cultures, encouraging students to become empathetic global citizens. By the conclusion of 6th grade, students typically achieve an ACTFL proficiency level of Novice Mid to Novice High, well-prepared for more advanced linguistic challenges.

Kindergarten–2nd Grade Spanish

- Physically respond to commands given in Spanish
- Respond with a name or a number, a yes or no, one word from an "either/or" choice
- Respond to and ask simple questions in contextualized situations
- Provide basic information in contextualized situations
- Develop listening comprehension of vocabulary and phrases
- Recognize frequently used words in Spanish
- Write simple sentences in the present tense
- Work with realia from Spanish-speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning animal sounds or exploring food from a Spanish-speaking country

3rd–6th Grade Spanish

- Listen and understand more complex commands and language used in the classroom.
- Use a growing number of words and phrases to describe thematic topics
- Use sentences in responses
- Make negative and affirmative statements
- Maintain a simple conversation about thematic topics.
- Ask a growing number of questions including "who," "what," "when," "where," and "why"
- Use more complex commands to direct classmates' actions
- Demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary when describing, giving opinions, comparing and contrasting, and participating in familiar and new activities
- Read and discuss novellas in Spanish
- Read aloud familiar material and sentences s/he has written
- Write short sentences about thematic topics and gradually write more creatively
- Work with realia from Spanish speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories written for Spanish-speaking children
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning about different Spanish-speaking countries through projects and virtual traveling

Musical Theater Curriculum

The tradition of theater at Pinewood School began with our founder, Gwendolyn Riches, and her commitment to a program that promotes confidence and develops dynamic communication—vital life skills. The theater experience trains students to express themselves through voice, body, and facial expressions. Every year, each class has the opportunity to practice and perfect a musical production performed for the school and families.

1st–6th Grade Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music Curriculum

Students learn to sing, listen, and play instruments throughout K-6 music, starting with basic songs and simple rhythms in kindergarten and progressing to composing music and reading complex notation by 6th grade. All students develop performance skills, learn about music from different cultures and master composers, and use technology to improve their playing. The program emphasizes hands-on learning through singing, dancing, playing instruments, and composition.

Kindergarten Music

- Learn to sing a wide variety of songs from memory
- Listen to different types of music
- Learn and analyze simple form in music such as ABA
- Learn to sing with clarity, volume, and expression
- Learn hand pitch leading and match pitch with their voice
- Play simple rhythmic and melodic accompaniments on classroom instruments
- Match and express music through movement and dance
- Introduce music symbols, terminologies, and notation to represent sound
- Develop performance skills such as stage presence, vocal projection, and articulation
- Use technology to assess and enhance performance
- Learn music of other cultures and languages to celebrate diversity

1st and 2nd Grade Music

- Learn basic musical elements—rhythm, melody, form, dynamics, and musical nuances
- Identify and match pitch using the Kodaly and John Curwen techniques
- Identify and classify various music instruments
- Experience selected master composers across multiple genres and their works
- Sing while moving and/or dancing to further express music
- Play basic Orff instruments in an ensemble setting
- Learn to play the recorder in 2nd grade
- Compose rhythmic and melodic phrases
- Develop confidence in performing solos and singing with a group
- Use technology to assess, enhance, and improve solo and/or group performances
- Learn music of other cultures and languages to celebrate diversity

3rd–6th Grade Music

- Explore pitch, melody, and harmony through singing, ear training, and solfeggio
- Play, create, and sing music as an ensemble
- Participate in movement activities designed to reinforce phrasing, rhythm, and team work
- Perform and listen to different types of music from various cultures and time periods.
- Identify musical elements: rhythm, meter, melody, phrase, form, and dynamics
- Work as individuals and in groups to compose and notate original music
- Appreciate folk music from around the world
- Listen to great composers and their signature works while relating their artistic contributions to modern music
- Continue to develop performance skills and audience etiquette
- Learn simple improvisation techniques using the pentatonic scale, various modes, blues patterns, ostinatos, and other methods
- Sight-read rhythmic notation using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes

and sixteenth notes and variations

- Learn about the instruments of the orchestra, jazz band, and cultural ensembles
- Coordinate with the History Department to provide reinforcement through music of the time period being studied

Visual Arts Curriculum

The art curriculum includes studies in art history, art criticism, and studio art which allow students to express themselves artistically and to appreciate the creative connections between art and life that are essential to the community. Students develop a personal vocabulary of expression while building confidence in creativity and a wide range of artistic strategies. They learn to see detail, to envision, to persist and learn from mistakes, and to make and justify critical judgments.

Kindergarten Visual Arts

- Communicate thoughts and feelings through artwork
- Name the basic primary and secondary colors and how to use them in painting
- Recognize basic shapes and learn to apply them in drawings
- Distinguish symmetry and asymmetry in their artwork
- Learn how to speak about artwork including work of their own
- Consider shape, substance, color, line, and texture in creating 3D models
- Study great artists such as Henri Matisse, Claude Monet, Yayoi Kusama, Georgia O'Keefe, and Eric Carle

1st Grade Visual Arts

- Recognize the elements and principles of art
- Study art history
- Explore drawing and painting styles
- Learn color theory using paint, markers, colored pencils and pastels on two and three dimensional surfaces
- Paint watercolors using wet into wet and dry brush techniques
- Sculpt using clay, paper mache, gauze, cardboard and paper
- Create collages using their own art pieces
- Critique peer's artwork
- Mix and apply tempura paint onto two and three dimensional surfaces
- Study artists such as Maurice Sendak, Vincent Van Gogh, John James Audubon and Pablo Picasso

2nd Grade Visual Arts

- Recognize the elements and principles of art
- Study art history
- Draw and paint realistically and abstractly
- Create mixed media projects
- Blend and gradate colors using paint, pastels and colored pencils
- Mix and apply tempera paint onto two and three-dimensional surfaces
- Paint with watercolors using wet into wet, dry brush, and wash techniques
- Sculpt using clay, paper mache, and cardboard
- Critique peer's artwork
- Study artists such as Beatrix Potter, Amedeo Modigliani and Claes Oldenburg

3rd Grade Visual Arts

- Design and create original artwork using various techniques and mediums such as collage, watercolor, oil pastel, paper sculpture, block prints, ink and wash
- Model guidance through live demonstrations
- Understand color theory practice

- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Elements of art intro and exploration
- Setup work area, clean up procedures, and care for art materials and art room
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Collaborate with other subject areas

4th Grade Visual Arts

- Design and create original artwork using various techniques and mediums such as calligraphy, exploration of various surfaces, 3D projects and oil and dry pastels
- Learn how to bring a drawing to life through detail and light, not just shape
- Study the life and works of Titian, Durer, Rembrandt, and Velasquez
- Understand color theory practice
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Explore and discuss the elements of art
- Setup work area, clean up procedures, and care for art materials and art room
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Collaborate with other subject areas

5th Grade Visual Arts

- Design and create original artwork using various techniques and mediums such as assemblage, oil, acrylic, and tempera paint, digital drawing, and perspective
- Study the life and works of Raphael, El Greco, and Turner
- Understand color theory practice
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Explore and discuss the elements of art
- Setup work area, clean up procedures, and care for art materials and art room
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Collaborate with other subject areas

6th Grade Visual Arts

- Design and fabrication of original artwork using the following techniques and mediums such as visionboards, watercolor pencil and ink on illustration board, cardboard, and mixed media
- Study and display the life and works of various artists with the master study project
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Care for art materials and art room
- Collaboration with other subject areas

Computer Science and Engineering Curriculum

Pinewood's Computer Science and Engineering (CS and E) program provides students with structured, hands-on experiences in computational thinking, programming, engineering, and design. Through age-appropriate instruction and project-based learning, students develop problem-solving skills, technical fluency, creativity, and collaboration while engaging in meaningful cross-curricular work.

Kindergarten Computer Science and Engineering

(weekly classes)

- Focus on foundational computational thinking
- Explore block-based programming and introductory robotics
- Navigate tools such as Scratch Jr., CodeSpark, and age-appropriate robotic systems
- Participate in 4 to 5 cross-curricular design and engineering projects per year
- Navigate the design thinking process through hands-on building, tool use, testing, and interaction with tangible outcomes

1st and 2nd Grade Computer Science and Engineering

(monthly three-day units)

- Learn, practice, and expand knowledge of “block based” programming language and robotics
 - ScratchJr
 - OctoStudio
 - Code.org
 - Ozobots
 - VEX GO
- Apply the design thinking process to creative problem solving challenges
- Integrate engineering projects with content from science, history, language arts, music, and Spanish

3rd–6th Grade Computer Science and Engineering

(daily classes for one quarter of computer science and one quarter of design and engineering)

- Develop computational thinking and software development skills through progressive programming experiences
 - Scratch 3.0
 - Code.org
 - Apple Swift Playgrounds
 - App Lab
 - Python (6th grade students work exclusively in Python)
- Reinforce programming concepts through physical computing and robotics projects
 - Makey Makey
 - Micro:bit
 - VEX IQ
 - Lego Robotics
- Apply design thinking process to hands-on engineering challenges
- Learn both digital and physical fabrication skills and prototyping
 - 3D design and printing

- Laser cutting
- CAD software
- Develop practical engineering skills and working with tools connected to real-world needs
 - Cutting tools
 - Adhesives
 - Woodworking techniques
 - Fasteners (nuts, bolts, screws, saws)
 - Electrical wiring and circuits

Physical Education Curriculum

Physical activity not only improves fitness levels but also enhances academic stamina. The Pinewood physical education program includes daily classes for all grade levels. Students participate in an extensive array of activities that includes competitive and non-competitive team sports that strive to develop good social behavior with other students. The goal of the program is to develop the lifelong skills of sportsmanship and physical fitness, as well as foster an overall enjoyment of athletics.

Kindergarten Physical Education

Based on the San Diego State University SPARK (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids) curriculum

- Develop basic locomotor and manipulative skills designed for athletic success
- Develop good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Learn to enjoy and seek out physical activity
- Focus on individual athletic skills such as endurance, agility, footwork, and ball-handling skills

1st and 2nd Grade Physical Education

Based on the San Diego State University SPARK (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids) curriculum

- Develop basic locomotor and manipulative skills designed for athletic success
- Develop good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Learn to enjoy and seek out physical activity
- Focus on team athletic skills

3rd–6th Grade Physical Education

- Develop a variety of basic movement and manipulative skills through learning and playing team sports
- Acquire good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Improve responsibility through participating in Intramurals by managing and playing games with students of different ages and skill levels
- Demonstrate respect, kindness, and compassion for individual differences in physical abilities
- Analyze and identify possible strategies and ideas when participating in an individual or team challenge, and be able to problem solve to find the best solution
- Understand, locate, and describe the functions of the human skeletal and muscular systems and the organs of the human body
- Create an environment that is safe, nurturing, and fun

Curriculum by Grade Level

Kindergarten Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Use full sentences when responding to open-ended questions
- Expressively recite nursery rhymes and poems
- Verbalize the steps in the process of forming letters as the letters are written
- Orally summarize material that has been read
- Speak with appropriate volume and articulate phonemes clearly and accurately

Penmanship

- For ease and neatness in printing, use the correct grip for crayons and pencils.
- Use penmanship as kinesthetic reinforcement of letters and sounds for spelling and reading
- Learn proper letter formation

Phonics for Spelling and Reading

- Know the names and order of the letters in the alphabet and be able to alphabetize words by first letter
- Identify names and all sounds of English phonograms
- Perceive separate sounds in sequential order in syllables and words
- Explain the differences between consonants and vowels
- Identify and label the rules that determine vowel sounds in syllables
- Introduce specific rule(s) that govern the spelling of a word
- Identify, label, and explain open and closed syllables
- After hearing a word, identify the sequence of phonograms while writing that word, sound by sound, using best penmanship

Reading and Auditory Comprehension

- Create and verbalize vivid mental images when reading words, sentences, and paragraphs without the aid of pictures
- Respond orally to comprehension questions after reading words or sentences
- Develop a rich vocabulary including words needed for following directions
- Use grammar as a tool of comprehension by identifying the action (verb) and words that tell “who” and “doing”
- Identify the main idea of sentences
- Recall and retell from memory sentences and poems
- Identify reading materials as “narrative,” “informative,” or “narrative-informative”
- Identify and describe characters, setting, and plot
- Predict outcomes
- Summarize reading material by a word and by a sentence
- Build vocabulary and comprehension by listening to works read aloud by the teacher that are above reading level but appropriate for comprehension level

Literature

- Enjoy and recite classic nursery rhymes
- Read appropriate level fiction and non-fiction out loud and independently
- Understand and follow left-to-right direction for reading using index finger to keep place and retain focus when reading

- Read sentences “rhythmically” and expressively thereby revealing comprehension of content
- In all literature activities, discuss new vocabulary, recall content, and experience the lives of others vicariously
- To build character, discuss the virtues and vices that each fine literature piece provides.
- Books and authors students read include: *Muncha, Muncha, Muncha* by Candace Fleming, *The Very Lazy Ladybug* by Isobel Finn and Jack Tickle, and *Apples* (a Spaulding reader)

Writing

- Learn proper punctuation for sentences
- Compose original sentences orally
- Write original sentences
- Read written compositions aloud to the class
- Recognize and know the labels for comma and end punctuation—“period,” “question mark,” and “exclamation point”

Math

- Add and subtract within 20
- Understand place value (tens and ones)
- Count, read, and write numbers to 120
- Order and compare two-digit numbers
- Identify basic patterns and improve spatial sense
- Understand whole and parts
- Identify plane and solid shapes
- Introduce skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s
- Introduce telling time on whole and half hours
- Increase understanding and retention of basic skills and vocabulary through songs, games, movement, manipulatives, and simulated experiences
- Apply math facts and skills to problem solving and critical thinking challenges

Science

- Explore animals and plants and learn important facts about their lives
- Properly care for animals and plants in our indoor/outdoor classroom
- Observe the effects of climate, weather, and seasons on plants and animals
- Identify the sun’s effects on plants and animals
- Explore the effects of human impact on the environment
- Grow plants and animals
- Seek a sense of order in nature

History and Geography

- Learn the concept of geography, the purpose of maps and the names and locations of the seven continents
- Study the regions and lifestyles of four different Native American tribes and reenact a Hopi village
- Understand early American history highlights including the voyage of Columbus, the Pilgrims, and the principles behind Independence Day, democracy, and slavery
- Learn in detail about the four Mount Rushmore Presidents; Lincoln, Washington, Jefferson and Roosevelt
- Identify the origins and/or locations of our national symbols; the American Flag, the Statue of Liberty, and the White House

- Learn lessons in civics: communities, rules, laws, US citizenship
- Focus on special units: Black History (February) and Women in History (May)

Spanish

- Physically respond to commands given in Spanish
- Respond with a name or a number, a yes or no, one word from an “either/or” choice
- Respond to and ask simple questions in contextualized situations.
- Provide basic information in contextualized situations.
- Develop listening comprehension of vocabulary and phrases.
- Recognize frequently used words in Spanish.
- Write simple sentences in the present tense.
- Work with realia from Spanish speaking countries.
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games.
- Listen to simple stories.
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning animal sounds or exploring food from a Spanish speaking country.

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Learn to sing a wide variety of songs from memory
- Listen to different types of music
- Learn and analyze simple form in music such as ABA
- Learn to sing with clarity, volume, and expression
- Learn hand pitch leading and match pitch with their voice
- Play simple rhythmic and melodic accompaniments on classroom instruments
- Match and express music through movement and dance
- Introduce music symbols, terminologies, and notation to represent sound
- Develop performance skills such as stage presence, vocal projection, and articulation
- Use technology to assess and enhance performance
- Learn music of other cultures and languages to celebrate diversity

Visual Arts

- Communicate thoughts and feelings through artwork
- Name the basic primary and secondary colors and how to use them in painting
- Recognize basic shapes and learn to apply them in drawings
- Distinguish symmetry and asymmetry in their artwork
- Learn how to speak about artwork including work of their own
- Consider shape, substance, color, line, and texture in creating 3D models
- Study great artists such as Henri Matisse, Claude Monet, Yayoi Kusama, Georgia O’Keefe, and Eric Carle

Computer Science and Engineering

(weekly classes)

- Focus on foundational computational thinking
- Explore block-based programming and introductory robotics
- Navigate tools such as Scratch Jr., CodeSpark, and age-appropriate robotic systems
- Participate in 4 to 5 cross-curricular design and engineering projects per year
- Navigate the design thinking process through hands-on building, tool use, testing, and interaction with tangible outcomes

Physical Education

Based on the San Diego State University SPARK (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids) curriculum

- Develop basic locomotor and manipulative skills designed for athletic success.
- Develop good sportsmanship and leadership skills.
- Learn to enjoy and seek out physical activity.
- Focus on individual athletic skills such as endurance, agility, footwork, and ball-handling skills

1st Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day
- Answer questions and speak using full sentences
- Learn and apply techniques for excellence in oral presentation

Penmanship

- Produce neat printing with correctly formed letters and appropriate spacing between words

Phonics for Spelling and Reading

- Recognize, recite, and produce examples of the patterns and rules that govern English and use these to encode (spell) and decode (read)
- Drill phonetic patterns daily with auditory, visual, kinesthetic, and verbal activities
- Spell and read daily the most commonly used words for K–3rd grade to achieve accuracy in spelling and automatic recognition in reading
- Exercise visual and short-term memory by recalling the words on spelling lists

Grammar and Punctuation

- Define, identify, and label in a sentence nouns (common/proper, singular/plural), verbs (action/linking, present/past tense), adjectives, and pronouns
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple sentences
- Identify, label, and produce examples of subject, verb, direct object, and predicate nominative
- Use capitalization and correct ending punctuation in daily writing

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from challenging text each day and participate in a teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation of the classics
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that enhance mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to analyze and summarize
- Read and enjoy poetry
- Listen to works read aloud by the teacher that are above students' reading level but appropriate for auditory comprehension level
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *The Story About Ping* by Marjorie Flack, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter, and *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett

Writing

- Create sentences and simple paragraphs and receive instruction to correct spelling and grammar
- Organize sentences in logical sequence within the paragraph
- Create personal narratives, stories, poems and informative writing and receive input from teacher and peers
- Compose opinion paragraphs (topic and support) with teacher support

Math

- Understand place value (hundreds, tens and ones)
- Add and subtract within 20
- Add and subtract two- and three-digit numbers using place value strategies

- Order and compare three-digit numbers
- Identify patterns and improve spatial sense
- Tell time to the nearest five minutes
- Practice skip counting by 2s, 5s, 10s, and 100s
- Learn to identify plane and solid shapes
- Identify pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters
- Increase understanding and retention of basic skills and vocabulary through songs, games, movement, manipulatives, and simulated experiences
- Apply math facts and skills to problem solving and critical thinking challenges

Science

- Identify the structures and functions of plants and animals
- Explore inheritance and variation of traits
- Observe and identify patterns in the sky
- Take action for conservation—learn to reduce, reuse, recycle, and repurpose
- Explore practical applications of earth and physical science
- Apply a sense of order (or not) to nature

History and Geography

- Understand how to read a map by using a key, legend and/or symbols
- Review the seven continents and four major oceans and locate the Equator, poles, hemispheres, and Pinewood’s continent, country, state, and community
- Gain a basic understanding of the development and contributions of the early world civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt
- Introduce and compare various traditions, beliefs, and customs associated with the three major world religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam
- Celebrate the rich culture of modern day Mexico
- Learn how the earliest American civilizations of the Maya, Aztecs, and Incas developed and fell
- Learn about the first European explorers and settlers of America
- Learn the key figures, significance, and events of the American Revolution and the evolution from colonies to independence
- Gain an introductory knowledge of the early exploration of the American West
- Recognize and become familiar with the Liberty Bell, the current US President, the American Flag, and the Bald Eagle

Spanish

- Physically respond to commands given in Spanish
- Respond with a name or a number, a yes or no, one word from an “either/or” choice
- Respond to and ask simple questions in contextualized situations
- Provide basic information in contextualized situations
- Develop listening comprehension of vocabulary and phrases
- Recognize frequently used words in Spanish
- Write simple sentences in the present tense
- Work with realia from Spanish-speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning animal sounds or exploring food from a Spanish-speaking country

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Learn basic musical elements—rhythm, melody, form, dynamics, and musical nuances
- Identify and match pitch using the Kodaly and John Curwen techniques
- Identify and classify various music instruments
- Experience selected master composers across multiple genres and their works
- Sing while moving and/or dancing to further express music
- Play basic Orff instruments in an ensemble setting
- Learn to play the recorder in 2nd grade
- Compose rhythmic and melodic phrases
- Develop confidence in performing solos and singing with a group
- Use technology to assess, enhance, and improve solo and/or group performances
- Learn music of other cultures and languages to celebrate diversity

Visual Arts

- Recognize the elements and principles of art
- Study art history
- Explore drawing and painting styles
- Learn color theory using paint, markers, colored pencils and pastels on two and three dimensional surfaces
- Paint watercolors using wet into wet and dry brush techniques
- Sculpt using clay, paper mache, gauze, cardboard and paper
- Create collages using their own art pieces
- Critique peer's artwork
- Mix and apply tempura paint onto two and three dimensional surfaces
- Study artists such as Maurice Sendak, Vincent Van Gogh, John James Audubon and Pablo Picasso

Computer Science and Engineering

(monthly three-day units)

- Learn, practice, and expand knowledge of “block based” programming language and robotics
 - ScratchJr
 - OctoStudio
 - Code.org
 - Ozobots
 - VEX GO
- Apply the design thinking process to creative problem solving challenges
- Integrate engineering projects with content from science, history, language arts, music, and Spanish

Physical Education

Based on the San Diego State University SPARK (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids) curriculum

- Develop basic locomotor and manipulative skills designed for athletic success
- Develop good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Learn to enjoy and seek out physical activity
- Focus on team athletic skills

2nd Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day in oral reading groups
- Answer questions and speak using full sentences
- Give oral presentations

Penmanship

- Produce neat cursive with correctly formed letters at a fluent pace

Phonics for Spelling and Reading

- Recognize, recite, and produce examples of the letter patterns and rules that govern English and use these to encode (spell) and decode (read)
- Drill phonetic patterns daily with auditory, visual, and kinesthetic activities
- Spell and read the most commonly used words for K–4th grades
- Exercise visual memory by recalling words in spelling lists

Grammar and Punctuation

- Analyze and label parts of speech
- Experience, identify, and produce examples of regular and irregular verbs in present and past tenses
- Practice subject/verb and pronoun/antecedent agreement
- Distinguish between subjective and objective pronouns
- Recognize, label, and diagram base sentences
- Use commas after each word in a series, in letter greetings and closings, and dates
- Correctly use apostrophes in possessive nouns and contractions in basic sentences
- Correctly use quotation marks

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature each day and participate in a teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation of the classics
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that practice mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze.
- Read and enjoy poetry
- Incentivize and support daily independent reading at home
- Label genres and types of literature
- Listen to works read aloud by teacher that are above reading level but appropriate for auditory comprehension level
- Learn and discuss new vocabulary words from works of literature
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Mirette on the High Wire* by Emily Arnold McCully, and *Old Mother West Wind* by Thornton W. Burgess

Writing

- Create sentences and simple paragraphs and receive instruction to correct spelling and grammar
- Organize sentences in logical sequence within the paragraph
- Create personal narratives, stories, poems and informative writing and receive input from teacher and peers
- Compose opinion paragraphs (topic and support) with teacher support

Math

- Understand place value to thousands
- Add and subtract within 20
- Develop understanding of multiplication and division through models and strategies
- Multiply and divide within 100
- Add and subtract multi-digit numbers using place value strategies
- Order and compare multi-digit numbers
- Identify patterns and improve spatial sense
- Identify, sort, classify, and measure plane and solid shapes
- Learn about elapsed time
- Understand fractions as parts of a whole and on a number line
- Represent and interpret data using graphs
- Calculate area and perimeter

Science

- Describe an animal's or plant's purpose in its ecosystem and our impact on them.
- Observe effects of water on plants
- Define properties of rocks and minerals
- Explore pollination and seed dispersal
- Create a pollinator
- Understand conservation of land and water through rainbow trout
- Put what we have learned about animals and habitats into rainbow trout life cycle, body parts, and needs
- Replicate fast and slow Earth events
- Nurture the classroom creatures and the outdoor garden
- Explore practical applications of earth and physical science
- Apply a sense of order (or not) to nature

History and Geography

- Introduce various geographical features and locations of Canada and the Americas
- Gain a basic understanding of the development and contributions of the early Asian civilizations of India and China
- Celebrate and introduce the modern civilization and culture of Japan
- Learn about the great contributions, traditions, cultures, wars, and influential leaders from ancient Greece
- Introduce the Constitution and the organization of the American Government
- Learn about the key participants, battles, events and effects of the War of 1812
- Study Westward Expansion across the United State
- Understand the controversy over slavery while learning about the key parties and events of the Civil War
- Introduce the Civil Rights Movement
- Recognize and become familiar with the significance of the American Flag, the Statue of Liberty, and the Lincoln Memorial
- Explore the United States as a nation of immigrants, highlighting the experiences of newcomers, the growth of diverse communities, and the responsibilities and processes of citizenship

Spanish

- Physically respond to commands given in Spanish
- Respond with a name or a number, a yes or no, one word from an "either/or" choice
- Respond to and ask simple questions in contextualized situations

- Provide basic information in contextualized situations
- Develop listening comprehension of vocabulary and phrases
- Recognize frequently used words in Spanish
- Write simple sentences in the present tense
- Work with realia from Spanish-speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning animal sounds or exploring food from a Spanish-speaking country

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Learn basic musical elements—rhythm, melody, form, dynamics, and musical nuances
- Identify and match pitch using the Kodaly and John Curwen techniques
- Identify and classify various music instruments
- Experience selected master composers across multiple genres and their works
- Sing while moving and/or dancing to further express music
- Play basic Orff instruments in an ensemble setting
- Learn to play the recorder in 2nd grade
- Compose rhythmic and melodic phrases
- Develop confidence in performing solos and singing with a group
- Use technology to assess, enhance, and improve solo and/or group performances
- Learn music of other cultures and languages to celebrate diversity

Visual Arts

- Recognize the elements and principles of art
- Study art history
- Draw and paint realistically and abstractly
- Create mixed media projects
- Blend and gradate colors using paint, pastels and colored pencils
- Mix and apply tempera paint onto two and three-dimensional surfaces
- Paint with watercolors using wet into wet, dry brush, and wash techniques
- Sculpt using clay, paper mache, and cardboard
- Critique peer’s artwork
- Study artists such as Beatrix Potter, Amedeo Modigliani and Claes Oldenburg

Computer Science and Engineering

(monthly three-day units)

- Learn, practice, and expand knowledge of “block based” programming language and robotics
 - ScratchJr
 - OctoStudio

- Code.org
- Ozobots
- VEX GO
- Apply the design thinking process to creative problem solving challenges
- Integrate engineering projects with content from science, history, language arts, music, and Spanish

Physical Education

Based on the San Diego State University SPARK (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids) curriculum

- Develop basic locomotor and manipulative skills designed for athletic success
- Develop good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Learn to enjoy and seek out physical activity
- Focus on team athletic skills

3rd Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively on a daily basis
- Give oral presentations of creative book reports
- Learn and apply techniques for excellence in oral presentation

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Exercise visual memory by recalling the order of words in poems
- Memorize and apply knowledge of all phonograms and their sounds
- Identify patterns in morphology and synthesize and describe these in spelling rules and apply these rules to reading and writing
- Understand types of nouns, adjectives, verbs, and adverbs using a formal grammar program
- Experience, identify, and produce examples of regular and irregular verbs in the past, present, and future tenses
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple sentence types including words that modify each part
- Reinforce ability to label the parts of a sentence, adding adverbial prepositional phrases
- Use commas in addresses and dates, and in a series
- Identify the four purposes of a sentence: declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and imperative

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature and participate in teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze.
- Read and appreciate poetry and memorize and recite two poems a month
- Write and respond to questions that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature
- Produce answers and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Read and discuss the elements of literature using: *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White, *The Cricket in Times Square* by George Selden, *Misty of Chincoteague* by Marguerite Henry, and *The Courage of Sarah Noble* by Alice Dalgliesh

Writing

- Learn and practice the writing process
- Write guided paragraphs and essays that have a main idea, supporting details, transitions, and a conclusion which use varied sentence structures
- Organize sentences in logical sequence within the paragraph and learn to vary sentence structure
- Produce examples of informative, narrative, and informative-narrative genres.
- Write personal narratives, stories, and poems and receive input from teacher and peers
- Write a research paper or project in conjunction with the history class
- Create a digital writing portfolio combining technology and language arts in a creative way

Math

Whole Number Operations

- Understand place value through millions
- Compare, order, round, add, and subtract multi-digit whole numbers
- Multiply and divide multi-digit numbers
- Identify factors and multiples
- Divide with remainders and regrouping
- Follow order of operations in whole number calculations
- Identify, generate, and explain numerical patterns

Fractions and Decimals

- Recognize and generate equivalent fractions
- Compare fractions with different numerators and denominators
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators
- Relate fractions and decimals to hundredths

Measurements and Data

- Use customary and metric units of measurement
- Solve problems involving time and elapsed time
- Collect, organize, and interpret data using tables and graphs

Geometry

- Draw and classify lines and angles
- Identify symmetry in two-dimensional figures
- Classify two-dimensional shapes

Science

- Experiment with the properties of water by performing various experiments
- Learn about water scarcity and the importance of conserving water resources
- Grow various plants and fungi
- Learn about the life cycles of plants
- Use microscopes to study the cells within plants and animals
- Build comfortable habitats for small animals (crickets)
- Compare and contrast biomes of the world
- Study food chains, food webs, and the energy transfer between predator and prey

History and Geography

- Analyze important myths to identify themes such as bravery, consequences, and problem-solving, while making connections to students' own lives
- Describe key events and people during the rise and fall of the Roman Empire
- Learn about the major rivers of the world and the role they play in the establishment of world civilizations
- Understand geography, key events, and people of the original US colonies
- Study the first American settlers, specifically the Inuit to the Anasazi and their contributions to the United States
- Write a research paper on a Native American tribe of North America, to be presented orally in history class—this is a cross-curricular project with the language arts class
- Explore how geography, religion, and political systems shaped medieval Europe
- Examine the beliefs and practices of Islam, the expansion and cultural achievements of Muslim civilizations, and how interactions with Europe—including the Crusades—shaped trade, knowledge exchange, and connections across regions

- Learn about the rise and fall and the geography of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca empires

Spanish

- Listen and understand more complex commands and language used in the classroom.
- Use a growing number of words and phrases to describe thematic topics
- Use sentences in responses
- Make negative and affirmative statements
- Maintain a simple conversation about thematic topics.
- Ask a growing number of questions including “who,” “what,” “when,” “where,” and “why”
- Use more complex commands to direct classmates’ actions
- Demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary when describing, giving opinions, comparing and contrasting, and participating in familiar and new activities
- Read and discuss novellas in Spanish
- Read aloud familiar material and sentences s/he has written
- Write short sentences about thematic topics and gradually write more creatively
- Work with realia from Spanish speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories written for Spanish-speaking children
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning about different Spanish-speaking countries through projects and virtual traveling

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Explore pitch, melody, and harmony through singing, ear training, and solfeggio
- Play, create, and sing music as an ensemble
- Participate in movement activities designed to reinforce phrasing, rhythm, and team work
- Perform and listen to different types of music from various cultures and time periods.
- Identify musical elements: rhythm, meter, melody, phrase, form, and dynamics
- Work as individuals and in groups to compose and notate original music
- Appreciate folk music from around the world
- Listen to great composers and their signature works while relating their artistic contributions to modern music
- Continue to develop performance skills and audience etiquette
- Learn simple improvisation techniques using the pentatonic scale, various modes, blues patterns, ostinatos, and other methods
- Sight-read rhythmic notation using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes and variations
- Learn about the instruments of the orchestra, jazz band, and cultural ensembles
- Coordinate with the History Department to provide reinforcement through music of the time period being studied

Visual Arts

- Design and create original artwork using various techniques and mediums such as collage, watercolor, oil pastel, paper sculpture, block prints, ink and wash
- Model guidance through live demonstrations
- Understand color theory practice
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Elements of art intro and exploration
- Setup work area, clean up procedures, and care for art materials and art room
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Collaborate with other subject areas

Computer Science and Engineering

(daily classes for one quarter of computer science and one quarter of design and engineering)

- Develop computational thinking and software development skills through progressive programming experiences
 - Scratch 3.0
 - Code.org
 - Apple Swift Playgrounds
 - App Lab
 - Python (6th grade students work exclusively in Python)
- Reinforce programming concepts through physical computing and robotics projects
 - Makey Makey
 - Micro:bit
 - VEX IQ
 - Lego Robotics
- Apply design thinking process to hands-on engineering challenges
- Learn both digital and physical fabrication skills and prototyping
 - 3D design and printing
 - Laser cutting
 - CAD software
- Develop practical engineering skills and working with tools connected to real-world needs
 - Cutting tools
 - Adhesives
 - Woodworking techniques
 - Fasteners (nuts, bolts, screws, saws)
 - Electrical wiring and circuits

Physical Education

- Develop a variety of basic movement and manipulative skills through learning and playing team sports
- Acquire good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Improve responsibility through participating in Intramurals by managing and playing games with students of different ages and skill levels
- Demonstrate respect, kindness, and compassion for individual differences in physical abilities
- Analyze and identify possible strategies and ideas when participating in an individual or team challenge, and be able to problem solve to find the best solution

- Understand, locate, and describe the functions of the human skeletal and muscular systems and the organs of the human body
- Create an environment that is safe, nurturing, and fun

4th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Practice discussion techniques of listening, agreeing or disagreeing, and building on ideas through literature analysis
- Engage in partner discussion to reinforce learning and express ideas in all areas
- Learn to use expression, cadence, intonation, volume, and body language effectively in poetry and reading
- Give book talks on interesting reads

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Exercise visual memory by recalling words in poems
- Identify patterns in morphology and synthesize and describe these in spelling rules and apply these rules to reading and writing
- Understand types of verbs, nouns, and pronouns and their function in a sentence.
- Study modifiers, including adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases, and identify their role within the sentence and label and diagram accordingly
- Learn proper use of commas and basic sentence punctuation

Literature and Comprehension

- Read from a challenging work of literature and participate in teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze
- Close read, analyze, enjoy, and memorize poetry
- Write and respond to questions that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature
- Produce answers and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Learn different genres of literature through book talks, partner discussion, and a rich classroom library
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo, *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls, and *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- Enjoy and discuss novels and illustrated read alouds to develop reading skills such as inference, synthesis, prediction and making connections, and critique and analyze excellent writing

Writing

- Train students to use strong and pertinent ideas organized with a clear beginning, middle, and end
- Improve fluency and voice by writing sentences that flow smoothly, are easy to read, and have carefully chosen words
- Use clear and grammatically correct writing conventions
- Produce examples of expository, descriptive, narrative, and persuasive writing
- Respond to literature through writing summaries, reflective writing, and application of text

Math

Whole Number Operations

- Read, write, and understand place value with whole numbers and decimals
- Compare, order, and round whole numbers and decimals
- Multiply and divide multi-digit whole numbers
- Write and evaluate numerical expressions using order of operations
- Assess reasonableness of answers using estimation

Fractions and Decimals

- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals
- Relate fractions and decimals

Measurements and Data

- Convert and display units of measurement
- Interpret and display data using graphs and line plots

Geometry

- Graph points on the coordinate plane
- Calculate volume of rectangular prisms
- Classify two-dimensional shapes

Science

- Learn how rocks transform through the rock cycle and transition from igneous to sedimentary to metamorphic states
- Identify well-known rocks and minerals by examining samples
- Learn how crystallization occurs naturally in the earth, as well as how jewelry can be made from precious metals and gemstones
- Identify the layers of the Earth and tectonic plates
- Understand the relationship between plate tectonics and natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis
- Examine fossils found in rocks and make connections to scientists' understanding of the Earth's history
- Learn how trash never goes away, and how it leads to environmental problems in our air, land, and oceans
- Learn how recycling and composting programs work
- Learn how the 3 R's (reducing, reusing, and recycling) can reduce the amount of trash that individuals and societies produce

History and Geography

- Learn and use mapping skills in order to locate landmarks on a map
- Learn and identify the major mountain ranges by continent as well as the highest mountain peaks in the world
- Explore the Renaissance as a period of renewed interest in classical ideas, artistic and scientific advancement, and expanding curiosity about the world
- Examine the causes and impacts of European exploration, including the pursuit of trade and religious expansion, the rise of global trade networks and colonization, and the development of the plantation system and transatlantic slave trade
- Exploration of North America - Identify the major early Spanish explorers and the major events of the settlement of North America
- Study westward expansion in the United States, focusing on geographic influences, the motivations and challenges of settlers, the impact on Native Americans, and how ideas

like Manifest Destiny and events such as the annexation of Texas shaped the nation's growth

- Learn California history and geography and visit Old Mission San Juan Bautista and enjoy a 2-day trip to the Gold Country

Spanish

- Listen and understand more complex commands and language used in the classroom.
- Use a growing number of words and phrases to describe thematic topics
- Use sentences in responses
- Make negative and affirmative statements
- Maintain a simple conversation about thematic topics.
- Ask a growing number of questions including “who,” “what,” “when,” “where,” and “why”
- Use more complex commands to direct classmates' actions
- Demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary when describing, giving opinions, comparing and contrasting, and participating in familiar and new activities
- Read and discuss novellas in Spanish
- Read aloud familiar material and sentences s/he has written
- Write short sentences about thematic topics and gradually write more creatively
- Work with realia from Spanish speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories written for Spanish-speaking children
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning about different Spanish-speaking countries through projects and virtual traveling

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Explore pitch, melody, and harmony through singing, ear training, and solfeggio
- Play, create, and sing music as an ensemble
- Participate in movement activities designed to reinforce phrasing, rhythm, and team work
- Perform and listen to different types of music from various cultures and time periods.
- Identify musical elements: rhythm, meter, melody, phrase, form, and dynamics
- Work as individuals and in groups to compose and notate original music
- Appreciate folk music from around the world
- Listen to great composers and their signature works while relating their artistic contributions to modern music
- Continue to develop performance skills and audience etiquette
- Learn simple improvisation techniques using the pentatonic scale, various modes, blues patterns, ostinatos, and other methods
- Sight-read rhythmic notation using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes and variations
- Learn about the instruments of the orchestra, jazz band, and cultural ensembles

- Coordinate with the History Department to provide reinforcement through music of the time period being studied

Visual Arts

- Design and create original artwork using various techniques and mediums such as calligraphy, exploration of various surfaces, 3D projects and oil and dry pastels
- Learn how to bring a drawing to life through detail and light, not just shape
- Study the life and works of Titian, Durer, Rembrandt, and Velasquez
- Understand color theory practice
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Explore and discuss the elements of art
- Setup work area, clean up procedures, and care for art materials and art room
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Collaborate with other subject areas

Computer Science and Engineering

(daily classes for one quarter of computer science and one quarter of design and engineering)

- Develop computational thinking and software development skills through progressive programming experiences
 - Scratch 3.0
 - Code.org
 - Apple Swift Playgrounds
 - App Lab
 - Python (6th grade students work exclusively in Python)
- Reinforce programming concepts through physical computing and robotics projects
 - Makey Makey
 - Micro:bit
 - VEX IQ
 - Lego Robotics
- Apply design thinking process to hands-on engineering challenges
- Learn both digital and physical fabrication skills and prototyping
 - 3D design and printing
 - Laser cutting
 - CAD software
- Develop practical engineering skills and working with tools connected to real-world needs
 - Cutting tools
 - Adhesives
 - Woodworking techniques
 - Fasteners (nuts, bolts, screws, saws)
 - Electrical wiring and circuits

Physical Education

- Develop a variety of basic movement and manipulative skills through learning and playing team sports
- Acquire good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Improve responsibility through participating in Intramurals by managing and playing games with students of different ages and skill levels
- Demonstrate respect, kindness, and compassion for individual differences in physical

abilities

- Analyze and identify possible strategies and ideas when participating in an individual or team challenge, and be able to problem solve to find the best solution
- Understand, locate, and describe the functions of the human skeletal and muscular systems and the organs of the human body
- Create an environment that is safe, nurturing, and fun

5th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day in oral reading groups
- Give oral presentations in all subject areas
- Learn to use expression, cadence, intonation, volume, and body language effectively in oral presentations and reading

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Exercise visual memory by recalling poems
- Continue identifying and analyzing the functions of nouns, verbs, and modifiers
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentence types
- Reinforce ability to label the parts of a sentence, adding indirect objects.
- Use commas for appositives, after introductory elements, and after nouns of direct address

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature each day and participate in teacher-led discussion to enhance comprehension and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze
- Read and enjoy poetry and memorize and recite two poems a month
- Write and respond to questions that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature
- Produce answers and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech, *Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame, and *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

Writing

- Continue practicing the Six traits of writing and the writing process
- Experience expository writing in response to literary and informational texts
- Continue to produce examples of expository, descriptive, and persuasive writing including creative writing and poetry writing
- Respond to literature and informational texts through writing and be able to write summaries
- Write one research report on history related topics, which could include Mesoamerican cultures, shapers of history, or westward expansion

Math

Whole Number, Decimals, and Fractions

- Write and evaluate numerical expressions using exponents
- Identify factors and multiples, including GCF and LCM
- Compare and order fractions, decimals, and percents
- Perform operations with fractions and decimals

Measurements and Data

- Calculate area, surface area, and volume

- Analyze data using measures of center and variability

Ratio, Proportion, and Percent Relationships

- Solve problems using ratios and unit rates
- Solve percent problems

Integers and Algebra

- Compare and operate with integers and rational numbers
- Write and simplify algebraic expressions
- Solve one-step equations

Science

- Become familiar with physical forces that govern our world
- Learn about simple machines that make work easier
- Grow familiar with Isaac Newton’s Three Laws of Motion
- Grow familiar with the steps of the scientific method.
- Design and present a Science Fair Project.

History and Geography

- Learn to apply the lens of Cultural Characteristics of Place as a tool to compare and contrast different societies and civilizations
- Develop a deep understanding of the diversity and complexity of indigenous populations and the effects of their collision with colonizing nations
- Deepen understanding of colonization through the study of motives and means of the great colonizing nations of Europe
- Understand the influence of France, Holland, Great Britain, and Spain on North America through their battles for it and related land transactions
- Develop a deep understanding of the diversity of the 13 colonies, their efforts at self-governance, their relations with indigenous populations, and their economies
- Understand the role the French and Indian War played in inspiring thoughts of independence from the crown
- Research and understand all of the events that led to the Continental Congress and the grievances from the crown that led to the Declaration of Independence
- Develop a deep understanding of the components of the Declaration of Independence.
- Gain an understanding of the important people, battles and outcomes of the Revolutionary War
- Learn about the unfulfilled promise of the French and Indian War for the colonists as Westward Expansion takes shape under the justification of Manifest Destiny

Spanish

- Listen and understand more complex commands and language used in the classroom.
- Use a growing number of words and phrases to describe thematic topics
- Use sentences in responses
- Make negative and affirmative statements
- Maintain a simple conversation about thematic topics.
- Ask a growing number of questions including “who,” “what,” “when,” “where,” and “why”
- Use more complex commands to direct classmates’ actions
- Demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary when describing, giving opinions, comparing and contrasting, and participating in familiar and new activities
- Read and discuss novellas in Spanish
- Read aloud familiar material and sentences s/he has written
- Write short sentences about thematic topics and gradually write more creatively

- Work with realia from Spanish speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories written for Spanish-speaking children
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning about different Spanish-speaking countries through projects and virtual travelling

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Explore pitch, melody, and harmony through singing, ear training, and solfeggio
- Play, create, and sing music as an ensemble
- Participate in movement activities designed to reinforce phrasing, rhythm, and team work
- Perform and listen to different types of music from various cultures and time periods.
- Identify musical elements: rhythm, meter, melody, phrase, form, and dynamics
- Work as individuals and in groups to compose and notate original music
- Appreciate folk music from around the world
- Listen to great composers and their signature works while relating their artistic contributions to modern music
- Continue to develop performance skills and audience etiquette
- Learn simple improvisation techniques using the pentatonic scale, various modes, blues patterns, ostinatos, and other methods
- Sight-read rhythmic notation using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes and variations
- Learn about the instruments of the orchestra, jazz band, and cultural ensembles
- Coordinate with the History Department to provide reinforcement through music of the time period being studied

Visual Arts

- Design and create original artwork using various techniques and mediums such as assemblage, oil, acrylic, and tempera paint, digital drawing, and perspective
- Study the life and works of Raphael, El Greco, and Turner
- Understand color theory practice
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Explore and discuss the elements of art
- Setup work area, clean up procedures, and care for art materials and art room
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Collaborate with other subject areas

Computer Science and Engineering

(daily classes for one quarter of computer science and one quarter of design and engineering)

- Develop computational thinking and software development skills through progressive programming experiences
 - Scratch 3.0
 - Code.org
 - Apple Swift Playgrounds
 - App Lab
 - Python (6th grade students work exclusively in Python)
- Reinforce programming concepts through physical computing and robotics projects
 - Makey Makey
 - Micro:bit
 - VEX IQ
 - Lego Robotics
- Apply design thinking process to hands-on engineering challenges
- Learn both digital and physical fabrication skills and prototyping
 - 3D design and printing
 - Laser cutting
 - CAD software
- Develop practical engineering skills and working with tools connected to real-world needs
 - Cutting tools
 - Adhesives
 - Woodworking techniques
 - Fasteners (nuts, bolts, screws, saws)
 - Electrical wiring and circuits

Physical Education

- Develop a variety of basic movement and manipulative skills through learning and playing team sports
- Acquire good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Improve responsibility through participating in Intramurals by managing and playing games with students of different ages and skill levels
- Demonstrate respect, kindness, and compassion for individual differences in physical abilities
- Analyze and identify possible strategies and ideas when participating in an individual or team challenge, and be able to problem solve to find the best solution
- Understand, locate, and describe the functions of the human skeletal and muscular systems and the organs of the human body
- Create an environment that is safe, nurturing, and fun

6th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Oral Communication

- Read aloud expressively each day in literature
- Give oral presentations on a variety of topics
- Learn to use expression, cadence, intonation, volume, and body language effectively in oral presentations and reading

Spelling, Grammar, and Conventions

- Study a vocabulary program that includes regular assessments
- Define, label, and identify the parts of speech in all of their functions and parts of a sentence
- Review all types of clauses
- Practice subject/verb agreement with sentences having indefinite pronouns, intervening phrases, and compound subjects
- Recognize, label, and diagram simple, compound, complex, and compound- complex sentence types
- Identify and label all types of verbals
- Review use of commas and practice using them with nonessential elements and sentence interrupters
- Use grammar as a tool for comprehension and effectiveness in writing

Literature and Comprehension

- Read aloud from a challenging work of literature each day and participate in discussions to enhance comprehension, analysis, and appreciation
- Strengthen comprehension skills with activities that develop mental imagery, improve recall, build vocabulary, and increase ability to summarize and analyze
- Read, study, memorize, and enjoy poetry
- Respond to a variety of prompts that elicit comprehension, analysis, and creative thinking about literature and informational texts
- Complete exercises and take quizzes on vocabulary words from a formal vocabulary program that encourages students to experience each word in various forms and to use contextual clues to apply the word accurately and effectively
- Read and discuss books and authors including: *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass, *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson, *Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep, *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, as well as primary and secondary sources and essays deepening understanding of history and science

Writing

- Develop a clear topic and establish its validity by providing supporting details
- Identify and use reference materials for research reports and data based questions
- Develop an outline that shows the relationship of details to main ideas
- Apply the conventions of the English language and organizational structure to writing
- Collaborate with the history teacher to respond to informational texts through expository writing
- Become a competent, confident writer with a distinctive personal style
- Practice and perfect different genres of writing including, expository, compare and contrast, research report, descriptions, narratives, persuasion, poetry, and literary analysis

Math

Patterns and Relationships

- Use order of operations with rational numbers
- Apply exponents and powers

Integers and Rational Numbers

- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers
- Compare and order rational numbers

Algebra

- Write, simplify, and evaluate algebraic expressions
- Solve equations and inequalities
- Represent solutions on a number line

Ratio, Proportion, and Percent Relationships

- Solve problems involving ratios, proportions, and percents

Graphs and Functions

- Graph linear relationships on the coordinate plane

Measurements and Data

- Analyze and interpret statistical data
- Calculate probabilities of simple and compound events

Geometry

- Classify geometric figures and measure angles
- Calculate surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures

Science

- Learn the relationship between potential and kinetic energy
- Learn how energy can be transformed into different forms
- Learn the three types of energy transfer
- Become familiar with units of energy (Joules) and Power (Watts)
- Identify energy chains and chain reactions
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of renewable and non-renewable energy sources

History and Geography

- Explore the history of world religions through the study of belief bubbles that show the range of ideas from theism to atheism and the First Amendment that protects all of those ideas
- Gain an introduction to government through its evolution as it transitioned from Monarchy to Oligarchy, Tyranny and ultimately Democracy in Ancient Greece
- Explore the ideas of Newton, Descartes, Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau, and Voltaire and their influence on modern thought and modern government
- Deepen the understanding of government and the struggle for power through exploration of the French Revolution and the influence of the American Revolution on it, the Old Regime and the Three Estates in French Society, King Louis the XIV, XV, and XVI, the Declaration of the Rights of Man, the Reign of Terror, and Napoleon Bonaparte
- Explore the Industrial Revolution and its effect on society through the study of the technology that drove it, and the shift from farm system to factory system
- Gain an introductory understanding of Capitalism and Socialism through the study of Adam Smith, the law of supply and demand, income inequality, income redistribution,

Karl Marx and the Communist Manifesto

- Explore the history of immigration to the United States through the study of the push and pull factors, the ebb and flow between nativism and pro-immigration attitudes and the legislation enforcing those attitudes with a specific focus on the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
- Study the causes and implications of the Civil War

Spanish

- Listen and understand more complex commands and language used in the classroom.
- Use a growing number of words and phrases to describe thematic topics
- Use sentences in responses
- Make negative and affirmative statements
- Maintain a simple conversation about thematic topics.
- Ask a growing number of questions including “who,” “what,” “when,” “where,” and “why”
- Use more complex commands to direct classmates’ actions
- Demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary when describing, giving opinions, comparing and contrasting, and participating in familiar and new activities
- Read and discuss novellas in Spanish
- Read aloud familiar material and sentences s/he has written
- Write short sentences about thematic topics and gradually write more creatively
- Work with realia from Spanish speaking countries
- Learn simple rhymes, songs, and games
- Listen to simple stories written for Spanish-speaking children
- Participate in cultural activities such as learning about different Spanish-speaking countries through projects and virtual traveling

Musical Theater

- Practice, perfect, and perform a musical theater production which includes:
 - memorization of script, dance routines, and accompanying songs
 - character expression through face, voice, and movement
 - two school assembly performances and one family performance
- Gain self-confidence in performing before a group
- Experience an activity that provides balance to a rigorous academic program
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility by contributing to an ensemble performance
- Learn audience etiquette through attendance at other class performances

Music

- Explore pitch, melody, and harmony through singing, ear training, and solfeggio
- Play, create, and sing music as an ensemble
- Participate in movement activities designed to reinforce phrasing, rhythm, and team work
- Perform and listen to different types of music from various cultures and time periods.
- Identify musical elements: rhythm, meter, melody, phrase, form, and dynamics
- Work as individuals and in groups to compose and notate original music
- Appreciate folk music from around the world
- Listen to great composers and their signature works while relating their artistic contributions to modern music
- Continue to develop performance skills and audience etiquette
- Learn simple improvisation techniques using the pentatonic scale, various modes, blues patterns, ostinatos, and other methods
- Sight-read rhythmic notation using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes

and sixteenth notes and variations

- Learn about the instruments of the orchestra, jazz band, and cultural ensembles
- Coordinate with the History Department to provide reinforcement through music of the time period being studied

Visual Arts

- Design and fabrication of original artwork using the following techniques and mediums such as visionboards, watercolor pencil and ink on illustration board, cardboard, and mixed media
- Study and display the life and works of various artists with the master study project
- Share work through art show and sketchbook
- Mentor peers and collaborate
- Learn art vocabulary and concepts
- Care for art materials and art room
- Collaboration with other subject areas

Computer Science and Engineering

(daily classes for one quarter of computer science and one quarter of design and engineering)

- Develop computational thinking and software development skills through progressive programming experiences
 - Scratch 3.0
 - Code.org
 - Apple Swift Playgrounds
 - App Lab
 - Python (6th grade students work exclusively in Python)
- Reinforce programming concepts through physical computing and robotics projects
 - Makey Makey
 - Micro:bit
 - VEX IQ
 - Lego Robotics
- Apply design thinking process to hands-on engineering challenges
- Learn both digital and physical fabrication skills and prototyping
 - 3D design and printing
 - Laser cutting
 - CAD software
- Develop practical engineering skills and working with tools connected to real-world needs
 - Cutting tools
 - Adhesives
 - Woodworking techniques
 - Fasteners (nuts, bolts, screws, saws)
 - Electrical wiring and circuits

Physical Education

- Develop a variety of basic movement and manipulative skills through learning and playing team sports
- Acquire good sportsmanship and leadership skills
- Improve responsibility through participating in Intramurals by managing and playing games with students of different ages and skill levels
- Demonstrate respect, kindness, and compassion for individual differences in physical

abilities

- Analyze and identify possible strategies and ideas when participating in an individual or team challenge, and be able to problem solve to find the best solution
- Understand, locate, and describe the functions of the human skeletal and muscular systems and the organs of the human body
- Create an environment that is safe, nurturing, and fun