



Royal Oak Schools Curriculum Guide 2011-2012

Kindergarten Curriculum

Royal Oak Schools has a comprehensive curriculum for all Kindergarteners that includes academics, physical education, health, music and art. Our curriculum also includes areas essential to the education of the total child. We pay close attention to the physical learning environment and the learning climate of our classrooms. We recognize the uniqueness of every child and are dedicated to providing the best educational experience possible. This guide describes Royal Oak's Curriculum for kindergarten students in the core academic areas of language arts, social studies, math and science.

The Kindergarten Student

Kindergarteners are curious and eager to learn. They are beginning to see their world expand and enthusiastically greet each day.

- Instruction is delivered in a variety of ways addressing different learning styles, which enhances the cognitive development of each child.
- Our curriculum is under continuous review by teachers and administrators from all buildings.
- Our instruction is integrated thematically. As new valid information, research and assessments become available, our staff makes necessary revisions.
- Teachers carefully monitor the progress of all students in a variety of ways. Report cards are sent home in January and June. Students are assessed using the Michigan Literacy Progress Profile.
- This brochure outlines what we expect kindergarteners to demonstrate throughout the year in each of the four core curricular areas.
- At every level students accomplish important milestones in each curricular area. The curriculum is developmentally appropriate and challenging at each grade.

Language Arts

Royal Oak's K-12 English Language Arts curriculum provides a framework for students to develop reading, writing, listening, speaking, and critical thinking skills. In Language Arts, students will:

- discuss text that are read aloud.
- retell stories, write journal entries and answer questions that reflect their knowledge of content information.
- use multiple strategies to construct meaning.
- make inferences and draw conclusions.
- demonstrate an understanding of phonemic awareness (letter sounds, word patterns and word families) using guided reading.
- create pieces of writing to include in their K-12 Literacy Folders.
- use effective listening and speaking skills when discussing, retelling, predicting and generating questions.

Social Studies

Royal Oak's K-12 Social Studies Curriculum provides the framework for students to develop social understanding and civic responsibility by building four capacities in learners: disciplinary knowledge, thinking skills, commitment to democratic values, and citizen participation. The Kindergarten Social Studies Curriculum orients students to being responsible members of society. Throughout the year, students practice collecting, interpreting, organizing, analyzing and presenting simple information pertaining to their preliminary study of civics, geography, history and economics.

CIVIC PERSPECTIVE

Students will:

- identify rules (at school and community levels).
- understand consequences of not having rules and/or breaking them.
- apply concepts of justice, freedom and fairness in making individual and group decisions.

GEOGRAPHY

Students will:

- select and use appropriate spatial terms (e.g., over, under, beside).
- describe their place in surroundings (e.g., home, neighborhood, school, community).

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Students will:

- use vocabulary (e.g., weeks, months, years) to describe intervals of time.
- recognize people and events from the past by identifying who, what, where, and when.

ECONOMICS

Students will:

- identify ways families produce and consume goods and services.
- list ways that people can conserve limited resources.

Math

The K-12 Mathematics Curriculum provides the framework for students to develop reasoning, communication, and problem-solving skills. The five strands of the Math Curriculum include: Numbers and Operations, Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, Data and Probability. In Math, students will:

- recognize, describe and extend numerical and geometric patterns.
- design and create a pattern.
- Recognize, name, compare, sort and classify the following shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval and diamond.
- use a thermometer, measuring sticks, scales, liquid containers, clocks, and calendars.
- collect and organize data using concrete objects, pictures, tallies, tables, charts, diagrams and graphs.
- use vocabulary to describe amounts: same, different, more, less, equal to, less than, and greater than.
- read and write numerals 0-30.
- count orally to 100 by 1's and 10's.
- combine sets of objects less than 10.
- group sets of objects by 10.
- build models of addition and subtraction.
- classify numbers as even or odd.
- students will sort and classify object to make set.

Science

The Science Curriculum provides the framework for students to develop scientific literacy by using, constructing, and reflecting on scientific knowledge, and coming to informed conclusions. Students will learn concepts and theories of the three main science areas: earth, life, and physical. In Science, students will:

- study science on a daily basis.
- develop a curiosity about the world through hands-on investigations.
- identify and define key scientific content terms.
- record, organize, analyze, and reflect on data collected to answer questions created from and about the natural and physical world.
- explain their findings through written and oral reporting.

Topics covered in Kindergarten Science will include:

- Inquiry, reflection, and social implications
- Motion of objects
- Organization of living things
- Solid Earth

What Parents Can Do

- Talk to your child daily about school.
- Talk to and work with your child's teacher(s).
- Read a variety of materials daily.
- Practice writing at home (e.g., notes, thank you notes, letters, and lists).
- Make math part of everyday life (e.g., money, time).
- Acknowledge a good job when you see it.
- Check and sign your child's planner daily.
- Look over and discuss your child's work.
- Promote community service and involvement in school activities.

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