

Half Hollow Hills Central School District



**Elementary Curriculum Overview
September 2017
KINDERGARTEN**

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September 2017

Dear Parents:

The Half Hollow Hills School District is committed to providing meaningful opportunities and outcomes for all children, designed to help them reach their fullest potential.

This guide provides parents with an overview of the kindergarten curriculum and the skills the students will acquire in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Additionally, it will serve as a resource in helping you to understand the total elementary instructional program. While our goals, expectations, and aspirations are the same for all of our students, we recognize that children develop at different rates socially, emotionally, and academically. Our program is supportive and nurturing, and it will also excite, motivate, and challenge all students to achieve.

Every member of our district team is an essential *ally in learning* for our students and their families. It is my hope that this guide will offer each parent important information to become collaborative partners toward this same goal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patrick Harrigan
Superintendent of Schools

Welcome

English Language Arts

New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy

Reading Literature and Informational Text

Reading Foundational Skills

Writing

Listening and Speaking

Language

Literacy skills cross over multiple categories. They are interrelated, and often applied in combination with each other. By the end of the kindergarten year, students should be able to:

Reading Literature/Informational Text and Foundational Skills

- Listen to/read and comprehend stories, informational texts, and poetry appropriate for kindergarten
- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text
- Retell familiar stories
- Describe similarities and differences between two texts on the same topic
- Recognize and name all upper and lowercase letters
- Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills to decode words

Language

- Regularly learn new words to expand vocabulary and concept knowledge
- Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts
- Describe people, places, things, events and ideas using interesting language
- Print all lower and uppercase letters

- Spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships
- Capitalize words at the beginning of sentences and the pronoun "I"

Writing

- Begin to experience writing as a process that includes grade appropriate writing and conferring with others for feedback to add details
- Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to communicate ideas
- Write opinion pieces to tell about a book; state an opinion
- Write informative/explanatory pieces to name a topic and provide some information about the topic
- Write narrative pieces to tell about events in the order in which they occurred

Speaking and Listening in whole class, small groups, and one-to-one conversations

- Participate in collaborative conversations about kindergarten topics and texts
- Follow agreed up on rules for conversation
- Build on others' talk
- Speak audibly and express ideas clearly



Mathematics

New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards For Mathematics

In Kindergarten, instructional time will focus on two critical areas: (1) representing, relating, and operating on whole numbers, initially with sets of objects; (2) describing shapes and space. More learning time in Kindergarten will be devoted to number than to other topics.

The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe varieties of expertise that all students are expected to develop. These practices rest on important “processes and proficiencies” with longstanding importance in mathematics education.

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. Model with mathematics
5. Use appropriate tools strategically
6. Attend to precision
7. Look for and make use of structure
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning



By the end of the kindergarten year, students will be able to:

Counting and Cardinality Domain

- Know number names and the count sequence
- Count to tell the number of objects
- Compare numbers

Operations and Algebraic Thinking Domain

- Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and Understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from

Number and Operations in Base Ten Domain

- Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value

Measurement and Data Domain

- Describe and compare measurable attributes
- Classify objects and count the number of objects in categories

Geometry Domain

- Identify and describe shapes
- Analyze, compare, create, and compose shapes

Science

New York State Standards for Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Students will:

- Use mathematical analysis, scientific inquiry, and technological design to pose questions, seek answers, develop solutions
- Access, process, and transfer information using appropriate technologies
- Understand mathematical concepts and principles, communicate and reason mathematically, and apply mathematics to real-world settings
- Understand and apply scientific concepts, principles, and theories
- Understand technological concepts and apply technological knowledge and skills
- Understand the relationships and common themes connecting mathematics, science, and technology
- Apply the knowledge and thinking skills of mathematics, science, and technology to address real-life problems and make informed decisions

By the end of the kindergarten year, students should be able to:

Scientific Inquiry

- Ask questions based on observations and experiences
- Make and test predictions
- Use observational skills to collect data
- Record data in varied forms
- Sort and classify data, recognizing simple patterns, sequences, and relationships
- Report on what they learn using visual and/or verbal modalities
- Use non-standard/standard units of measure to collect data

Engineering Design

- Identify problems
- Develop solutions
- Optimize solutions

The Physical Setting: Seasons

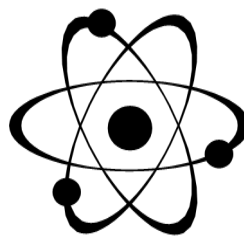
- Chart daily, monthly, and seasonal changes in the environment
- Recognize seasonal patterns
- Recognize the relationship between the sun and the Earth (day/night)
- Determine the effect of sunlight on Earth's surface
- Recognize the importance of caring for the Earth

The Physical Setting: Inquiry & Classification

- Observe and describe properties of materials using appropriate tools
- Observe, describe, and classify objects by their attributes
- Compare the effects of different directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of objects
- Conduct investigations to determine the effect of temperature on the states of matter

The Living Environment: Living and Nonliving

- Recognize the characteristics and variations between living and nonliving things
- Describe the structures of plants and animals
- Describe how these structures enable plants and animals to survive in the environment



Social Studies

In kindergarten, students study "Self and Others". The course is organized into three unifying themes: Myself, My School, and My School Community; Myself, My Family and Others; Myself and My Community. Students will learn about similarities and differences between children, families and communities and about holidays, symbols and traditions that unite us as Americans. Students learn about respect for others, and rights and responsibilities of individuals.

By the end of the kindergarten year, students should be able to:

Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence

- Ask questions.
- Recognize forms of evidence used to make meaning in social studies.
- Identify the author or creator of a book or map.
- Identify opinions expressed by others.
- Create understanding of the past.

Chronological Reasoning and Causation

- Retell an important life event in sequential order.
- Understand the concept of time measurements including days and weeks.
- Identify causes and effects using an example from his/her family life.
- Identify change over time in his/her life.
- Identify events of the past, present, and future in his/her life.
- Identify routines and common occurrences in his/her life.

Comparison and Contextualization

- Identify similarities and differences between home and school.
- Identify similarities and differences between him/her and others.
- Describe an event in his/her life.

Geographic Reasoning

- Ask geographic questions about where places are located and why they are located there using location terms and geographic representations such as maps, photographs, satellite images, and models.
- Identify natural events or physical features such as land, water, air, and wind.
- Describe how environment affects his/her activities.
- Identify a pattern.
- Identify a human activity that changed a place.

Economics Economic Systems

- Identify examples of scarcity and choices made due to scarcity.
- Identify examples of goods and services.
- Identify what money is and how it is used in society.

Civics Participation

- Demonstrate respect for the rights of others.
- Participate in activities that focus on a classroom or school issue or problem.
- Identify the role of the individual in classroom participation.
- Show respect in issues involving difference and conflict.
- Identify situations in which social actions are required.
- Identify the school principal and his/her role within the school.



Assessments

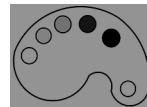
Assessment is a process for gathering information to meet a variety of evaluation needs. Educators collect and organize information or data to demonstrate the growth that each child makes in academic areas. Teachers use a variety of assessment tools, formally and informally, to determine where a child is in his/her developmental growth. Assessment is an integral part of the curriculum.



Specials

The following programs enrich the classroom experience and are provided on a weekly basis for all students:

- Art
- Music
- Library
- Physical Education (two times a week)



Additional Services

The following personnel and/or services are available to students on an “as needed” basis:

- School Nurse
- School Psychologist
- Speech and Language
- Reading support
- Resource room
- Occupational and Physical Therapy
- ELL (English Language Learning)

Additional Programs

- Music Lessons — available to all students beginning in third grade for strings and in fourth grade for band instruments
- Orchestra— available to students fourth and fifth grade
- Band - available to students in fourth and fifth grade



*Assessments/
Specials*

Elementary School Online Resources

Many of these sites are available through the HHH Website

<http://www.hhh.k12.ny.us>

Choose your school and
click on the link for "Library and Media Center"

Almanacs

- <http://www.farmersalmanac.com/> - Farmers Almanac.com
- <http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/> - Yahooligans Kids' Almanac
- <http://www.factmonster.com/almanacs.html> - Fact Monster Almanac
- <http://www.infoplease.com/almanacs.html?link=hptab> – Site to search all Info Please almanacs, or search individual almanacs by subject

Authors

- <http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace/askauthor/> - Learn more about some of your favorite authors

Biographies

- <http://www.biography.com/> - Search over 25,000 of the greatest lives, past and present
- <http://www.s9.com/biography/> - This biographical dictionary covers more than 28,000 notable men and women who have shaped our world from ancient times to the present day

Calendars

- <http://www3.kumc.edu/diversity/> - Diversity Calendar
- <http://www.earthcalendar.net/> - Calendar of celebrations by month: Earth Calendar

Current Events

- <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/> - Time For kids brings the latest news of the world to you

Dictionaries

- <http://www.m-w.com/dictionary.htm> - Merriam Webster Dictionary Online
- <http://nhd.heinle.com/> - Newbury House online Dictionary
- <http://www.yourdictionary.com/> - Provides more than 1,800 dictionaries with more than 250 languages
- <http://www.yourdictionary.com/languages.html> - Language Translation Dictionaries

Thesauri

- <http://www.bartleby.com/62/> - Roget's Thesaurus
- <http://www.thesaurus.com/> - Basic-type in a word, choose thesaurus (online version of Roget's) or dictionary and search
- <http://www.m-w.com/dictionary.htm> - Merriam Webster Thesaurus Online

Quotations

- <http://www.bartleby.com/100/> - Bartlett's Quotations

Ecology-Animals and their environments

- <http://www.nwf.org/kids/> - Learn about animals and their environments

Dinosaurs

- <http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/diapsids/dinosaur.html> - Learn about dinosaurs

Encyclopedias

- <http://www.britannica.com/> - Includes the complete updated Encyclopedia Britannica
- <http://www.infoplease.com/> - Combines the contents of an encyclopedia, a dictionary, and several up-to-the-minute almanacs
- <http://www.encyclopedia.com/> - Puts tons of information right at your fingertips



Field Trips

- <http://www.ringling.com/> - Visit the circus
- <http://www.bronxzoo.com/> - Visit the Bronx Zoo
- <http://www.seaworld.com/> - Visit Sea World
- <http://www.sandiegozoo.org> - Visit the San Diego Zoo
- <http://www.amnh.org/home/> - Visit the American Museum of Natural History

Geography

- <http://www.geographic.org/> – Country profiles
- <http://www.50states.com/>- 50 states

Government

- <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/> - This site provides learning tools for K-12 students, parents, and teachers about how our government works

Presidents

- <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/index.html> You will find various information concerning different aspects of the White House
- <http://www.ipl.org/div/potus/> -Election results, cabinet members, notable events, and some points of interest on each of the presidents. Links to biographies, historical documents, audio and video files, and other presidential sites are included.

Homework Helpers

- <http://www.suffolk.lib.ny.us/youth/homework/kidindex.html> - Suffolk Library System lists of helpers
- <http://school.discovery.com/homeworkhelp/bjpinchbeck/index.html> - BJ Pinchbeck's Homework help

Search Sites for children:

- <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick%21/> - Search for homework by subject area
- <http://www.askforkids.com/> – Ask Jeeves for Kids
- <http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/> – Yahoo for Kids
- <http://www.icyber.com/homeschool/olr.html> - Home-School support
- http://www.kidinfo.com/School_Subjects.html - Kid Info

Just for Fun

- <http://www.seussville.com/> -Fun with Books by Dr. Seuss

Reading Lists

- <http://kids.nypl.org/reading/recommended2.cfm?ListID=61> - This is a list of 100 picture books everyone should know for teachers
- <http://kids.nypl.org/reading/recommendedz.cfm?listID=61> Book Lists
- <http://www.carolhurst.com/titles/allreviewed.html> – Find reviews of books you might like to read
- <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/bestbooks.html> - List of notable sites listed by the American Library Association

Search Engines

- <http://www.askforkids.com/> – Good search engine for homework helpers has a spell check feature for questions
- <http://www.dogpile.com> – Fun search engine, easy to use, lets you “fetch” information
- <http://www.yahooligans.yahoo.com> – Nice current events page, easy format
- <http://www.google.com> – Check out the kids and teen section in the web directory
- <http://www.discovery.com> – Homework helper site for students
- <http://www.ipl.org/youth/> - The internet public library youth section
- <http://www.mamma.com/> - This search engine contains the web, videos, mp3, audio, news, and images
- <http://www.msn.com> – This search engine features news and stock information
- <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick!/> - Search for homework help by subject area

Social Studies

- http://www.hyperhistory.com/online_n2/History_n2/a.html - Hyper History presents 3000 years of history with a combination of color lifelines, timelines and maps

Black History

- http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/BHM/bh_hotlist.html

Colonial America History Resources

- [http://pilgrims.net/Pilgrims Plantation](http://pilgrims.net/Pilgrims%20Plantation) - Virtual tour –illustrating many aspects of life at the time

Native Americans

- <http://www.hanksville.org/NAresources/> - Index of Native American Resources on the Internet

Revolutionary War

- <http://www.ushistory.org/tour/index.html> - This is a virtual tour of historic Philadelphia with great photos and information accompany you on this virtual tour
- <http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty> - This is an online game prepared by PBS to test your Revolutionary War knowledge

Western Movement

- <http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest> - Oregon Trail
- <http://www.americanwest.com/trails/pages/oretrail.htm> - California Gold Rush
- <http://www.ohenrymace.com/GRHA.html> Remembering the Gold Rush History Alliance
- <http://www.lewis-clark.org/> - Explorers Lewis and Clark

Women's History

- <http://www.greatwomen.org/>

