

Mission Statement

We, the parents and staff of Council Rock Primary School, are committed to providing the challenging, nurturing environment needed for our young children to:

- Love school and learning
- Feel confident and competent
- Share, cooperate and respect rules
- Care about all people and the world around them
- Acquire substantial knowledge and skills in a variety of subjects
- Do their best every day by recognizing what they are learning and how they are learning, and be willing to question, explore and risk making mistakes

We believe:

- In celebrating the uniqueness of each child
- In meeting the needs of each child in a developmentally appropriate way
- In high expectations and continuous improvement
- In providing learning experiences that emphasize cooperation and integration
- In parents and the school working together to provide an excellent education for young children in Brighton



Social Studies

Children begin their study of the world they live in through using simple content from the social sciences. The social studies curriculum emphasizes problem solving, connecting personal experiences to new learning, working cooperatively, and demonstrating new knowledge through hands-on activities and projects. Kindergartners focus on the study of self and others, with learning activities organized around major themes.

Social Studies units in Kindergarten include:

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Unit of Study</i>
Change	Personal growth
Environment	Council Rock - Our Home
Diversity	Celebrations
Citizenship	Classroom Citizenship

Additional units of study focus on American historical people and holidays.

Special Area Subjects

The special area subjects are regular stops along the kindergarten path that enrich and expand each child's experience. Children attend library, music and physical education once a cycle. The library program emphasizes a love of reading and skills in listening and learning how to get information. A variety of literature reinforces content in the academic areas.

Through movement, singing, listening and playing instruments children explore musical elements and concepts. Basic physical skills and fitness are the core of the physical education class. Lessons actively involve children in teamwork, problem solving and personal goal setting.


Let the Journey

Kindergarten Curriculum

Council Rock Primary School



 Kindergarten begins each

child's journey on the learning path at Council Rock Primary School. Children begin to acquire the knowledge, skills and behaviors that are the foundation for being a successful learner. Children of different abilities, talents, interests and backgrounds work and play together.

As the children skip, run, and walk along the path, they explore, manipulate, create, discuss and master many basic social and academic concepts and skills. They learn to be cooperative and respectful members of their classroom, to share, to be responsible for their behavior and belongings and to complete tasks. They begin to learn how to learn, using tools such as the computer and strategies such as problem solving and making connections.

In a safe and nurturing environment, each child is guided along the learning path. Follow the butterfly, and...

let the journey begin!

Language Arts

The language arts include reading, writing, listening and speaking. It is the core of the primary school program. Daily lessons in language arts are interrelated with other subject areas such as science and social studies. There is a strong emphasis on children's literature. Instruction matches each child's developmental level.

Reading

In learning to read, Kindergarten children:

- Enjoy being read to and looking at books
- Demonstrate knowledge of print; i.e. print says something, reads left to right and top to bottom, and letters and words are different
- Recognize and use most letters and sounds
- Recognize upper and lower case letters
- Recognize some commonly-used words
- Use reading-like behavior when looking at books
- Recognize and use rhythms, rhymes and repetition, picture clues, sight vocabulary and sound/symbol to comprehend simple text
- Tell the beginning, middle and end of a simple story they have heard
- Use background knowledge/experience to support early reading activities
- Demonstrate a receptive and expressive vocabulary
- Begin to predict and confirm the author's message

Writing

In learning to write, Kindergarten children:

- Identify an idea to write about
- Use pictures to organize ideas
- Use letters and/or words to communicate thoughts
- Dictate sentences
- Use a variety of tools for writing

Handwriting

The handwriting program uses the D'Nealian form of manuscript.

In handwriting, Kindergarten children learn:

- Hand preference
- Eye-hand coordination
- To follow a left to right progression
- To produce the shapes of some letters and numbers

Listening and Speaking

Learning to listen requires children to attend and to understand what is said. Children demonstrate listening skills when they can follow directions and can retell what they have heard. Learning to speak means knowing when to speak, using appropriate language, volume and tone, and being able to speak to a purpose. In Kindergarten, children learn to express ideas and feelings in complete sentences using appropriate language and to listen when others are talking.

Mathematics

Children explore numbers, look for patterns, and acquire problem-solving skills. They observe, compare, try out different solutions and talk and write about how they think. The kindergarten child uses manipulatives to learn concepts and skills.

In learning mathematics, Kindergarten children:

- Recognize and create patterns
- Use problem solving strategies
- Use whole numbers (i.e. count orally to 100, recognize numerals to 20, add up to 10 objects)
- Communicate mathematical understandings through concrete, pictorial and oral representations
- Estimate and measure length, weight, capacity, time and temperature using non-standard units
- Describe spatial relationships (top, middle, bottom, inside, outside, left, right)
- Identify and use shapes (i.e. circle, triangle, square, rectangle)
- Use simple fractions of one-half to describe and compare quantities
- Use graphs to communicate information

Science

Kindergarten science activities engage children in the exploration of their physical and living world. Children observe, ask questions, make predictions and describe what they learn.

Science units in Kindergarten include:

Sun, Shadows and Silhouettes
Waterplay
Mechanical Building
Classroom Plants

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