



## Notre Dame Academy Overview of Kindergarten Curriculum

### Religion (*Spirit of Truth, Sophia Institute; Formed*)

*Kindergartners are curious, enthusiastic, imaginative, and energetic. They are open to learning and are capable of understanding God's continual presence and power. They draw most frequently upon experiences of family as a way to understand God and the Church. They are increasing their understanding of and capacity for prayer.*



### Knowledge of Faith:

Understand that God made everything good and God always loves us

Recall the stories of Jesus who died on the Cross for us, rose from the dead, and ascended into Heaven. Jesus is God's Son and our Savior who teaches us how to live

Recognize that God the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. Understanding the Holy Spirit and the Church.

### We are Faithful Catholic Christian Witnesses:

Demonstrate the ability to identify various prayers and know prayers by heart

Demonstrate knowledge of the Liturgical Seasons and Sacraments

Demonstrate knowledge of moral education including virtues and social teachings

English Language Arts (*TCRWP, Heinemann; Patterns of Power, Stenhouse; The Reading and Writing Strategies, Heinemann, Comprehension Toolkit, Heinemann, Words Their Way, Pearson, Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System, Heinemann*)

*Kindergarten students learn English Language Arts through a workshop model program that is based on the Common Core State Standards. We integrate song, poetry, interactive reading and writing partnerships and rich mentor texts to engage students and to help them develop a passion for literacy.*



### Reading:

Ask and answer questions about key details in fiction and non-fiction texts

Identify characters and setting, and retell major events in the story

Read grade level text with appropriate fluency and expression

Identify text features Identify similarities and differences between two texts

### Writing:

Capitalize the first word in a sentence

Use spaces between words

Recognize and name ending punctuation

Use a combination of drawing, labeling, & writing to create narrative, informative, & opinion writing pieces

### Foundational Skills

Name upper and lower-case letters

Match letters with their sounds

Use proper letter formation

Apply phonetic spelling, rhyme, blends, digraphs to single syllable words

Segment and substitute sounds in simple consonant-vowel-consonant words

### Listening & Speaking:

Participate in collaborative conversations with peers and adults

Communicate ideas on topics and texts

Understand and follow one- and two-step oral directions

### Units of Study

### Reading

### Writing

Unit 1 - September/October

*We are Readers*

*Launching Writing Workshop*

Unit 2 -  
November/December/January

*Super Powers*

*Writing for Readers*

Unit 3 - February/March

*Bigger Books, Bigger Reading Muscles*

*How-To Books*

Unit 4 - April/May

*Becoming Avid Readers*

*Persuasive Writing of All Kind*

### Mathematics (*Reveal*, McGraw Hill, *iReady Math* Diagnostic and Computer Adaptive Program)

Kindergarten students acquire math skills utilizing manipulatives, technology, and project-based learning. The Standards for Mathematical Practice are developed and connected to the Standards for Mathematical Content



### Mathematical Practices

Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them

Attend to precision

### Mathematical Content:

#### Counting and Cardinality:

Know Number Names & the Count Sequence

Count to Tell the Number of Objects

Compare Numbers

#### Operations and Algebraic Thinking:

Understand Addition as Putting Together & Adding to, & Subtraction as Taking Apart & Taking From

#### Number and Operations in Base Ten:

Work with Numbers 11-19 to Gain Foundations for Place Value

#### Measurement and Data:

Describe & Compare Measurable Attributes

Classify Objects & Count the Number of Objects in Categories

#### Geometry:

Identify & Describe Shapes

Analyze, Compare, Create, & Compose Shapes

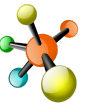
### Math Fluency:

Add within 5

Subtract within 5

**Science: (*Foss Kits, Mystery Science*)**

*Kindergarten Science Curriculum utilizes a hands-on, project-based learning approach following the framework of the Next Generation Science Standards.*



**Science and Engineering Practices**

Engages in Scientific Wonder  
Communicates with Evidence & Reasoning  
Collaborates Effectively

**Units of Study**

Unit 1: Earth Science

*Earth's Systems and Human Activities*

Unit 2: Life Science

*From Molecules to Organisms: Structure and Processes*

Unit 3: Physical Science

*Energy, Motion and Stability*

**Social Studies (*Studies Weekly*)**

*The Social Studies Curriculum follows the History-Social Science Framework adopted by the State of California in 2016. The theme for Kindergarten is: Learning and Working Now & Long Ago.*



**Historical and Social Science Analysis Skills**

**Historical Interpretation**

**Social Studies Content**

**Learning and Working Together:** Explore the meaning of good citizenship by learning about rules and working together  
**National and State Symbols:** Explore the strands of national identity and cultural literacy by learning about national and state symbols  
**Work Now and Long Ago:** Learn about the different types of jobs and work of people in their school and their local community  
**Geography and Their Neighborhood:** Explore the immediate environment of the school and their neighborhood including streets, transportation systems, structures, and human activities  
**Time and Chronology:** Learn about the calendar, days of the week, and months of the year  
**Reaching Out to Times Past:** Develop historical literacy and explore the theme of continuity and change, to include national holidays and their purposes as well as events associated with them

## Field Trips

Some of the experiential field trips include:

- **December: The Old Globe Theater - The Old Globe Student matinee program supports schools' efforts to introduce young people to live theater as a means of gaining appreciation for the art form and as a springboard for developing creative expression skills.**
- **January/February: A Trip to SeaWorld: SeaWorld's Instructional Field Trip Program provides students with an unforgettable day of exploration as they connect to wildlife and the world we share.**
- **March/April: Carlsbad Flower Fields: The Flower Fields in Carlsbad, California has 50+ acres of extraordinary color overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The Flower Fields Educational Program is a great way to learn about growing plants, water conservation, composting, and local history.**
- **May- Community: Students learn more about community through experiences like going to the fire station and Trader Joes where children develop thinking and decision-making skills that prepare them for responsible citizenship.**



## Special Events, Projects, and Leadership Opportunities

Some of the incredible Special Events, Projects, and Leadership Opportunities include:

- **Career Day**
- **Presentation of the Child Mary**
- **Leaders for Friday Prayer for preschool and KinderPrep until January**
- **100th day of school celebration**
- **Mother's Day Tea**
- **Donuts with Dad**
- **Kindergarten Promotion**



## Art and Music Projects

The Kindergarten grade special area Art and Music Class includes:

- **Introduction to Ukulele**
- **Introduction Scale and Note Reading**
- **Matching Pitch in Group Performance**
- **Preparation for Grandparent's Day Art Show**
- **Mixed Media Sunflower Project**
- **Watercolor Ukulele**
- **Winter Polar Bear Art**

