



HERITAGE OAK

Private Education

Pre-Kindergarten Curriculum Synopsis

Heritage Oak pre-kindergarten students thrive in our high-quality early childhood program. We offer an academic environment with a focus on skilled-based instruction coupled with developmental learning. This is an all-important year for the emerging learner. Our caring, dedicated teachers help children gain the final components of literacy and math knowledge to prepare for kindergarten success. Students are enriched with fine arts such as music, art, and an introduction to the French language. Good manners, character development, and moral awareness are also key aspects of our program objectives. Pre-kindergartners learn to apply and adapt appropriate strategies for problem solving, as well as utilize critical thinking skills to expand their knowledge of the world. All of these elements together make up a socially and academically mature child who is ready for our challenging kindergarten program.

Pre-kindergarten provides a safe harbor in which young learners can continue to explore, experiment, and learn in preparation for kindergarten. This is the beginning of an adventure of learning for a lifetime of success.

4 and 5 year olds learn...

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

- Recognize and write all letters of the alphabet in upper and lowercase forms
- Write first and last name
- Write sentences with proper spacing and punctuation
- Match familiar sounds to appropriate letters, including digraphs
- Isolate and substitute beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words
- Develop sight word vocabulary of familiar words, including colors
- Decode simple consonant-vowel-consonant words
- Spell simple words phonetically
- Read emergent level text for purpose and understanding

- Listen to and discuss a variety of literary texts
- Appreciate texts representing diverse cultures and perspectives
- Acquire new vocabulary through listening to fiction and non-fiction texts
- Make inferences by examining parts of a book such as: the title, author, and illustrations
- Utilize critical thinking skills to predict outcomes
- Recall important facts and details from a text
- Retell a story by sequencing the main events
- Identify parts of a story including characters, setting, beginning, middle and end
- Identify rhythms and patterns of language, including rhyme and repetition
- Break words into syllables and use syllabification to decode complex words

MATHEMATICS

- Represent simple repeating patterns using up to 4 different objects, while differentiating the core of the pattern
- Describe, compare, contrast measurable features of objects
- Put objects into categories and defend reasoning for inclusion
- Explore relationships by comparing groups of no more than 20 objects to determine more or fewer (greater or less)
- Tell position by using words such as: over, under, above, on, next to, below, beside, behind
- Identify ordinal positions for objects up to 20
- Demonstrate an understanding of comparative attributes such as: bigger, smaller, longer, shorter, lighter, heavier
- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Count orally by ones, twos, fives, and tens
- Write numbers 0-30 and construct relationships based upon quantity
- Understand the concept of place value
- Count on from a given number
- Perform addition with sums less than 20 and subtraction with differences less than 10.
- Measure length of objects using standard and non-standard units
- Compare quantities by estimating, weighing, and measuring
- Identify and know the value of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters

- Tell time to the hour and half hour
- Apply a strategy to solve a problem, i.e., draw a picture, guess and check, find a pattern, write an equation
- Express solutions using concrete materials, pictorials, graphs, or algebraic methods

SCIENCE

- Scientific Investigation and Experimentation
 - Predict, observe, measure, and describe the way objects move (or behave)
 - Utilize tools such as thermometers, magnifiers, rules, and balances to gather data
 - Observe and describe common objects in terms of the five senses
 - Observe the size, shape, texture and color of common objects
 - Ask questions based on prior knowledge and observations
 - Observe and then illustrate those observations through drawings
 - Observe and describe what happens when certain materials are subjected to tests
- Physical Science
 - Describe objects in terms of the materials that make them up (cloth, paper, wood, etc.)
 - Describe objects in terms of whether they float, sink, are attracted to magnets, etc.
 - Recognize the properties of water
 - Recognize that light and heat are both sources of energy
- Earth Science
 - Name the four seasons and identify their characteristics
 - Recognize that the earth is constantly changing
 - Recognize that weather changes daily
 - Observe, describe and record the phases of the Moon
 - Identify characteristics of the different environments of the earth: mountains, rivers, oceans, valleys, and deserts.
 - Recognize the differences and similarities in daytime and nighttime skies

- Identify the Earth's resources that are used every day and recognize that many can be conserved
- Life Science
 - Identify the needs of living things
 - Recognize that living things grow and change
 - Identify the stages of the life cycle of various animals
 - Describe the similarities and differences in the appearance and behavior of plants versus animals
 - Describe the basic structures of common plants and animals (arms, legs, wings, leaves, stems, roots, etc.)

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Generate and follow classroom rules that promote order and safety in the classroom
- Recognize symbols such as the American Flag
- Recite Pledge of Allegiance and identify the rules and etiquette of citizenship (e.g., stand for the flag, hand over heart).
- Identify and discuss rights, responsibilities, and choices as members of society
- Identify and demonstrate appropriate social skills that help people live, work, and play together at home and at school
- Recognize roles and responsibilities of being a good citizen.
- Understand why jobs are important at home, at school, and in society
- Identify that money is used to buy goods and explain difference between wants and needs
- Recognize that maps are models of places
- Recognize that a globe is a model of Earth and recognize differences between land masses and water.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Verbally express feelings and behaviors
- Act on instruction and repeat spoken directions
- Engage in question and answer dialogue with peers and teachers
- Work collaboratively on class projects or problem solving

- Participate in activities emphasizing character development, moral awareness, and respect for diversity.

PHYSICAL WELLNESS

- Develop body control
- Improve gross motor skills (running, jumping, kicking, catching, and throwing)
- Demonstrate balance and coordination
- Participate in age-appropriate dance and athletic activities
- Establish good health and nutrition

ART

- Learn about famous artists and their artistic styles
- Create complex pictures with detailed representation
- Utilize various media and techniques to express creativity
- Experiment with colors through painting, coloring, and drawing
- Develop fine motor skills through coloring, painting, cutting, and gluing

MUSIC

- Explore tempo, tone, and volume of sounds
- Listen and respond to various music selections from different cultures
- Use simple instruments and clapping patterns
- Develop an appreciation of music
- Perform at monthly assemblies

FIELD TRIP ALTERNATIVE

In order to extend our classroom learning, our students have an onsite fieldtrip each year. This year the children will participate in an engaging science assembly where they will learn about the world around them. It is an exciting adventure for all of our students.