

## Curriculum Essentials: Kindergarten

### Reading and Literature

The emphasis in Kindergarten is on learning to read by unlocking the “code” of sound /symbol correspondence, and exploring directionality, text structure, picture cues, and genre. Kindergarten utilizes a Direct Instruction approach to reading, using SRA/McGraw Hill’s Horizons reading curriculum, and students are grouped according to ability.

#### On Grade Level Reading Class:

Horizons A program (SRA/McGraw Hill)

#### Accelerated Level Reading Class:

Horizons A/B program (SRA/McGraw Hill)

#### Read-Aloud Selections

*Stuart Little* by E.B. White

*A Bear Called Paddington* by Michael Bond

*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl

*Many Moons* by James Thurber

*The Mouse and the Motorcycle* by Beverly Cleary

*Chester Cricket’s New Home* by George Selden

*The BFG* by Roald Dahl

*James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl

*Charlotte’s Web* by E.B. White

### Handwriting and Phonograms

*The Writing Road to Reading* by Romalda Spalding is used for instruction in handwriting and spelling. This is a three-step curriculum where students learn to connect speech sounds to letters and letter patterns using all four avenues to the brain: Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic (Tactile), and Vocal Learning.

### Mathematics

Students learn number sense, quantity and symbol, place value, measurement, concepts of time, money, charts and graphing, addition and subtraction, and equations. Kindergarten introduces *Singapore Math* concepts. *Singapore Math* is taught starting in first grade at Nova Classical Academy.

### Geography

Geography of the world is a central focus in Kindergarten. Scholars will learn about each of the seven continents through songs, political maps, topographical maps, animal maps, and culture

### Science/Social Studies

- Animal Classification
- Animals and Habitats (by continent)
- Plant Life Cycles
- Metamorphosis
- Human Body Systems
- Food Groups/Nutrition (My Plate)
- Solar System
- Weather/Water Cycle
- Native American Regions/Culture
- United States Symbols

### Homework

Daily homework practice begins approximately one month after the beginning of the school year. Scholars will complete handwriting homework each night to practice handwriting skills and phonological awareness. Midyear, scholars will have additional nightly homework in reading of the day’s lesson through textbook rereading and worksheet practice. Supplemental homework may be assigned in other subjects throughout the school year as teachers see fit.

### Grading

Kindergarteners are graded based on the skills they display as well as the information they learn. This comes from homework, daily class work, student participation, teacher observation, and formal assessments. Homework should be your child’s best work. Per Nova policy, each day a homework assignment is late, the student will lose 25% of the overall score. (See NCA Student and Parent Handbook for full details).