

Social Studies

The Pre-first social studies curriculum focuses on the following major topics: community and physical spaces, American symbols, vocabulary related to chronology and time, and economics. It is an extension of the kindergarten social studies curriculum

- Identify a map and globe
- Recognize school and neighborhood as a community
- Use phrases that indicate location and direction
- Know their street address, town, state and country
- Use geographical information to map the school and read a street map of Westford
- Identify important American holidays and traditions such as Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day
- Name and identify American symbols: a picture of the current President of the United States, the tune of the National Anthem, the American flag, the Pledge of Allegiance
- Identify sequential actions such as first, next, last when describing text and personal experience
- Use correctly words and phrases related to chronological vocabulary. (now, long ago, before, after, etc.)
- Understand and describe examples that show the meaning of the following concepts: authority, fairness, responsibility and rules
- Explain why people work and make connections to family members that work

Integrated Arts

Art

Visual Arts education inspires students to perceive and shape the visual, spatial, and aesthetic characteristics of the world around them as well as develop their capacity for imaginative and reflective thinking. (Massachusetts Arts Curriculum Framework). Information is presented and enhanced by using 21st century technology.

- Explore a variety of traditional media and tools as well as technology to create 2D and 3D works
- Explore elements of art; color, space, shape texture, and lines

Music

- Demonstrate steady beat through the use of movement and instruments
- Begin to develop a proper singing (head) voice
- Respond expressively to changes in tempo, dynamics, and pitch
- Build foundations for improvisation and creative music-making

Wellness

The Westford Public Schools' Wellness Program integrates various aspects of well being throughout the K-12 curriculum. Wellness literacy promotes fundamental concepts that encourage social, emotional and physical health, which guides efforts to build healthy habits, as well as strong schools, communities, families and relationships.

General content:

- Begin to identify healthy and unhealthy habits
- Introduction to basic health concepts
- Begin to demonstrate the ability to perform locomotor skills

Benchmarks are aligned with state and national standards.

WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Curriculum Benchmarks

Pre-1

Rita Edwards Miller School

Nabnasset School

Col. John Robinson School

Compiled by Curriculum Task Committees
under the direction of
Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Lorraine Tacconi-Moore

“Shaping the future one child at a time”

Visit our website at: westfordk12.us

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English Language Arts

- Ask appropriate questions relevant to the topic presented
- Identify common synonyms and antonyms
- Identify and use correctly, words with multiple meanings
- Identify and use contractions (you'll, we'll, I'll, it's, won't, can't)
- Read and write 85% of 60 pre-first high frequency words
- Identify the author, illustrator, and title of a book
- Orally manipulate the phonemes in words
- Combine sounds into recognizable words
- Read aloud with fluency and comprehension at grade level (instructional Level 6)
- Use a variety of word solving strategies (meaning, sentence structure, letter/sound relationships)
- Identify story elements of character and setting
- Identify the similarities among the works of an author or illustrator
- Recognize that poetry is written in verse form and may or may not include rhyme
- Use environmental print for spelling words conventionally
- Begin to use table of contents
- Begin to respond to poetry through words and pictures
- Participate in oral retelling of traditional literature
- Begin to use visual organizers to develop a written piece
- Write short personal experience piece
- Revise by adding descriptive words and simple details
- Gather information from a nonfiction text with support

Math

- Count by 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's to 100 and back by 1's ; identify and model odd and even numbers
- Count up to 50 objects accurately
- Read, write, model, and order whole numbers to 300
- Use manipulatives to solve problems involving addition and subtraction of two-digit with one-digit numbers
- Read and write number sentences using symbols +, -, =, <, >
- Demonstrate combinations of ten number facts with manipulatives
- Extend, describe, and create numeric, visual, rhythmic, and concrete patterns; use rules to sort and make patterns
- Identify, describe, and compare attributes of 2-D and 3-D shapes (sphere, cylinder, cone, cube); identify line symmetry in 2-D shapes
- Identify and name coins and bills; make exchanges between pennies, nickels, and dimes
- Measure temperature and use appropriate language
- Use measures of time periods relative to the day and week; tell time to the nearest half-hour and hour
- Collect, organize, represent, and analyze data using concrete objects, pictures, numbers, and graphs

Science, Engineering/Technology

Inquiry and investigations are embedded in all domains.

Earth and Space Science

- Observe and graph daily weather/WeatherNet
- Identify and analyze seasonal changes using charts and graphs
- Identify repeating weather patterns through the use of effective seasonal objects

Life Science

- Observe and record the life cycle of a plant using a science journal
- Use senses to observe, describe, and sort organisms' characteristics

Physical Science

- Observe, sort and record common classroom objects and natural materials by color, weight, size and texture
- Compare and contrast the properties of objects

Technology/ Engineering

- Identify uses for common classroom objects
- Design an investigation
- Design and construct an air machine
- Identify form and function of various materials and containers
- Use scientific tools, such as hand lenses and computers, safely and properly

Living Lab Visits

- Life Science