

# Pre-Kindergarten 4

## Curriculum



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### Pre-K Thematic Learning:

Many concepts taught in Pre-K are introduced using a thematic approach. Different areas of our curriculum are connected together and integrated within fun and exciting weekly and/or monthly themes. We introduce literacy, story elements, social studies, and science concepts using our weekly themes. Daily Read Aloud Books will typically focus on the current weekly theme.

Examples of Our Themes:

All About Me  
Fairytales and Nursery Rhymes  
My Family/Babies  
Homes and Habitats  
Pumpkins and Halloween  
Fish/Ocean Life  
Our Solar System  
New Orleans  
Insects

### Language Arts:

***Happily Ever After from The Superkids Reading Program*** is the Pre-K Literacy Curriculum that uses visual, auditory and kinesthetic modalities to strengthen reading readiness. Children listen to stories, discuss their ideas and dictate them to their teachers. Through this curriculum children learn new skills, concepts and vocabulary by seeing and hearing examples as well as by participating in physical activities that reinforce their meaning.

***Handwriting without Tears from Get Set for School®*** uses hands-on, multisensory materials and was designed in such a way that introduces shapes, numbers, and letters in an order that matches the progression of children's developmental abilities so that it is easier for them to practice, learn, and remember. Our program teaches letter formation for Capital Letters and for Numbers 0-9. Additionally, the program includes an interactive tool that allows students to practice letter formation using the Smartboard in their classroom.

**Pre-K Letter Bags-** Pre-K students fill their letter bags with 3 objects beginning with the assigned Letter of the Week. During Letter Bag Time, each child chooses one item from his/her letter bag to draw and label in their Rainbow Fish Alphabet Book. Students write the Letter of the Week and draw their chosen object. The teachers label the picture in their book.

As students learn more letters and sounds, teachers encourage students to write all known letter sounds in the picture label. (Example: MK for mask.) This process is the beginning of invented spelling. Invented Spelling is the practice of spelling unfamiliar words by making an educated guess as to the correct spelling based on the writer's existing phonetic knowledge.

**Name Writing/Morning Sign In-** Pre-K students begin by tracing their name and progress to independently writing the first letter and tracing the remaining letters in their name. Eventually this daily practice will allow students to write their own name independently. Signing In is a fun routine that teaches students that their written name is a meaningful tool in communicating with others.

## **Math:**

### **Everyday Counts® Houghton Mifflin Pre-K Math**

The children are introduced to math concepts using big books, mini whole group lessons, and small group work with manipulatives. Houghton Mifflin is a Spiral Curriculum. In a spiral curriculum, learning is spread out over time rather than being concentrated in shorter periods. In a spiral curriculum, material is revisited repeatedly over months and across themes.

Math Concepts Introduced in Pre-K:

Theme 1 - Shapes, Sorting, and Positional Words

Theme 2 - Counting Numbers 1-10, Comparing sets of Numbers (more or fewer), and ordinal numbers

Theme 3 - Patterns and Identifying Numbers 1-5

Theme 4 - Counting Numbers 1-10 and Reviewing Ordinal and Positional Words

Theme 5 - Sorting and Graphing

Theme 6 - Measurement and Identifying and Ordering Numbers 1-5

Theme 7 - Measurement and Estimation

Theme 8 - Review; Positional Words, Ordinals, two and three dimensional shapes, numbers 1-10, comparing sets of numbers

### **I Know My Numbers by Get Set for School®**

The Get Set for School® Numbers & Math program is a natural extension of the Get Set for School readiness program and helps children build number sense right from the start. We use manipulatives, music and rhymes to teach counting, comparisons, spatial awareness, patterning and sequencing. The number sense portion of the program provides students with an illustrated booklet for each number 0-9. The booklet provides examples of number representation and allows students to grasp the concept of each number, represented in multiple ways.

### **Calendar Math Program**

Pre-K Math Concepts are introduced using Calendar Time. Students count the school days, identify patterns, learn tally marks and number identification, and create a weather graph during calendar time.

Students enjoy singing our Days of the Week and Months of the Year songs and are especially excited to see our friend **Zero the Hero** come out on the days that end with his special number.

## **Science:**

Through small activities in the classroom, students are able to recognize that everyone can explore and invent things. Children learn to recognize, identify, and describe changes in their environment, identify animals and plants as living things, and compare pictures, photographs, and models to real people, places, and things.

## **Social Studies:**

1. Develop a sense of community in the classroom, school, city, and state.
2. Celebrate holidays in the United States and world.
3. Work cooperatively in small, project-based groups.
4. Share, care, and cooperate in development of respect for self and others.
5. Develop responsibility as classroom helpers.

## **Enrichment Classes:**

1. Art
2. Chapel
3. Library
4. Music
5. Physical Education (daily)
6. Spanish