

## ***NEW HYDE PARK-GARDEN CITY PARK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT***

*This folder gives a brief overview of the Kindergarten curriculum, and what your child will be learning this year. Please refer to our 2007-2008 district calendar for additional information regarding assessments, services and support.*

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

The goal of the English language arts program is to provide students with experiences which allow them to develop the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. In an environment rich with literature, students will have ongoing opportunities to become effective communicators and lovers of reading. Each child will be encouraged to develop many English language arts skills.

#### **READING READINESS:**

Successful students will:

- § Use personal experiences to develop background knowledge
- § Show book handling skills when using classroom books
- § Track print from left to right and top to bottom
- § Make predictions about a story
- § Show comprehension of a selection read aloud
- § Identify upper and lower case letters
- § Understand that letters form words and that print contains a message
- § Recognize consonant sounds, both initial and final
- § Recognize short vowel sounds
- § Recognize basic sight vocabulary
- § Recognize and count syllables
- § Blend sounds to make words
- § Segment words into sounds
- § Recognize and generate rhyme, including word families

#### **WRITING READINESS:**

Successful students will:

- § Develop fine motor skills
- § Trace, copy and reproduce lower/upper case letters (manuscript)
- § Become aware of capitalization
- § Become aware of punctuation marks in print

§ Express ideas in writing using inventive spelling

**LISTENING:**

Successful students will:

- § Understand class routines and directions
- § Listen to others
- § Listen for enjoyment and appreciation of literature
- § Listen for comprehension
- § Imagine and draw a scene, picture, or character after listening to a description or story
- § Recognize consonant sounds

**SPEAKING:**

Successful students will:

- § Speak clearly and effectively to convey a complete thought
- § Show confidence during an oral presentation by making eye contact and speaking loudly and clearly
- § Tell a story with proper expression

**MATH**

The goal of the math program is to develop problem solving and reasoning abilities. Children will be provided with activities involving manipulatives to learn basic number skills.

The following opportunities will be presented:

- § Colors, shapes, textures, sorting and classifying
- § Graphing
- § Identifying numbers to 30
- § Count items to 30
- § Write numbers to 30
- § Pattern awareness
- § Calendar skills
- § Problem solving
- § Time: relate to morning, afternoon and evening activities
- § Addition
- § Subtraction

## **SCIENCE**

The goal of the science program is to encourage students to develop their skills of inquiry and observation through emphasizing hands-on activities and experiments.

The following learning opportunities will be presented:

- § Colors, shapes, textures, sorting and classifying
- § Hygiene and dental health
- § Seasons and seasonal changes
- § Five senses
- § Life cycles of living things
- § Magnets and their properties

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The primary goal of the social studies curriculum in kindergarten is to help the students understand:

- Myself and others
- My family and other families
- My neighborhood
- Caring for the Earth
- Symbols of citizenship

## **LIBRARY**

Children are motivated and enthusiastic learners. During elementary school children will be encouraged to become lifelong readers and users of information. In primary grades, students are introduced to basic library, literature, media and research skills. This foundation enables them to become independent and confident users of the library. Classes visit the Library Media Center each week. Parents are invited to share books with their children and make reading a part of their family tradition.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

Our technology model includes the use of computers in the classroom from kindergarten to sixth grade. Technology is integrated into all curriculum areas to improve literacy, meet instructional standards, and to increase problem solving and communication skills.

## **MUSIC**

General Music

The goal of the general music program is to provide all students with opportunities to experience the language of music through singing, movement, instruments, drama, listening and creating, and to teach the skills to facilitate these activities. Ultimately we want to instill within all of our students a deep and abiding love of music and a feeling of comfort with all musical styles.

## **ART**

The goal of the art program is to enrich the lives of our students. We encourage creativity through the use of varied art materials and skills. Our children learn to appreciate art and the work of artists. They also learn to understand the heritage of many different cultures.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The goal of the physical education program is to provide students with regular, planned, vigorous physical activities which promote physical fitness, improve self-esteem and develop interests and leisure-time activities.