Krause Elementary
Curriculum Course Guide
Armada Area Schools

2022-2023 School Year

Core Course Descriptions- Readiness

Language Arts (Readiness)

Language Arts course instruction gets students on track for kindergarten readiness. This course provides hands-on experiences that engage young minds through purposeful play, active engagement, and small group experiences in the areas of reading, writing, and phonological and phonemic awareness.

Mathematics (Readiness)

Math course instruction focuses on creating and strengthening foundational math skills including the following counting and cardinality skills: counting, writing numerals, using counting to find out how many items are in a group, and comparing a set of items; skills in operations and algebraic thinking through beginner addition; skills in measurement and data by classifying objects by defining factors and pattern work; and geometry skills by naming and building shapes.

Science (Readiness)

Science course instruction provides basic beginner skills of creating a model to share learning with others and asking questions based on observations through the natural and designed world.

Social Studies (Readiness)

Social Studies course instruction is based on creating the foundational knowledge of social studies skills such as rules and their overall purpose and outcomes, family structures and how they compare and contrast, and using basic descriptions for when events took place.

Core Course Descriptions- Kindergarten

Language Arts (Kindergarten)

Phonemic Awareness:

- the ability to recognize differences in sounds
- the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate sounds,
- (phonemes) in spoken words
- necessary for becoming a successful reader and writer
- As children progress they will learn that words are made up of unique sequences of spoken sounds.
- strong phonemic awareness, in tact, allows them to translate the sounds they hear in their writing.
- Goal is to develop a " listening ear" for language.

Kindergarten uses many sources of curriculum to develop phonemic awareness. Two are listed below but we have too many to list. Many lessons are in the form of "games" that we will play.

Sonday System, Arlene Sonday

Phonemic Awareness in Young Children, by Marilyn Adams.

Sound SensAble by Sheila Clark-Edmunds

Phonics:

- Phonics associates each specific sound to a symbol, the alphabet.
- What's the difference?
    - "Phonemic Awareness" = distinguish phonemes (sounds)
    - "Phonics" = attaching a letter to sound or groups of letters in reading and writing
    - taught through oral language activities, reading, and writing

Readers Workshop:

The students will be participating in daily activities to build confidence and inspire a love for reading. Students will learn how to select books, develop a sense of story and meaning through reading pictures across books and gain information, as well as, talk about their reading as authentic reading experiences. Students will share and talk about their reading as a class, in a small group, and with partners. Students will experience emergent storybooks that they will read and develop a deeper understanding of text, a strong sense of language, and an increased desire to read independently. Readers will practice reading in patterns, using problem solving skills, word/phonics strategies, shared reading, guided reading, to provide a foundation for lifelong love of reading.

There is a sight word list attached to this syllabus. The sight words are introduced on a gradual basis but the expectation is mastery by the end of the year. It is important to understand that a sight word is a word that is read by sight and is not sounded out. When you look at the word you know it immediately without hesitation. In kindergarten there are many activities used to help your child master these words.

There are many different stages of reading development at this age. Your child may be fluently reading at the end of kindergarten or they may be a beginning reader. Both are appropriate and your job as a parent is to facilitate their learning at home by reading, reading, and more reading to them.

Writers Workshop:

The students will be participating in daily writing activities starting with teacher guided and oral language activities. The foundation is research based and is a school wide initiative. Writer's Workshop and thematic units are taught specifically. The goal is for students to write several sentences on one topic by the end of the year. Students will also grow into confident writers and enjoy writing and learning the writing process. Oral language is needed as a foundation for both reading and writing. Please talk, talk, talk to your child every night and make them talk to you in conversation as much as possible. This is a building block for success. The year will begin with our morning message and other whole group shared writing activities that are teacher-led. Essential skills are taught and listed below.

Morning Message/whole group writing

- shared writing
- count letters, words
- punctuation (.,!?), spacing, capitals
- a sentence/complete thought
- sight words
- letter recognition
    - phonetic spelling
        - " write what you hear" (all activities)
        - stretch out sounds
        - write the letters you know
            - ask your child to read their writing
            - back to you
                - activities at home

Phonetic spelling is an important part of phonics and learning to write words. This concept is often misunderstood, but is extremely important in kindergarten. The objective is for the child to " write what they hear." The word "house" might be spelled "hos or hows." This is developmental and appropriate. Please encourage writing by having your child help with grocery lists, writing letters to relatives or friends and mailing them, etc.

Story Champs:

Story Champs is a multi-level oral language intervention curriculum that is used to promote and develop language. The primary focus is on the strong development of oral language through storytelling. It also promotes other aspects of academic language that are essential for school success through information retelling, vocabulary learning, and writing.

Mathematics (Kindergarten)

Kindergarten uses Everyday Mathematics. which is used K-5 in our elementary school. This program was developed by the University of Chicago School Mathematics Project. The program is based on research about how children learn and develop mathematical power. It provides the broad mathematical background needed in the 21st century. Key mathematical ideas are repeated over time in slightly different ways. Mastery is developed over time beginning at a simple level and increasing complexity. Learning of concepts is age-appropriate, playful activities, and games. The activities are playful and meaningful. The program is focused on a hands-on learning experience with an emphasis on the learning process. Math is not done just during mathtime, it is in our world and everyday life.

Focus Concepts;

- Numbers and Numeration
- Operations and Computation
- Data and Chance
- Measurement and Reference Frames
- Geometry
- Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

Science (Kindergarten)

Students will participate in teacher led and student led observations, explorations, investigation, and analyzing data throughout the year. The units we will cover are:

- Weather / Energy
- Push and Pull
- Living Things

Social Studies (Kindergarten)

Students will participate in teacher-led and student projects, discussions, and explorations throughout the year. The units we will cover are:

- Community and History
- Economics
- Geography

Core Course Descriptions- 1st Grade

Language Arts (First Grade)

Reading

Key Ideas and Details:

- Read closely to understand and make inferences using text evidence to support conclusions.
- Determine central ideas or themes and summarize the key details and ideas.
- Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

Craft and Structure:

- Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text.
- Analyze the structure of texts.
- Assess point of view or purpose of a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:

- Evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text.
- Compare two texts on the same topic.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity:

- Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently

Writing

Text Types and Purposes:

- Write opinion pieces, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives.

Production and Distribution of Writing:

- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge:

- Conduct short research projects based on focused questions.

Comprehension and Collaboration:

- Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas:

- Present information, findings, and supporting evidence.

Language

Conventions of Standard English:

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Vocabulary:

- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language and word relationships.

Mathematics (First Grade)

Math

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction.
- Understand and apply properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction.
- Add and subtract within 20.
- Work with addition and subtraction equations.

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Extend the counting sequence.
- Understand place value.
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract.

Measurement and Data

- Measure and compare lengths to the nearest whole unit.
- Tell and write time.
- Represent and interpret data.

Geometry

- Describe and compose shapes and their attributes.

Mathematical Practices

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.

Science (First Grade)

The performance expectations in first grade help students formulate answers to questions such as: “What happens when materials vibrate? What happens when there is no light? What are some ways plants and animals meet their needs so that they can survive and grow? How are parents and their children similar and different? What objects are in the sky and how do they seem to move?”

Students are expected to develop understanding of the relationship between sound and vibrating materials as well as between the availability of light and ability to see objects. Students are also expected to develop understanding of how plants and animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs as well as how behaviors of parents and offspring help the offspring survive. The understanding is developed that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly the same as, their parents.

The crosscutting concepts of patterns; cause and effect; structure and function; and influence of engineering, technology, and science on society and the natural world are called out as organizing concepts for these disciplinary core ideas. In the first grade performance expectations, students are expected to demonstrate grade-appropriate proficiency in planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, constructing explanations and designing solutions, and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information. Students are expected to use these practices to demonstrate understanding of the core ideas.

Social Studies (First Grade)

In first grade, students continue to explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics through an integrated approach using the context of school and families. This is the students’ first introduction to social institutions as they draw upon knowledge learned in kindergarten to develop more sophisticated understandings of each discipline.

Core Course Descriptions- 2nd Grade

Language Arts (Second Grade)

Writing- The students will be participating in daily MAISA Writer's Workshop activities. Throughout the year, students will be immersed in rich writing activities and exposed to a number of writing genres such as narrative, informational, and opinion writing. Our goal is to build a classroom of writers who enjoy writing and are proud of their writing pieces.

Reading- Reading is a critical area of study for second grade. Reading builds the foundation of learning in all subjects. Students in second grade are guided through phonics, spelling, vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency lessons. These reading components are taught in both whole group and small group instruction. Students are placed in small groups to reinforce, strengthen, and apply the skills taught during our whole class instruction. In addition, small group instruction is individualized to meet the needs of each student and to support the skills they need to meet grade level expectations. In order to meet the needs of each individual student, we use a variety of reading programs based on each student's needs. For example, some students might be working on their phonics skills, while other students might be working on their comprehension skills in small groups. Thus, students can be using different programs at various times throughout the year. The following are the reading programs we use in second grade:

- MAISA Reader's Workshop
- Read Well
- Reading Mastery
- Phonics For Reading
- Corrective Reading
- Read Naturally
- Leveled Literacy Intervention
- Literacy Footprints
- Sonday System-Phonics

Mathematics (Second Grade)

Second grade uses Everyday Math by McGraw Hill. There are nine units in our series. Students use a variety of hands-on manipulatives to build their skills. The following are the topics covered:

- Addition and Subtractions Strategies
- Use Place Value Strategies to Add and Subtract

- Read and Write Numbers
- Comparing Numbers
- Use Pennies, Nickels, Dimes, and Quarters To Solve Problems
- Represent and Interpret Data
- Tell, Record, and Interpret time
- Measure, Compare, and Estimate Lengths in Standard Units
- Describe, Classify, and Compare Two and Three Dimensional Shapes
- Working With Equal Groups To Gain Foundations For Multiplication

Science (Second Grade)
Students will be conducting observations, investigations, and analyzing data, as they complete experiments throughout the year. The science units in second grade include:

- Earth Science
    - Solid Earth
    - Fluid Earth
- Physical Science
    - Properties of Matter
    - Materials Composition
- Life Science
    - Plants
    - Heredity

Social Studies (Second Grade)
Our social studies curriculum is divided into four units. Students are engaged in a multitude of projects that build knowledge and understanding of the following topics:

- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Values and Democracy

Core Course Descriptions
3rd Grade

Language Arts (Third Grade)
Language Arts courses consist of reader's workshop (with student book bins with leveled book choices), guided reading, small group work, writer's workshop with an emphasis on personal narrative, opinion writing, and informational writing. In addition, we focus on phonics based spelling and grammar skills.

Mathematics (Third Grade)
Math courses reinforce addition and subtraction skills in addition to reviewing money and time. Our core focus is on multiplication fact strategy and introduction of geometry, division, fractions, and number concepts.

Science (Third Grade)
Science courses consist of knowledge of force and motion concepts, the study of the Earth's natural resources, and plant and animal traits. With each of these units of study, data collection and cause/effect relationships, and engineering practices are incorporated.

Social Studies (Third Grade)
Social studies courses consist of map skills and geography of Michigan, history of Michigan through statehood, civics and government of Michigan, economics of Michigan, and taking a stand on public issues.

Core Course Descriptions- 4th Grade

Language Arts (Fourth Grade)

We integrate all disciplines of language arts (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) to develop vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Through children's literature, we will study character development and the author's purpose. Students will respond and communicate about what they read to deepen understanding of text and to increase writing skills. We use a Reader's and Writer's Workshop model, so students will be reading and writing every day on topics that are meaningful to them. To strengthen spelling and word meaning, students will focus on a new topic each trimester. In the first trimester, students will sort words using Words Their Way. In the second trimester, students use a program called REWARDS to segment word parts and read larger words. In the third trimester, students will learn the meaning of Greek and Latin roots.

Mathematics (Fourth Grade)

In fourth grade we focus on multi-step word problems, multiplication, division, identifying and comparing fractions, converting units of measure, finding area and perimeter, and classifying two-dimensional figures.

We use Everyday Math, which is a conceptual program that requires students to explain their understanding through written words. This program also teaches students to use a variety of methods for solving multiplication and division such as lattice, partial products, partial quotients, and the traditional algorithm.

Science (Fourth Grade)

Life Science, Physical Science, Earth Science

Students will explain how Earth's landscape has developed and changed over time. Students will describe the function of plant and animal structures. We will discover the relationship between different forms of energy and forces. For every unit, students will understand and use vocabulary related to science and engineering. Students will also design, generate, and compare possible solutions to everyday problems.

Social Studies (Fourth Grade)

We will study physical geography, economics, government, and human geography of the United States. We will explore Michigan in relation to its location to the rest of the United States including its natural resources and historical events. Social studies is broken into five "themes" of:

- Location-absolute and relative position on earth
- Place-physical and human characteristics of a location
- Movement-of people, goods, and ideas

- Region-unifying characteristics, climate, language
- Human/environment interaction-how do they affect each other

Core Course Descriptions- 5th Grade

Language Arts (Fifth Grade)

Reading

The Maisa Units (Michigan Association of the Intermediate School Administrators) will be used to teach reading and writing. Both the reading and writing units follow a very similar workshop structure, emphasizing choice in student book choices and writing topics. Each session will consist of a mini-lesson, student work time with teacher conferencing, and finally a short reflection and share time. Both workshops will be taught daily, and we will cover multiple units throughout the year in both subjects.

- Reading Curriculum Highlights:
    - Each month students will get a new issue of Storyworks that will help them to work on reading comprehension skills. The magazine contains a variety of genres of reading and writing. There are also online resources available.
    - Students will be engaging in close reading strategies to dig deeper into their books in order to analyze what a text says, how it says it, and what it means. This year we will focus on identifying main ideas and themes, comparing and contrasting characters and genres, identifying point of view, analyzing text structures and citing text evidence to support inferences made in both fiction and nonfiction texts.
    - As part of their reading grade, **students will be required to complete the 40 Book Challenge and earn 25 Accelerated Reader Points each trimester**. In order to pace themselves to complete this challenge, students should be reading approximately 13 books each trimester.
    - While students will not be asked to complete a formal reading log, they are expected to read 100 minutes each week at home in order to fulfill the 40 Book Challenge and Accelerated Reader requirements.

Writing

During the writer's workshop, the students will gain experience writing in the genres of narrative, argument, informational and research.

Grammar

Students will not be given traditional spelling lists this year. Instead fifth graders will be engaging in a word study program in which they will gain a deeper understanding of important Greek and Latin roots that will help contribute to their vocabulary development across all subject areas. Students will receive three new roots and a list of their derivatives each week. Along with daily practice, students will take a quiz over the weekly roots on Fridays. The grammar skills that will be emphasized this year are using commas correctly, identifying and using prepositions to make their writing more engaging, forming accurate verb tenses and the use of conjunctions.

Mathematics (Fifth Grade)

Our Everyday Math program is a spiral series which involves the use of many hands-on manipulatives and focuses on multiple strategies for solving problems including non-traditional algorithms. At the beginning of each unit a parent letter will be sent home that describes what content will be covered in that unit, important vocabulary, suggested at-home activities as well as the answers to the unit's homework problems. With this series students will receive homework with each lesson to reinforce the skills taught in class. The Student Reference Book, which can also be found online and therefore accessed from home, will serve as a valuable resource, in addition to the parent letter, for completing the homework assignments. In addition to his or her Everyday Math Online accounts, each student will also be issued an IXL account this year again.

- Key Math Concepts:
    - Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing both decimals and fractions, volume, conversions, graphing ordered pairs, place value and understanding powers of ten.

Science (Fifth Grade)

In fifth grade science students will explore matter, including physical and chemical changes, ecosystems, the interactions of the biosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and geosphere, and daily and seasonal patterns. A large focus of our science curriculum focuses on the engineering and design process to generate, create and compare solutions to a problem.

Social Studies (Fifth Grade)

By applying the tools of historians, including the use of primary and secondary sources, students will explore the significant events that helped to shape our nation. Our units of study include Native American and European interactions, colonization and settlement in the Thirteen Colonies, the causes and effects of the Revolutionary War and finally the development of our nation's Constitution.

Specials Course Descriptions
(Kindergarten-Fifth Grade)

Art

Krause Elementary's art program includes visual communication and production, art history and cultural context, analysis, evaluation, critique, aesthetics, and a variety of topics to encourage creativity and self expression. Students are exposed to different art-making processes such as painting, drawing, sculpting, printmaking, collage, and multi-media type projects. Students learn proper care and treatment of art, art materials, and art tools and equipment, so they can enjoy a lifetime of artistic pursuits.

Music

General music at Krause opens the door to musical concepts such as rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, and form. Students will work through Michigan Music Standards while listening, moving, singing, creating, and performing. Students of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to play a variety of instruments including bell kits, xylophones, ukuleles, keyboards, drums and more!

Physical Education

At Krause Elementary we are committed to the developmentally appropriate instruction that will allow children to acquire the physical skills, knowledge and personal social attitudes necessary to pursue a healthy lifestyle.

Through our physical education program the children will be encouraged to participate regularly in physical activity in their daily lives. They will be taught the importance of physical fitness and given many opportunities to improve their own through games and activities. We want the children to enjoy their time in this learning environment exhibiting responsible personal and social behavior that respects themselves and their classmates..

Science

Students will experience the Michigan Next Generation Science Standards through hands-on projects. Students will be working in groups, as well as individually. This class covers grades K-5. Lessons will be grade appropriate.

Makerspace/Tinker Tech Special

Students will be introduced to a number of technologies, learning the names and uses for basic building tools (hammers, screwdrivers, drills, pliers, wrenches, etc.). Students will be introduced to wood work, metal work, sewing, model building out of different mediums, upcycling, practicing engineering techniques, and taking part in invention challenges. Students will also engage in

"take apart" projects throughout the year, reusing materials, and inventing new creations. Students will also have the opportunity throughout the year to use the Makerspace as an extension to topics learned in their classrooms. K-5 students will work together to learn, collaborate, and share their ideas. Ultimately, the Makerspace will be a place where students are presented with hands-on activities and are free to explore, invent, create, transform, tinker, and dream.