

ELIZABETH LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Handbook

This handbook provides information regarding the topics of study in the content areas K-5

Kindergarten

Reader's Workshop	Exploring the Exciting World of Books Readers Read, Think and Talk about Emergent Story Books Readers Use All Our Powers to Actually Read Readers Study Patterns in Big Books and Little Books to Help Us Read and Talk about Books Learning about Ourselves and the World – Reading for Information Readers are Brave and Resourceful When We Encounter Hard Words and Tricky Parts Readers Get to Know Characters Reading Across Genres
Word Work	Green Band of Imagine It! Letter sounds – consonants, short vowels, long vowels Month by Month Phonics
Writer's Workshop	Handwriting and Letter Formation Small Moments – Personal Narratives Writing Skills and Strategies Poetry All About Me Books Expanding our Moments with Details, Punctuation, and Spelling
Math	Counting and Comparing Numbers (1-19) Ordinal Numbers Patterns and Functions Non-Standard Measurement 2-D and 3-D Geometry Adding and Subtracting – The Number System Place Value Sorting and Surveys
Science	Weather and Weather Changes/Seasons Living Things What Animals Need – Farm, Arctic, Reptiles, Birds, Insects, Ocean Animals, etc Describing Matter, Movement and Position Plants Rainforest Force and Magnets
Social Studies	Family, Friends and Me In Town/On the Farm Change Over Time Holidays Around the World Maps – Land and Water The United States in our World Careers

First Grade

Reader's Workshop	Reader's Build Good Habits Tackling Tricky Words Meeting Characters Non-Fiction Teaches Us About the World Reading Across Genres Deepening Comprehension Read About Science to Become an Expert
Word Work	Green Band of Imagine It! Month by Month Phonics
Writer's Workshop	Lucy Calkins Small moments Characters in Writing Non-Fiction - How To's/All About Craft of Revision Poetry Folktales
Math	Numeration/Place Value to 100 2-D Geometry Data Analysis Story Problems – Missing Addends Non-standard Measurement 2-digit Addition and Subtraction
Science	Force and Motion Earth and the Universe Earth Systems, Structures and Process Ecosystems Molecular Biology
Social Studies	Looking at Neighborhoods Neighborhood Needs Citizenship Exploring Maps and Globes Looking at our Country Looking at our World

Second Grade

Reader's Workshop	Tackling Trouble – Tricky Words and Parts of Stories Characters Face Big Challenges Reading Nonfiction Series Reading and Cross-Genre Reading Clubs Nonfiction Reading Clubs Fiction, Folktales and Fairy Tales Readers Can Read about Science Topics to Become Experts
Word Work	Words Their Way
Writer's Workshop	Super Sentences Powerful Paragraphs Small Moments Great Beginnings and Endings Expository Writing Argumentative Writing Non-Fiction Writing – Animal Research Poetry
Math	Counting, Coins and Combinations; Place Value Shapes and Angles Story Problems Data Analysis Place Value – Tens and Ones Parts of a Whole, Parts of a Group Measuring Length and Time
Science	Weather Sound Matter Life Cycles
Social Studies	Communities: Needs and Wants Our Country's Government and History Maps and Globes: Exploring our Country and State Looking at Our World

Third Grade

Reader's Workshop	Building a Reading Life Following a Character into Meaning Series Book Clubs Non-Fiction Expository Text Mystery Book Clubs Biography Book Clubs Genre Studies Information Reading Social Issues Book Clubs
Word Work	Words Their Way
Writer's Workshop	Raising the Quality of Narrative Writing Opinion Writing – Persuasive Writing Informational Writing Poetry
Math	Solving Problems using All Four Operations Measuring Volume, Mass and Time Perimeter and Linear Measurement Multiply and Divide Within 100 Area of 2-D Geometric Shapes
Science	Scientific Method Matter Energy Earth/Moon/Sun Earth Systems Ecosystems Force and Motion
Social Studies	Citizens and Government Our Different Roles People and Communities Over Time Our Geography People and Economics People and Technology People Shape Communities

Fourth Grade

Reader's Workshop	Building a Reading Life Following Characters into Meaning Nonfiction Reading: Using Text Structures to Comprehend Historical Fiction Book Clubs – Tackling Complex Texts
Word Work	Words Their Way
Writer's Workshop	Personal Narrative Writing – Expanding Author's Craft Realistic Fiction Personal and Persuasive Essays Informational Writing – Research in the Content Areas Historical Fiction Poetry Literary Essay
Math	Numeration and Operation – Place Value, Estimation and Computation Factors and Multiples – Multiplication Division Fractions Decimals Area and Perimeter Standard Measurement Geometry – 2-D Figures
Science	Physical Science Forces in Motion, Properties of Matter, Energy Earth Science Earth in the Universe and Earth History Life Science Ecosystems and Molecular Biology
Social Studies	Civics, Governance and Economics Settlement and Colonies in North Carolina Geography and Technology North Carolina People and Culture

Fifth Grade

Reader's Workshop	Launching Reading with Experienced Readers Following characters into Meaning: Synthesize, Infer and Interpret Non-Fiction Reading – Using Text Structures to Comprehend Non-Fiction Research Projects – Navigating Nonfiction Text with Critical Analytical Lenses Books Clubs – Historical Fiction or Fantasy Interpretation Text Sets
Word Work	Vocabulary – Stems Language – Conventions, Punctuation, Parts of Speech
Writer's Workshop	Personal Narratives Persuasive Writing – Argument Structures for Essay Writing Expository Structures of Informational Writing Research Based Argumentative Essays Historical/Fantasy Fiction Writing Autobiography Poetry
Math	Numbers and Operations – Computation Strategies and Estimation Sense Fractions and Percents Geometry Decimals Algebra Multiplying and Dividing Fractions
Science	Forces and Motion Weather Ecosystems Human Body Systems
Social Studies	Geography United States History American Indians and Early America – Reconstruction After the Civil War

TIPS FOR PARENTS ON HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL

Literacy

- Know your child's reading level and make sure he/she is reading "just right" books
- Make sure your child reads nightly – children also love when parents or older siblings read to them
- If your child has a book and you are not sure if it's at their level, open the book to the middle and select a passage of 100 words. Have your child read it aloud to you. Use the five finger rule! For each mistake, hold up a finger. If they make more than five errors, it is probably too hard for them to read independently. You may choose to read that book aloud or read it together.
- Other resources to help find a book level and a "just right" book:
 - <http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/>
 - <http://www.bookfinder.com>
 - <http://www.lexile.com> - click on "Find a Book" tool
- Questions to ask about your child's reading:
 - Make a prediction about what will happen next in the story. Use support from the story to back up your prediction.
 - What do the character traits of the main character tell about him/her?
 - What has happened so far in the story? (Use sequence words)
 - If there was a problem, did it get solved? If so, how? How would you have solved the problem?
 - When you read, what pictures did you see in your head?
 - What were you wondering as you read? Do you have any questions?
 - Think about the predictions you made before. Do you still think the story will go this way? Why?

Math

- Encourage your child to use multiple strategies to solve problems.
- Developing fluency in addition and multiplication facts will be a strong support for your child as they advance through school. There are many methods to memorizing and practicing facts.
 - Smaller chunks of time more often (5-10 minutes per night is better than 30 minutes once per week).
 - You can use online practice sites...links below.
 - Once memorized, your child should be able to do about 50 problems in 5 minutes or less.
 - You can create a rhyme or hand motion to help them remember.
 - Songs are great too. There are multiplication raps, rocks, and more.
- Cool Websites
 - www.aaamath.com - This has games and activities broken down by grade and objective
 - www.funbrain.com – This has fun activities in multiple content areas and family challenges
 - www.mathfactcafe.com – This site has activities and games to practice math facts
 - www.aplusmath.com – This site has practice activities, homework help, and flashcards