**Course Descriptions**

**Elementary School**

**Language Arts**

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

The Elementary English Language Arts courses provide students with a rigorous and comprehensive look at the ELA standards, focusing on reading foundational skills, reading comprehension strategies through informative and literature texts, writing, grammar, and speaking and listening skills. Students will be exposed to the five essential components of reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension, vocabulary and fluency) through engaging text and interactive learning. Primary students (Kindergarten –Second Grade) will learn to read and will be given a strong foundation in phonemic awareness and phonics. Intermediate students (Third –Fifth Grade) will focus on reading to learn with the incorporation of more complex text and extensive exploration and use of vocabulary in reading and writing. Students will be taught grammar skills which will be implemented into the rigorous writing lessons and compliment various topics. Students will participate in informative, narrative, and opinion writing compositions throughout the course. Throughout the English Language Arts courses, students will explore a myriad of topics through integration across content areas. Each grade level of the ELA suite will surround student learning with an adventure filled theme, showing students that learning really is the great adventure.

**Math**

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

The elementary math courses inspire students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers.  The learners use math as a tool to make sense of and understand the world around them.  The courses include media that uses sight and sound to engage students.  For example, rhymes, chants, songs, and videos help teach and practice foundational math skills.  The focuses of the K-2 math courses are building a strong number sense, addition and subtraction within 20, place value, measurement, and shapes.  The focuses of the 3-5 math courses are multiplication and division within 100, fractions, decimals, shapes, area, and volume.  Students explore content prior to being explicitly taught and hands-on activities help strengthen the learners’ algebraic and critical thinking skills. Digital and concrete manipulatives help support mathematical proficiency in all grades. The learners are provided with many practice opportunities that involve both on-screen and off-screen activities.

**Science**

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

The Elementary Science K – 5 courses will spark curiosity in students and build a solid foundation in concepts across many types of sciences including Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science. Students will engage in science and engineering practices by asking questions, defining problems, developing and using models, planning and conducting investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, using mathematics and informational technology, constructing explanations, designing solutions, engaging in scientific arguments using evidence, and communicating results. A framework of active student learning supports and allows students to engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate throughout all courses. This dynamic format will help students build their own understanding from experiences and new ideas in order to facilitate a better understanding of the world around them.

**Social Studies**

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

The Social Studies suite utilizes a personal approach to introduce students to community and citizenship. By providing scaffolded instruction from kindergarten through 5th grade, students develop a firm understanding of important concepts and skills related to history, geography, and economics. The integration of recurring characters and challenges to overcome keeps students engaged and progressing. Finally, students will analyze grade-appropriate passages to reinforce reading comprehension and writing skills. In Kindergarten, students learn about community and are offered an introduction to history, geography, and economics. In First grade, students develop an understanding of citizenship in the home, school, and community. Second grade focuses on the geography of North America, the impact of immigration, and the foundations of American citizenship. Third grade includes a closer look at American history and civics. This includes studying regions with the United States and the physical and cultural characteristics of Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean Islands. In Fourth grade, students explore the important people, places, and events that shaped the state in which they live. In Fifth grade, students focus on American history through 1850 from Native Americans through exploration, colonization, and early American history.

**Art**

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

The visual art suite will provide students the foundational skills to be successful in a studio environment. Using the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as the framework, students will feel confident in creating their own style of art. Students will explore and safely use a variety of materials during the creative process. The courses explicitly teach art techniques through modeling and connecting them to master artists. During the creative process, students will apply art vocabulary and procedures, as well as time-management and collaborative skills. They will develop their observational skills, prior knowledge, and art critique skills to reflect on and interpret works of art. Throughout each multifaceted lesson, the students will make connections to art and various cultures around the world. These courses offer rich text to support art history instruction, including information on artists and art movements over time. The visual art suite integrates standards from all of the core subject areas including math, social studies, science, health, and language arts. Connections are also made to music, dance, and physical education. This suite will develop students’ fine motor skills, critical thinking skills, creativity, and their appreciation for global communities.

**Physical Education**

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

The Elementary PE courses focus on helping students develop an active lifestyle by integrating healthy habits and activities. The learning scaffolds on the previous lessons to provide developmentally appropriate activities and builds on skills learned in each grade level. Skill progressions help students learn how to throw, catch, kick, strike, dance, swim, and perform basic gymnastics. Students also learn how to eat a healthy diet, develop teamwork and sportsmanship, and strive for 60 minutes of daily activity. They learn to set physical goals and work to meet those goals in order to keep improving their skills.