

## ► MUSIC

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- Play a variety of rhythm instruments to enhance rhythm activities.
- Sing songs to accentuate the meaning of words.
- Integrate music with other activities.

## ► PHYSICAL EDUCATION

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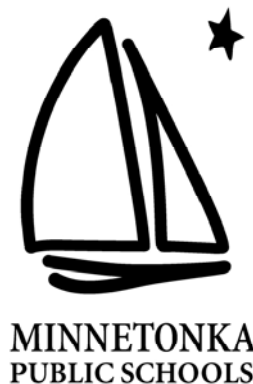
- Practice the concepts of general and self-space.
- Experience group interactions in simplified game activities.
- Practice beginning basic movements and object control skills.

## ► LANGUAGE IMMERSION ACQUISITION

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*Formal English instruction begins in Third Grade.*

- Understand and respond to predictable questions, sentences, and commands in a familiar context and with repetition.
- Use a number of memorized phrases related to familiar social and academic contexts
- Use a focused vocabulary to refer to basic objects, places, and actions related to academic units and themes.



INSPIRING IN EVERYONE  
A PASSION TO EXCEL

# Kindergarten

## Essential Learnings

2011-2012



MINNETONKA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Minnetonka School District has identified what a student is expected to know and be able to do in each subject area within the curriculum. Listed inside are the expectations, called “essential learnings,” for students. The curriculum is designed to help each student accomplish these essential learnings.

## ▶ ART

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- ▶ Demonstrate knowledge of artistic foundations.
- ▶ Use processes to create art.
- ▶ Demonstrate knowledge of historical perspectives
- ▶ Use artistic tools, materials and techniques
- ▶ Respond to, Critique & Reflect upon art.

## ▶ COMMUNICATIONS: READING, WRITING, LISTENING, SPEAKING & SPELLING

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- ▶ Identify and analyze literary elements and devices in works of fiction including characterization, plot, setting, and theme and the ways they convey meaning.
- ▶ Respond to literature using details from the story to make personal connections.
- ▶ Use content to predict and infer word meanings.

## ▶ MATHEMATICS

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- ▶ Identify, create, complete, and extend simple patterns using shape, color, size, number, sounds and movements.
- ▶ Recognize and sort basic two- and three-dimensional shapes; use them to model real-world objects.
- ▶ Understand the relationship between quantities and whole numbers.
- ▶ Use objects and pictures to represent situations involving combining and separating.

## ▶ SCIENCE

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- ▶ Weather can be described in measurable quantities and changes from day to day.
- ▶ Living things are diverse with many different observable characteristics.
- ▶ Scientific inquiry is used to pose questions about the natural world and investigate phenomena.
- ▶ Objects can be described in terms of the materials they are made of and their physical properties.

## ▶ SOCIAL STUDIES

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- ▶ Understand and demonstrate respectful interactions with families, and others in the community.
- ▶ Understand that in our economic system people work to earn money to buy goods and services.
- ▶ Identify the physical and cultural features of our country.
- ▶ Demonstrate awareness of concepts of chronological time, maps, and globes.

## ▶ MEDIA

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- ▶ Understand that Media Center resources are for recreational reading and information.
- ▶ Practice responsibility when using borrowed materials from the school and public libraries.
- ▶ Practice basic computer skills in creating verbal and pictorial descriptions with the computer.
- ▶ Recognize basic operations, terminology and proper care for a variety of technologies.

*Informational and technological skill development and application are included in all areas of curriculum through the combined efforts of the teacher and media specialist.*

Essential Learnings are available on the web at [www.minnetonka.k12.mn.us](http://www.minnetonka.k12.mn.us)

Our District Website is a great place to learn more about your student's curriculum. Essential Learnings are listed by grade level.

## Support your child's learning by:

- ▶ Seeing that your child comes to school rested, well fed and ready to learn
- ▶ Taking interest in what your child is learning: recognize your child's achievements and progress.
- ▶ Teaching your child appropriate and responsible behavior.
- ▶ Understanding the school rules.
- ▶ Working in cooperation with school and your child's teacher.
- ▶ Reviewing homework assignments and school work with your child.
- ▶ Monitoring your child's television viewing habits, online use and outside activities.

