



**MICHIGAN
INTERNATIONAL
PREP SCHOOL**

**ELEMENTARY COURSE CATALOG
2019-2020**

Welcome to Michigan International Prep School, or MIPS for short. We are excited to help you on your educational journey. Our goal is to facilitate your learning as much as we can. If you have a question, concern, or need, please let us know so we can identify solutions together. If there are other courses that you're curious about, please reach out to our Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Lucas Peless, at peless@miprepschool.org. We are always looking to expand how we serve our students.

For additional school information about grading, graduation requirements, etc., please click [here](#) to open the MIPS Student Handbook.

In addition to the courses listed in this document, a student may potentially dual enroll at any college or university in Michigan. Eligibility for this is based upon progress and academic preparation. Please reach out to Katherine Caron, our Director of Student Services, at caron@miprepschool.org, for more information.

At MIPS, we use the following curriculum providers, also known as Learning Management Systems (LMS) in our elementary program.

- Lincoln Learning for standard grades K-5
- IXL for both supplemental instruction and, if necessary, as specific math or reading courses.
- Lexia Learning Suite (Rapid Assessment and Core5) for a more extensive reading assessment tool as well as an intervention for students with reading challenges.
- ExactPath by Edmentum as a computer-adapted, prescriptive course that focuses on the base standard level to identify gaps and remediate instruction.





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BOARD OF EDUCATION OVERVIEW

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Jamie Abrego	Director Teaching and Learning
Charles Carver	Director Program Advancement

VISION STATEMENT

To create a 21st Century education that challenges and motivates all students to become tomorrow's model global workforce and community leaders.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a 21st century education that taps into the affinity of each student so they will achieve their maximum potential, will be prepared to succeed in the global economy and will become self-directed lifelong learners.



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The courses in this document are broken down by grade band:

- [Kindergarten](#)
- [First](#)
- [Second](#)
- [Third](#)
- [Fourth](#)
- [Fifth](#)

Elementary students need to ensure they have 10 courses per year.
Courses may be scheduled sequentially based upon your student's needs.
I.e. Two courses at a time for 6 weeks (more or less).





KINDERGARTEN

Course Title & Description	Length
Language Arts K	Full year (2 classes)
<p>English Language Arts K encompasses reading, writing, speaking, spelling, and listening skills for students who are emerging learners. This course places a heavy emphasis on the alphabet, as students learn letter names and both uppercase and lowercase letters. Students also learn letter sounds and how to articulate and blend those sounds. English Language Arts K focuses on building reading skills through the use of high-frequency sight words—common prepositions, nouns, verbs, and adjectives. Through grade-level appropriate readings, students explore story elements and the ways in which pictures relate to text. They also learn to summarize a text and to compare and contrast characters, events, and ideas within texts. This course teaches foundational grammar and writing skills, including proper capitalization, spacing between words, and sentence punctuation. Students learn to print words and write complete sentences. Finally, interactive activities throughout the academic year help students develop their speaking and listening skills as well. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	
Math K	Full year (2 classes)
<p>In Mathematics K, students explore the world of mathematics all around them. Students begin to develop foundational mathematics skills such as number identification and recognition and rote counting to 100 by memory. They learn the difference between more than and less than and explore the ways in which numbers are broken down into various components. Students compare measurements, such as longer and shorter and heavier and lighter. They begin to develop problem-solving skills as they engage with simple addition and subtraction equations and word problems. Finally, students are introduced to basic geometry and learn the names and basic attributes of shapes. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	
Science K	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Science K introduces emerging learners to the knowledge and skills that will help them discover and understand the natural world around them. In this course, students learn to formulate questions, to predict, and to investigate. They use basic scientific tools, such as a magnifying glass, a ruler, and a thermometer, to make observations and draw on those observations to communicate their findings. They learn to use their</p>	

five senses as observational tools as well. They deploy their observational skills to describe animals and plants, their basic needs for survival, and their environments. Students discover the effect of sunlight on Earth's surfaces and the difference between sun and shade. Students explore weather types, weather patterns, and seasonal changes. They also examine the characteristics of force, including the difference between a push and a pull. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Social Studies K

Full year (2 classes)

Social Studies K introduces emerging learners to the knowledge and skills that help them to become active and valued participants in their community. Students learn the importance of rules and regulations in guiding community behavior and the role of government and other institutions. They explore the concept of good citizenship and values such as respect, democracy, cooperation, and equality in the context of the family and the local community. This course lays the foundation for understanding the past by teaching the importance of a sequence of events, introducing historical figures, and developing students' skill in distinguishing fact and opinion. Finally, students learn about the world around them, including how geography influences society, how maps represent places, and how communities rely on trade in goods and services. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Physical Education K

Physical Education K offers students a comprehensive physical education course where the focus is to get students motivated to be active. Students begin by learning about the course requirement of 36 hours of organized, supervised physical activity. They also learn to document their activity in their PE Log. Next, students learn about different aspects of physical education, including different exercise and activity techniques in addition to information on leading a healthier lifestyle that allows them to be more physically-fit. Topics such as safety, following direction, friendships with peers, and basic health and nutrition are reviewed. Regardless of the content covered in the daily lesson, students are expected to get up and move every day. They can do so by using different movements, exercises, or the grade-appropriate physical education kit items, which are available to purchase. The kit is designed to work in conjunction with the course content and contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items. Adaptive physical education activities are available for this course.

Art K

In Art K, students are introduced to the ways in which they can express ideas and demonstrate their creativity through art. Throughout this course, students are encouraged to use their imagination to create art. They use a wide variety of materials to make their artwork, and they learn safe methods for using those materials. They explore the importance of working with others by collaborating both to create art and to solve artistic problems. Students use multiple techniques while working with the same artistic medium, and they create various scenes, including a nature scene, a construction scene, and an underwater scene. This course will teach students to develop and carry out a plan to create and revise their work, and it guides them through the process of creating a personal art portfolio. In addition, Art K-1 encourages students to begin thinking about the artwork of others. They learn about well-known artists and the common tools those artists used. They also learn about art museums and consider how pieces of artwork make them feel. Finally,

students create works of art that are of a more personal nature, including art depicting their own community, a self-portrait, and an illustration of their favorite book. Throughout Art K-1, students learn art terminology so that they are able to connect ideas and demonstrate the beginnings of a strong artistic foundation.

Music K

In Music K, students are introduced to the expression of ideas and creativity in music through active involvement. Students respond, connect, perform, and create music to enhance gross and fine motor skills, vocal development, self-expression, personal connection, originality, visual recognition, and audiation while developing music terminology.



FIRST GRADE

Course Title & Description	Total Credit
Language Arts 1	Full year (2 classes)
<p>English Language Arts 1 focuses on developing reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening skills. In this course, students begin to understand that spoken and written language can be broken into phonemes. They use rhyming, blending, and segmenting to develop the foundation needed to become an emergent reader. Students read prose, poetry, and informational texts for comprehension. They learn to interpret the ways in which stories and poems appeal to the senses and to identify the main topic and key ideas within texts. Students increase their vocabulary by learning to use morphemic and contextual analysis to determine the meaning of unknown words. Students learn to spell new words using various spelling rules. In English Language Arts 1, students hone their writing skills by practicing grammar rules for noun usage, personal possessive and indefinite pronouns, verb tenses, capitalization, commas, and end punctuation. In doing so, they learn to produce and expand sentences and to write opinion pieces, informational pieces, and narratives. This year, students begin learning how to research information and how to use their research to answer questions. They identify and use various parts of a book, such as headings and the table of contents. They also use digital tools to publish their writing. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.</p>	
Math 1	Full year (2 classes)
<p>In Mathematics 1, students begin to learn mathematics in a more formal way. They focus on rote counting to 120 and practice reading and writing these numbers. In addition to strengthening their addition and subtraction skills, they compare two-digit numbers based on place values and by using the comparison symbols for greater than, less than, or equal to. Students measure lengths and use measurements to compare the lengths of multiple objects. They strengthen their geometric skills by drawing two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes and explore fractions by dividing those shapes into halves and quarters. Students also organize, represent, and interpret data in pictures, tables, and charts, and they tell and write times in hours and half hours. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.</p>	

Science 1	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Science 1 extends students' exploration of the natural world. Along the way, they practice making predictions and observations, experimenting, and using scientific tools and problem-solving skills. Students investigate ecosystems and habitats, identifying the five basic needs of all living things, the importance of natural resources, and the interactions of human beings and the environment. They examine the agricultural system and its products and by-products. This course also introduces the water cycle and the Earth as a body in space. Students observe matter and describe its properties and states, and they discover the properties of light and sound. Study of force and motion enable them to define the terms and explain the effect of different amounts of force and also how moving objects stop. Finally, students develop their ability to distinguish fact from opinion and recognize the relation of cause and effect. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.</p>	
Social Studies 1	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Social Studies 1 leads students beyond their local community to consider their place in their state, the nation, and the world. They explore the function and characteristics of government in the United States, including the role of rules and laws and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Students also learn how to ask questions and gather information to understand history. The course focuses on developing students' knowledge of the interplay between the physical world and human societies, as they learn basic geography skills, such as map reading, and examine the impact of the environment on how and where people live and how regional variations drive trade in both goods and services. Finally, students build their understanding of good citizenship by identifying ways to contribute to the community and avoid conflict and by interacting respectfully with others. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.</p>	
Physical Education 1	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Physical Education 1 offers students a complete physical education experience where students are encouraged to live healthy lifestyles through good food choices and daily activity. The course begins by introducing students to the requirements for completion, which include 36 hours of organized, supervised physical activity. Students document all activity within their PE Logs. From there, students learn about a number of different elements of a healthy lifestyle, including safety, working with others, responsibility, stretching, healthy versus unhealthy foods, and warming-up and cooling-down. Regardless of the activity students are asked to do on a given day, they are expected to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation encourages students to be active every day by creating a routine. Students can be active by performing different exercises, engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kits, which are available to purchase. The kit is designed to work in conjunction with the course content and contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items. Adaptive physical education activities are available for this course.</p>	
Art 1	Full year (2 classes)
<p>In Art 1, students explore the roles of both groups of people. Students learn how daily life can be used as inspiration, and how it can be depicted through artwork. They categorize artworks according to the subject</p>	

matter each is portraying. Additionally, students learn to recognize the elements of art and the principles of design, and they rate artwork. Students explore the ways in which artwork is created outside of the school setting, and they discover that art is made for different reasons. As practicing artists, students will develop their art vocabulary, art understanding, and artistic skills as they work through prompts supplied in the course.

Music 1

Full year (2 classes)

In Music 1, students are introduced to music fundamentals such as solfège, rhythms, dynamics, meter, instrument families, and dance forms. Each topic is presented through the use of music and movement activities that include reading, singing, dancing, and writing. Students improvise original rhythmic compositions. They sing using various forms of musical expression and dance. They learn and practice proper stage and performance etiquette techniques, and they explore the ways in which music and dance work together to create specific dance forms. Students also learn about American composers whose music has influenced the American society.



SECOND GRADE

Course Title & Description	Total Credit
Language Arts 2	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening are the central concepts covered in Lincoln Empowered™ English Language Arts 2. This year, students begin to transition from learning to read to reading to learn. In this course, students continue to develop their phonemic awareness by learning to recognize word families, word origins, and irregularly spelled words. They also begin to use linking words to connect opinions and reasons and temporal words to signal the order of events. While reading, students work to distinguish fact from opinion, decipher an author’s purpose, and identify the main topic of a multi-paragraph text. Students sample multiple genres of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, folk tales, and fables, while exploring story elements such as plot, setting, characterization, and the author’s point of view. They also learn to distinguish between the main idea and the theme of a story. Students develop their writing skills by composing narrative, argumentative, and informative essays, as well as creative writing pieces. Additionally, they practice their research skills by finding facts in multiple sources and using them to produce a report. Students use a dictionary to reinforce phonetic punctuation and spelling and to identify words with multiple meanings. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	
Math 2	Full year (2 classes)
<p>In Mathematics 2, students begin to develop the skills to solve problems mentally and to explain how they solved a problem aloud or through writing. They count to 1,000 and identify even and odd numbers. Students discover multiple strategies for adding and subtracting numbers and determine which strategies work best for various problem types. They work with number lines and use them to represent whole numbers and their sums and differences. In this course, students expand their knowledge of place value to include thousands and use this concept to compare numbers. They use standard units of measurement to express the length of objects in inches, feet, centimeters, and meters. Mathematics 2 introduces digital and analog time and presents students with word problems involving money. In addition to learning monetary values, students also learn to use the dollar and cent symbols appropriately. Students also deepen their understanding of geometric shapes while exploring fractions by dividing shapes into halves, thirds, and fourths. They are introduced to new ways of representing data, including line plots, picture graphs, and bar graphs. This</p>	

course uses mathematics' manipulatives to help students visualize problems in addition to a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Science 2

Full year (2 classes)

Science 2 encourages students to make sense of the world around them by observing and experimenting. Through focused readings and hands-on activities, students explore matter, energy, and physical and chemical changes. They study interdependence in ecosystems, such as the role of bees in pollination and the use and conservation of natural resources. They look beyond food production to the broader purposes of agriculture and recognize the importance of local farms to human society. Students examine the water cycle—including evaporation and condensation—and the life cycles of such living things as frogs, butterflies, and plants. They research topics and formulate questions, make predictions, and then use scientific tools to observe and measure their experiments. By distinguishing fact from opinion and recognizing patterns and cause and effect, students develop the ability to make inferences and communicate their findings. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Social Studies 2

Full year (2 classes)

Social Studies 2 empowers students to become productive citizens by developing their knowledge and skills in civics, history, geography, and economics. They deepen their understanding of the U.S. government by explaining the role of the three branches of government and of the U.S. Constitution. Students extend their knowledge of U.S. history to recognize the impact of important figures and movements of the past, and they begin to think like historians by identifying reliable sources, crafting compelling questions, distinguishing fact and opinion, and using timelines to structure series of events. The course highlights the role of international relations, including both alliances and international trade, as well as the importance of geography and regional variations in resources and production. Finally, students learn core concepts of economics, including supply and demand, scarcity, and cost and benefits, as well as the functions of banks, and relate these concepts to individuals and communities. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Physical Education 2

Physical Education 2 provides students with a comprehensive physical education course. Within this course, students are encouraged to discover the ways to live a healthy lifestyle, including better food choices and consistent activity. Students begin the course by learning about the required 36 hours of organized, supervised physical activity. They also learn to document their activity within a PE Log. The course then moves into different aspects of healthy living, discussing components of health and safety, nutrition, working with others, following directions, and a number of new and different exercises, activities, and techniques. Regardless of the activity the student is asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation helps them to create a routine-like schedule. Students can be active by performing different exercises, engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kits, which are available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items. Adaptive physical education activities are available for this course.

Art 2	
<p>In Art 2, students explore artistic expression of their own personal interests. They learn to organize art into categories and to identify the various methods and materials used to create art. Throughout this course, students expand their artistic vocabulary, using it to describe the works they are studying. They explore the ways in which color can represent mood in artworks and create their own works to express their mood. While learning safe procedures for working with artistic materials, students experiment with mixing colors. In addition to creating artworks that depicts family, school, and community life, students also gain familiarity with works from European and Asian cultures.</p>	
Music 2	
<p>In Music 2, students explore musical expression. They investigate how musical concepts such as tempo are used to achieve the musician’s expressive intent. Students identify the role and responsibility of a music composer and seek out the connections between music, other arts, daily life, and history. Throughout the course, they perform songs with movements and improvise rhythmic patterns and melodies. They create and record musical ideas through a recording device or on paper. Students learn to identify how personal interests and experiences influence music selection and instrument choice. Through these studies, they evaluate music from the Irish, African, and Japanese cultures. Additionally, they work with standard and iconic notation. Finally, students use the musical skills learned in this course to evaluate recorded music and make suggestions for improvement.</p>	
Cursive Handwriting	
<p>In the Cursive Handwriting course, students will have the opportunity to learn the art of cursive handwriting. This course uses videos and written lessons to demonstrate and explain how each letter is written. Students will practice their cursive writing using engaging activity pages.</p>	
Introduction to Typing	
<p>In Introduction to Typing course, students study the proper typing techniques in order to increase their typing speed or WPM (words per minute). Students practice proper posture, finger positioning, and typing strategies, and they explore safe Internet practices.</p>	



THIRD GRADE

Course Title & Description	Total Credit
Language Arts 3	Full year (2 classes)
<p>English Language Arts 3 focuses on expanding students' reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening skills. In this course, students read more complex texts and write to express themselves with greater sophistication. They practice reading at a natural pace while using intonation and expression appropriately. While reading, they interpret texts in more complex ways, by identifying cause and effect, determining tone and mood, and distinguishing shades of meaning in figurative language. This course introduce students to new genres, including opinion pieces, biographies, and blogs, while they continue to work with narratives, fiction, and informational texts. An emphasis is placed on grammar, punctuation, and spelling as students explore the functions of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs; categorize nouns; explain the differences between various verb tenses; write simple, complex, and compound sentences; and use capitalization, commas, and quotation marks correctly. They learn the spelling of words with various prefixes and suffixes; regular and irregular nouns, verbs, and adjectives; and contractions, compound words, homophones, and words with various vowel sounds. Students develop their speaking and listening skills by planning, writing, and delivering an oral presentation and by creating visual aids to accompany the presentation. English Language Arts 3 also introduces students to new forms of writing, such as scripts, autobiographies, and outlines. They practice drafting and revising their writing through the development of journal entries, short stories, opinion pieces, and narratives. Students expand their research skills by learning to take notes while researching and to organize their notes into categories. They also gather information using both print and electronic sources. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.</p>	
Math 3	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Students in Mathematics 3 focus on multiplication and division, as this course aims to build strong foundational skills in these areas. Students explore the relationship between multiplication and division and practice using the order of operations to solve problems, including one- and two-step word problems. In addition to using place value to perform multidigit arithmetic, students round numbers to the nearest ten or hundred. They refine their mathematics skills in relation to money by making change using a combination of bills and coins. Mathematics 3 presents area and perimeter to students as they explore linear and area measurements. They also work with fractions as numbers in this course, representing them on number</p>	

lines, generating equivalent fractions, and comparing fractions with the same numerator and denominator. Finally, students explore the ways in which various types of data can be displayed.

Science 3

Full year (2 classes)

Science 3 guides students on an exploration of the natural world, its animals, its plants, and its terrain. They learn how clouds form, what causes the cycles of seasons and of day and night on Earth, and that light and sound are actually energy. Students examine the Earth's eight major biomes and identify how adaptations help plants and animals to survive varying conditions. They become junior meteorologists, able to explain weather and climate and to use weather instruments and knowledge of patterns to observe and predict the weather. Students recognize the information fossils can provide about the Earth's past and use geologic time scales to identify the eras when fossilized organisms lived. They explain how chemical reactions can change the properties of matter, and they investigate energy, magnetism, and electricity. Finally, students research topics and formulate questions, make predictions and observations, experiment and measure using scientific tools, and draw inferences and identify patterns based on their scientific inquiries. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Social Studies 3

Full year (2 classes)

Social Studies 3 focuses on the United States, including its government and its laws. Students are encouraged to think about what it means to be productive, responsible citizens of both the nation and their own local communities. To support their learning about U.S. history and differing cultures and perspectives, students are taught to evaluate the validity of sources, especially websites; to develop and research compelling questions on historical topics; to work with timelines; and to distinguish between fact and opinion. They develop presentation skills that include constructing arguments to support their opinions and using visual aids to add interest to oral reports. Finally, students expand their map-reading skills and learn the fundamentals of financial literacy. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Physical Education 3

Physical Education 3 offers a comprehensive physical education course where students learn how to live a healthy lifestyle and are motivated to be active. Students begin by learning about the required 36 hours of organized, supervised physical activity required in the course and how to document their activity within a PE Log. After students learn the guidelines, they move into the course content, which covers topics ranging from safety, rules, and etiquette to various new, fun, and challenging activities and exercise techniques. Students learn the basic elements of each new activity, along with the proper way to execute the motions so that they can get the most benefits from the exercise. Regardless of the activity the student is asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation helps them to create a routine-like schedule. Students can be active by performing different exercises, engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kits, which are available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items. Adaptive physical education activities are available for this course.

Art 3	
<p>In Art 3, students create, experiment, revise, present, analyze, and respond to artwork. Students learn the importance of presenting their art and the necessary components to consider when doing so, such as the display space, artwork preparation, and display limitations. Students revise and enhance their art in order to tell a better visual story. They also learn how to ask important questions regarding the imagery and materials an artist uses to better understand the message of the work. Art 3 gives students the observation tools they need to perceive their world and create art based on what they see and how they feel.</p>	
Music 3	
<p>In Music 3, students explore musical basics such as melody, harmony, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, and context. They also reflect upon how these elements affect a listener’s response to the music. Students use standard notation to read and write notes and rhythm in the treble clef and then practice playing those notes on instruments including the hand drum, rhythm sticks, and the soprano recorder. They learn about new musical ideas such as the pentatonic sound, major and minor scales, and singing in solfège. Finally, students identify key classical composers and explore new musical genres such as blues, bluegrass, country, jazz, and pop music.</p>	
Cursive Handwriting	
<p>In the Cursive Handwriting course, students will have the opportunity to learn the art of cursive handwriting. This course uses videos and written lessons to demonstrate and explain how each letter is written. Students will practice their cursive writing using engaging activity pages.</p>	
Introduction to Typing	Half year (1 class)
<p>In Introduction to Typing course, students study the proper typing techniques in order to increase their typing speed or WPM (words per minute). Students practice proper posture, finger positioning, and typing strategies, and they explore safe Internet practices.</p>	



FOURTH GRADE

Course Title & Description	Total Credit
Language Arts 4	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Students in English Language Arts 4 focuses on expanding their reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening skills, with a heavy emphasis on solidifying their writing skills. They use narrative, descriptive, opinion, persuasive, and informative pieces to learn to state ideas, facts, and opinions clearly while correctly using introduction, body, and conclusion paragraphs. Students create a plan for writing, revise and edit their work, and improve their writing using feedback from an adult. Through their writing, they continue to master the conventions of English grammar, including quotations, relative pronouns, progressive verb tenses, modal auxiliaries, prepositional phrases, antecedents, coordinating conjunctions, compound sentences, capitalization, and punctuation, while avoiding sentence fragments and run-on sentences. They learn to spell words with a wide variety of prefixes and suffixes in addition to homophones, possessives, compound words, and words with silent letters. While reading, students identify, describe, and analyze story elements and compare and contrast these elements in stories, myths, and literature from various cultures. Students further develop their research skills by conducting short research projects, taking notes during research, and creating bibliographies. They develop more concrete speaking skills by creating and delivering presentations on various topics. In addition, students create audio recordings and visual aids to supplement their presentations. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.</p>	
Math 4	Full year (2 classes)
<p>In Mathematics 4, students refine their skills in the areas of place value, measurement, geometry, fractions, and decimals. They use the order of operations to solve problems with whole numbers up to 1 million, and they explore factors and multiples ranging from 1 to 100. Students use equations, arrays, and area models to explain multiplication calculations. They compare multi digit whole numbers, fractions, and decimals using the symbols for greater than, less than, and equal to. Students practice converting measurements, such as feet to inches, and they use their understanding of size to determine whether measurements are reasonable answers to problems. Mathematics 4 introduces students to the protractor, which they use to measure angles in whole number degrees. Students learn to identify right triangles, and they sketch angles, lines, segments, and rays. Students look closely at fractions and decimals in this course by writing equivalent fractions, ordering fractions from least to greatest, comparing fractions with different numerators and denominators,</p>	

and writing fractions as decimals and vice versa.

Science 4

Full year (2 classes)

Science 4 lays a foundation for future excellence in the STEM fields by introducing technology and engineering concepts, such as simple and complex machines and the steps of the engineering design process. This course encourages students to become innovative problem-solvers equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to address twenty-first century issues. Students explore the technical and sometimes surprising facts behind the things they see and experience every day. They expand their knowledge and understanding of topics in the areas of physics, chemistry, Earth science, ecology, biology, and space science. Students investigate genetics and the physical characteristics of living things, ecosystems and extinction, agriculture and sustainable resources, and pollution and recycling. They get to know the Earth's landforms and the types of rocks and soil, and extend their learning beyond the Earth to the solar system and the Milky Way. Finally, students encounter important concepts in physics, such as the types and properties of waves, and in chemistry, such as atoms, molecules, and the conservation of mass. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Social Studies 4

Full year (2 classes)

Social Studies 4 introduces students to critical analysis, as they develop more detailed knowledge of U.S. and world history and the influence of individual perspectives on documents and events. Students assess and use a wide variety of primary and secondary sources to research compelling questions and present interpretations and arguments in both written and oral form, supporting their positions with details drawn from those reliable sources. They learn the rights and responsibilities of citizens and how people and groups can work together to accomplish common goals. Students also explore how regional differences in physical environment and culture affect how people live and work. This course fosters a command of the concepts and tools of geography, such as latitude, longitude, maps of various kinds, and scales. Students also gain an understanding of core aspects of economics, including resources, production, consumption, and international trade. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student's learning.

Physical Education 4

Physical Education 4 provides students with a complete physical education experience where they not only learn how to live healthier lifestyles, but they are also taught and encouraged to be active every day. The course begins with an introduction to the requirements for completing the course successfully. Students must participate in, and document, at least 36 hours of organized, supervised physical activity within a PE Log. Then, students move into the content, which ranges in topics from the five components of physical fitness and safety, rules, and etiquette to various new, fun, and challenging activities and exercise techniques. Before attempting each activity, students receive instruction on the basic elements and the proper execution of each movement so that they can get the most benefits from the exercise. Regardless of the activity the student is asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation helps them to create a routine-like schedule. Students can be active by performing different exercises, engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kits, which are available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to

work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items. Adaptive physical education activities are available for this course.

Art 4

In Art 4, students begin thinking about the meaning behind works of art. They work both independently and collaboratively to brainstorm ideas for visual art, set artistic goals, and create meaningful artistic pieces. Students experiment with oil pastels and nontraditional art-making approaches and materials. They explore how regional influences can inspire an artist and create their own art based on regional inspirations. Students observe the various ways in which art can be displayed, where it can be displayed, and how its placement can impact the artist’s message. Students compare and contrast works from different cultures and create art to reflect their own cultural traditions. They also learn to use context to interpret artwork and infer information about the time, place, and culture in which works were created.

Music 4

In Music 4, students identify how the elements of music (melody, harmony, timbre, dynamics, and tempo) affect what a piece of music communicates to a listener. Students label or perform three different examples of rhythm in addition to musical notes such as the eighth note and the sixteenth note. They identify notes on the bass and treble clef. Students learn the difference between sharps and flats and major and minor scales. They create simple melodies with chords and mark tempo, time signature, and signature key. Students explore different musical characteristics and instruments from Africa in addition to Latin American and Celtic music and dance. Finally, students explain how social and cultural contexts influence a musical performance.

Cursive Handwriting

In the Cursive Handwriting course, students will have the opportunity to learn the art of cursive handwriting. This course uses videos and written lessons to demonstrate and explain how each letter is written. Students will practice their cursive writing using engaging activity pages.

Introduction to Typing

Half year (1 class)

In Introduction to Typing course, students study the proper typing techniques in order to increase their typing speed or WPM (words per minute). Students practice proper posture, finger positioning, and typing strategies, and they explore safe Internet practices.



FIFTH GRADE

Course Title & Description	Total Credit
Language Arts 5	Full year (2 classes)
<p>In English Language Arts 5, students solidify their foundational skills in reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening. Students read a variety of texts this year, including fiction, nonfiction, and informational texts. They identify the author’s purpose in multiple forms of writing, such as descriptive, expository, technical, persuasive, and narrative passages. Through these texts, they learn to make inferences and analyze multiple accounts of the same event. They also identify, interpret, and compare similes, metaphors, and idioms used in writing and learn to draw a plot diagram and to identify common themes in literature. This year, students write a five-paragraph essay and an effective thesis statement. They follow the writing process to develop essays, create outlines to organize their ideas, and revise and improve their original draft. Students also write a persuasive letter, a speech, and a script. This course teaches and reinforces spelling rules, such as i before e, while also focusing on the spelling of words ending in a silent e, commonly misspelled words, and words with multiple syllables. Students sharpen their research skills by learning to use notecards for research, gathering information about the same topic from multiple sources, and understanding plagiarism and the importance of writing in their own words. They also practice citing sources by creating a bibliography. Students enhance their presentation skills by reporting on a text or topic, telling a story, retelling an experience, or presenting an opinion in an organized way while using facts and details to support the main idea. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	
Math 5	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Mathematics 5 focuses on developing students’ math skills and problem-solving strategies. Problems and activities are designed to get students reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, constructing arguments, and modeling with mathematics. Students add, subtract, and multiply fractions, divide fractions by whole numbers, and divide whole numbers by fractions. They perform multiple operations with decimals in addition to comparing, ordering, and rounding them. They use exponents to denote powers of 10. Students are introduced to volume and how to calculate it and classify two-dimensional shapes into categories. They also graph data on a plot line and the coordinate plane, using graphs to solve real-world and mathematical problems. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	

Science 5	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Science 5 puts the emphasis on doing science. Students build their knowledge by crafting models, conducting experiments, creating terrariums, and making electromagnets. They learn about plant and animal cells and their functions, photosynthesis, and the roles of producers, consumers, and decomposers in an ecosystem. Students explore the global water cycle, the negative impacts of weather, and the relationship between weather and climate. They deepen their understanding of their home planet by investigating landforms, volcanic activity, the layers of the Earth’s atmosphere and geosphere, the tilt of the Earth’s axis, the impacts of its revolution around the Sun, and the Sun’s role as source of energy for life on Earth. Students are introduced to elements as the basic substances of all matter and the relationship between matter and particles; they also encounter such core concepts of physics as energy transformation, gravitation, and Newton’s first and second laws of motion. They design simple and parallel circuits and use the engineering design process to generate solutions to real-world problems. Finally, they conduct research, formulate questions, make predictions and observations, conduct fair tests using the scientific method, record their findings, and draw conclusions for future investigation. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	
Social Studies 5	Full year (2 classes)
<p>Social Studies 5 puts American history front and center, as students learn about the Native American civilizations of the Americas, the discovery of the New World by European explorers, the founding of the United States, westward expansion, and the coming of the Industrial Revolution. Students leverage research skills to analyze historical events and documents, and they present their findings using arguments based on reliable sources with supporting facts. They refine their ability to distinguish fact from opinion in the context of historical investigation. Students also broaden their understanding of government by recognizing how the system of checks and balances works at both national and state levels, and they identify and interpret important songs and symbols of the United States. Civic responsibility is woven throughout the curriculum, and students recognize the value of public service and the traits of good leaders. Social Studies 5 also explores the themes, tools, and techniques of geography. Students learn how human interaction with the environment has caused change, both beneficial and detrimental, in the past and in the present. Finally, they learn how the U.S. economy functions, including the role of government and multinational organizations in domestic and international trade. This course includes a printed Parent and Teacher Guide that will help you support your student’s learning.</p>	
Physical Education 5	
<p>Physical Education 5 offers a comprehensive physical education course where students are taught the basics for healthy and active living. Students begin by learning about the 36 hours of organized, supervised physical activity required for the course and how to document their activity in a PE Log. Next, students begin to engage with the content, which includes topics about safety and journaling in addition to new, fun, and challenging activities and exercise techniques. Before attempting each activity, students receive instruction on the basic elements and the proper execution of each movement so that they can get the most benefits from the exercise. Regardless of the activity the student is asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation helps them to create a routine-like schedule. Students can be active by performing different exercises, engaging in</p>	

<p>different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kits, which are available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items. Adaptive physical education activities are available for this course.</p>	
Art 5	
<p>Art 5 gives students opportunities to work with a wide range of materials, from metal to watercolors, all while further developing their techniques and skills as artists through repeated practice. Students learn to analyze, interpret, and talk about art with their peers as well as other admirers of art. They are introduced to the idea of cultural associations and perceptions and are asked to look at imagery critically. In doing so, students learn to decide how the details of their own work could be interpreted by others. Throughout this course, students create artwork that will bring attention to topics they find important. Their work will illustrate their awareness of their surroundings and will show their developing artistic abilities.</p>	
Music 5	
<p>In Music 5, students demonstrate their ability to create, perform, analyze, and respond to music while making connections to personal, social, cultural, and historical perspectives. By the end of the course, students will be able to read music notation, compose music, and improvise original melodies. Students will also apply what they learn through interactive learning activities and performances on a variety of instruments including, but not limited to, the tambourine, rhythm sticks, maracas, and the soprano recorder.</p>	
Cursive Handwriting	
<p>In the Cursive Handwriting course, students will have the opportunity to learn the art of cursive handwriting. This course uses videos and written lessons to demonstrate and explain how each letter is written. Students will practice their cursive writing using engaging activity pages.</p>	
Introduction to Typing	Half year (1 class)
<p>In Introduction to Typing course, students study the proper typing techniques in order to increase their typing speed or WPM (words per minute). Students practice proper posture, finger positioning, and typing strategies, and they explore safe Internet practices.</p>	
Introduction to Foreign Language	Half year (1 class)
<p>The Introduction to Foreign Language course is geared toward students who are interested in taking a foreign language course, but are not sure in which language they would like to begin their studies. This course provides an introduction to German, Spanish, and French languages, allowing students to explore the culture and other important dynamics associated with each language. Students learn the basic vocabulary and structures of the languages in ways that are fun and educational.</p>	