

**ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM**

**Pre-School, Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten Program**

The kindergarten program shall include experiences designed to develop:

- social-emotional development;
- physical development;
- language development;
- early literacy;
- early mathematics;
- science;
- technology
- creative expression;
- health and safety
- social studies

A pre-school, junior kindergarten and kindergarten teacher shall be certified.

**Grades One Through Five**

The following shall be taught in grades one through five: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, visual art, music, health, physical education, and traffic safety .

In implementing the elementary program standards, the following curriculum definitions shall be used.

**English-Language Arts.** English-language arts instruction shall include the following communication processes: speaking, listening; reading; writing; viewing; and visual expression and nonverbal communication.

Instruction shall incorporate language learning and creative, logical, and critical thinking. The following shall be taught:

- oral and written composition;
- communication processes and skills, including handwriting and spelling;
- literature;
- creative dramatics; and
- reading.

**Social Studies.** Social studies instruction shall include citizenship education, history, and social sciences. Democratic beliefs and values, problem-solving skills, and social and political participation skills shall be incorporated. Instruction shall encompass:

- 5 themes of geography including location, place, human/environment interaction, regions, and movement
- history of the United States and Iowa,
- cultures of other peoples and nations.

The following shall be infused in the social studies instructional program:

- American citizenship, including the study of national, state, and local government; and the
- awareness of the physical, social, emotional, and mental self.

**Mathematics.** Mathematics instruction shall include:

- problem solving;
- geometry;
- measurement;

- appropriate computational skills, including mental arithmetic;
- reasonableness of results;
- reading, interpreting, and constructing tables, charts, and graphs;
- estimation; and the
- use of calculators as standard tools in problem solving.

**Science.** Science instruction shall include life, earth, and physical science. It shall incorporate the following:

- hands-on process skills;
- scientific knowledge;
- application of the skills and knowledge to students and society;
- conservation of natural resources; and
- environmental awareness.

**Visual Art.** Visual art instruction shall include: perceiving, comprehending, and evaluating the visual world; viewing and understanding the visual arts; developing and communicating imaginative and inventive ideas; and making art.

**Music.** Music instruction shall include skills, knowledge, and attitudes and shall include: singing and playing music; listening to and using music; reading and writing music; recognizing the value of the world's musical heritage; respecting individual musical aspirations and values; and preparing for consuming, performing, or composing.

**Health.** Health instruction shall include personal health; food and nutrition; environmental health; safety and survival skills; consumer health; family life; substance use and nonuse, encompassing the effects of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and poisons on the human body; emotional and social health; health resources; and prevention and control of disease, including characteristics of communicable diseases.

**Physical Education.** Physical education instruction shall include movement experiences and body mechanics; fitness activities; rhythmic activities; stunts and tumbling; simple games and relays; sports skills and activities; and water safety.

**Traffic Safety.** Traffic safety instruction shall include pedestrian safety; bicycle safety; auto passenger safety; school bus passenger safety; seat belt use; substance education; and the application of legal responsibility and risk management to these concepts.

**Library Science.** Students will also receive instruction in all facets of library science appropriate to their needs and developmental level.

**Guidance Skills.** Students will receive whole group instruction in a program of age appropriate guidance activities.

**Citizenship Skills.** Students will receive whole group instruction that focuses on citizenship qualities in a program of age/grade appropriate activities.

**Talented and Gifted.** Those students who are identified as meeting the criteria will receive instruction in an appropriate Talented and Gifted Program.

LEGAL REFERENCE:	Iowa Admin. Code 3.5(1), (4), (6)
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