

Curriculum for Columbia Academy Jr. Kindergarten

Bible

Our Bible curriculum include daily Bible stories from the Old and New Testaments, and monthly memory verses. We sing songs to reinforce Bible knowledge and Christian character daily. Specifically, our curriculum uses *The Beginner's Bible*, a trusted starting point for your child's journey toward a lifelong love of God's Word.

Handwriting

The *Handwriting Without Tears Get Set for School* curriculum is used to strengthen fine motor skills in a way that is fun and interactive. In Jr. Kindergarten, we use the HWT workbook, multisensory products, and music. Children play, build, sing, color, and learn while developing important skills for kindergarten:

- Language Proficiency
- Social Skills
- Fine and Gross Motor Control
- Color and Shape Awareness
- Letter and Number Awareness
- Counting

The *Get Set for School* program suits a wide range of children and adapts to their changing needs as they grow.

Phonics

The Jr. Kindergarten phonics curriculum is a combination of *Foundations* and *Frog Street Press*. With the help of the *Frog Street Press* Alphabet Characters, the activities help children acquire an ear for language. Children hear specific sounds, identify sound sequence and understand the role phonemes play in word formations. A strong foundation in phonemic awareness is necessary for success with phonics (letter/sound relationship), spelling and word recognition. *Foundations* provides a research-based program that includes instruction and assessments. *Foundations* helps students become completely proficient rather than just cover a standards-based curriculum. This program is aligned to the College and Career Ready Standards.

Math

The math curriculum used in Jr. Kindergarten is *Math Connects* by Macmillan McGraw Hill. The organization and pacing of Math Connects helps ensure in-depth coverage of all Pre-K standards and is a strong foundation for kindergarten. Math concepts taught include:

- Attributes
- Sort and Classify
- Position and Direction
- Shapes
- Numbers 0 to 5
- Patterns

- Numbers to 10
- Measurement
- Data and Graphs
- Adding and Subtracting

Art

Children are creative by nature. In Jr. Kindergarten, a variety of art materials and methods are used. Children are encouraged to express themselves as they create art projects related to thematic units, seasons and weekly alphabet study. Directed art is also used to help children learn. Art skills are vital in teaching children to following oral and visual directions, develop fine motor skills, strengthen eye-hand coordination, and learn to work individually and independently.

Computers / Technology

Each Jr. Kindergarten class has iPads for student use. Each iPad has Apps and learning games appropriate for 4- and 5-year-old students. iPads are used for small group activities and whole group learning.

Total Learning Concepts

In addition, Jr. Kindergarten students participate in a rotation of related arts, including Art, Music, P.E. and STEAM. The six-day rotation includes two days of P.E., two days of STEAM, and one day each of Art and Music.