

How Will Your Children Learn?

In Transition, students are actively involved in their learning. They move about the classroom frequently, either working on the floor, at a table, at their desks, or at the computer. They are “doing” things and “using” objects. They are asking questions and finding answers. Their day includes time working alone, time with small groups, time with the teacher on a one to one basis, and time in larger group activities as well.

A great deal of the time is spent building self-confidence, giving positive reinforcement, helping children be and feel successful. Here, children will learn that mistakes are “o.k.” and are necessary for learning.

Unified Arts

The Unified Arts program will provide a variety of educational experiences that will help the child excel in their studies as well as discover new and exciting abilities and strengths within themselves.

Art

Broad Goal: To provide an atmosphere where students feel free to create, imagine, and express themselves in their lifelong journey of discovery.

- Introduction to art elements and principles including color, form, shape, line, space, texture, value, balance, contrast, emphasis, proportion, rhythm, pattern, unity, and variety



- Experimenting and gaining knowledge of different art media and techniques
- Integration of art activities with core subjects
- Art History

Library

Broad Goals: To develop information literacy and a love of reading through exposure to quality literature and learning skills for gathering and analyzing information in various formats.

- Self-selected reading: choosing a just-right book, genres, using the library catalog, book care
- Gathering and analyzing information: online databases (PebbleGo), basic bibliographies, parts of a book
- Ethical use of information: copyright
- Exposure to a variety of literature: NH Ladybug Book Award, visiting author, Scholastic Book Fairs, Read Across America

Music

Broad Goal: To provide students with the skills needed to appreciate music in its myriad of forms. Through various musical activities, reading, mathematics, and problem-solving skills are developed.

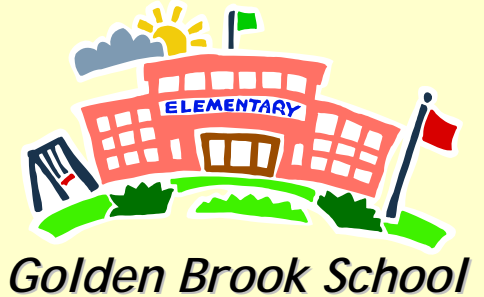
- Music Appreciation: Classical and world music, musical problem-solving skills, musical movement games, storytelling
- Music Theory: Reading and writing of basic music notation
- Music Performance: Winter concert, lyrics memorization and reading, instrumental experimentation and classroom performing on world instruments

Physical Education

Broad Goal: To provide students with a fun, movement rich experience to promote a healthy, active lifestyle.

- Safety and listening skills
- Locomotor skills
- Manipulative and non manipulative skills
- Gymnastics
- Dance
- Life-long activities

Windham School District



Transition Curriculum

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English Language Arts: Transition

Broad goals for English Language Arts education in the Windham School District address acquiring the interactive skills and processes of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing; and include the study of literature and application of language arts.

The Transition Literacy Block curriculum (Reader's and Writer's Workshop) enables students to:

- Develop oral language skills and listening skills.
- Identify letters and corresponding sounds.
- Correctly form upper and lower case letters by using the Zaner Bloser writing program.
- Develop a high frequency sight-word vocabulary.
- Develop phonemic awareness using Working with Words
- Develop comprehension strategies by responding to questions about stories from the teacher during whole group and independent reading experiences.
- Retell a story with pictures.
- Write simple descriptive sentences with the teacher, also with other children in a group, and independently.
- Develop a love of reading through Read Alouds and Shared Reading.

Mathematics: Transition

Problem solving: Begin to develop skills for problem solving and apply strategies to solve problems.

Reasoning: Use mathematical reasoning to sort by color, size, shape and attributes, interpret and read data in various representations.

Communications: Be able to talk and write clearly about math.

Connection and Representation: Solve Problems: i.e., by sequencing events.

The Transition Mathematics curriculum (Math and Me, Everyday Mathematics and Touch Math) enables students to:

Numbers and Number Theory

- Understand one-to-one correspondence.
- Count forward to at least 100.
- Count backwards from 20.

- Count by 1's, 5's and 10's to 100.

Operations

- Identify, count, and understand the basic value of pennies, nickels and dimes.
- Add and subtract numbers between 0-20.

Geometry and Measurement

- Compare and explore weights.
- Use nonstandard and basic standard of measurement to estimate and measure length.
- Develop an understanding of equal and unequal parts.
- Explore symmetry.
- Identify and use basic geometric shapes; circle, square, triangle, oval, rectangle, diamond and star.

Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability

- Relate probability to everyday experiences.
- Gather information and record results using picture and bar graphs, and Venn Diagrams to compare results.

Patterns and Functions

- Identify parts of a calendar including days, weeks, months, and years.
- Count number of days using tally system.
- Explore telling time by the hour and half hour.
- Explore parts of a whole by half and quarters.
- Develop sorting, and categorizing by color, shape and size.
- Explore patterning skills such as skip counting by 2's and other number patterns.
- Identify function rules.

Social Studies: Transition

Broad goals for Social Studies education in New Hampshire address acquiring the knowledge, concepts, skills, and processes of civics and government, economics, geography and history.

The Transition Social Studies curriculum enables students to:

Civics and Government

- Develop an awareness of the symbols and patriotic and cultural holidays of our nation.
- Understand that rules are made to govern and protect people.
- Scholastic News Weekly Reader

- Develop interpersonal skills such as; working and playing together cooperatively, being responsible for ones' own actions, showing patience, tolerance, and respectfulness for others as well as oneself.

Geography

- Develop an awareness of the location of their home in relation to the school.
- Be introduced to the concept of maps and their benefits.
- Scholastic News Weekly Reader

History

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways.
- Develop an awareness of famous Americans and how they relate to specific events and holidays.

Science: Transition

Broad goals for Science education in Windham School District address acquiring the knowledge, concepts, skills, and processes of the life, earth and space, and physical sciences.

The Transition Science curriculum enables students to:

Conservation

- Describe actions that can help the environment.
- Record observations
- Sort and classify materials based on attributes

Trees

- Recognize trees as living things.
- Recognize that trees change in appearance when the seasons change.

Insects

- Identify characteristics of insects for survival.
- Recognize the life cycle of insects (born, grow, die)

Ponds

- Recognize how ponds support plant and animal life.
- Communicate observations through a variety of tools and formats (oral, journal, drawing, projects and multimedia)