



Princeton Academy Lower School Core-Curriculum Matrix:

Subject	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
READING	Literature includes: Nursery rhymes, fairy-tales, poetry, fiction/nonfiction Concepts of print Phonemic awareness Retelling stories Features of fiction/non-fiction Sight word recognition Comprehension skills	Literature includes: Classics and drama Word attack strategies Reading fluency Sight words Comprehension skills	Literature includes: Chinese and African folktales, poetry, non-fiction Black history Story elements Decoding Fluency skills Comprehension skills	Literature includes: Poetry, fiction/non-fiction Setting/Plot/Theme Character Analysis Retelling stories in sequential order Main idea Introduction of book clubs to allow boys to lead discussions in small groups	Literature includes: Fiction, science fiction, adventure, poetry Book club talks Themes/Main idea/Character Analysis Higher-level comprehension skills, such as making inferences and drawing conclusions
WRITING	Types of writing: Personal narratives, fiction/nonfiction, poetry Illustrate and write simple stories Share writing with an audience Capitals at the beginning of sentences and names Periods and question marks Write first and last names	Types of writing: Personal narratives, poetry, fiction, letter writing Writing asking and telling sentences Proper letter formation, Punctuation Nouns, verbs and adjectives Opinion writing	Types of writing: Personal narratives, letters, poetry, nonfiction, persuasive pieces Focus: organization, narrowing a topic, adding details and varying sentences Capitals for dates and titles Nouns, pronouns and verbs Commas in dates and letters Forming plurals Subject and predicate agreement Linking verbs Apostrophes in contractions	Types of writing: Expository, narrative, poetry, research reports Editing Quotation marks in uninterrupted and interrupted quotes Ending punctuation Adjectives/Verbs Juicy words	Types of writing: Expository, narrative, persuasive Research skills: note-taking and outlining Paragraph construction Proper nouns/Verbs/Adjectives/Adverbs Capitals in place names and abbreviations Complete sentences Compound sentences Coordinating conjunctions with comma
WORD STUDY	Most boys are either: <i>Emergent spellers</i> (Phonemic awareness, rhyme, same/different) OR <i>Letter name spellers</i> (initial and final consonants, blends, digraphs, short vowels)	Most boys are either: <i>Letter name spellers</i> (initial and final consonants, blends, digraphs, short vowels and affricates) OR <i>Within word spellers</i> (silent “e”, r-controlled vowels, long vowels)	Most boys are either: <i>Letter name spellers</i> (blends, digraphs, short vowels and affricates) OR <i>Within word pattern spellers</i> (long vowels, r-controlled vowels, complex consonants, abstract vowels) OR <i>Syllable juncture spellers</i> (doubling or dropping when adding endings, long vowels and r-controlled vowels in stressed and unstressed syllables)	Most boys are either: <i>Within word pattern spellers</i> (long vowels, complex consonants, abstract vowels) OR <i>Syllable juncture spellers</i> (doubling or dropping when adding endings, long vowels and r-controlled vowels in stressed and unstressed syllables) OR <i>Derivational constancy spellers</i> (silent and sounded consonants, consonant changes, vowel changes suffixes and prefixes)	Most boys are either: <i>Syllable juncture spellers</i> (doubling or dropping when adding endings, long vowels and r-controlled vowels in stressed and unstressed syllables) OR <i>Derivational constancy spellers</i> (silent and sounded consonants, consonant changes, vowel changes suffixes and prefixes) Greek and Latin roots



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Subject	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
SCIENCE	Trees Dinosaurs Life cycles of chicks and ducks Weather	Solids and liquids Insects	Weather Plants	Rocks and minerals Rainforest Life cycle - butterflies Simple machines Biomes	What is science? Safety The scientific method Microscope Plants Ecology Water
SOCIAL STUDIES	Family, friends and school Maps Australia Family holiday traditions National holidays	Components of a community Modern and Ancient Egypt Map reading and making	Africa Wampanoags and the first Thanksgiving China Antartica Ocean habitats Geography Current events Black history	United States Geography Middle Ages Rainforest/Biome Study Brazil	Mapping skills Explorers of the World Colonial Times Revolutionary War Declaration of Independence The Constitution Government

See Lower School Math Curriculum by Grade for details about our math program.

Students also meet for Specials (Spanish, religion, art, music, PE, library and making) at various times throughout the week. Each class attends at least two Specials per day.