

## *The Cooper School K1 Class*

The Kindergarten /First Grade (K1) curriculum is a two year, spiraling curriculum that allows for a range of developmental stages and chronological ages. If your child is joining this class during the First Grade Cycle, they will find the work challenging and interesting. If your child is joining the class during the Kindergarten Cycle, they will find the work developmentally appropriate and engaging. Children who are in the K1 class for two years will be exploring new units of study and extending units of study each year.

In the K1 classroom, we focus on the multiple aspects of students' learning and growth: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, communicative and creative. Our teachers nurture students' love of learning, encourage their independence, and foster their curiosity and growing understandings. The daily curriculum responds to students' needs, interests, and imagination. Integrated, hands-on experiences shape learning in the K1 classroom. Instruction and exploration take place in whole class settings as well as through individualized instruction periods. Our K1 class enjoys regular opportunities for discovery and experimentation with interesting and challenging materials, both inside and outdoors.

### *A Day in the K1 Classroom*

#### **8:00-8:30 Arrival /Morning Meeting**

Children begin their day by reading and responding to the morning message. This is an important time for discussion and reflection on student interests, social challenges, and the global community.

#### **8:30- 9:30 First Morning Work Cycle**

The first work cycle is dedicated to the development of numeracy. Everyday Mathematics is the core curriculum for this period. This curriculum develops students' ability to articulate their mathematical understandings, solve written and concrete problems, and apply their understandings to everyday experiences.

#### **9:30-10:00 Snack/Recess/Garden Exploration**

This is a time to replenish young bodies with nourishment and movement. Investigations in the teaching garden incorporate hands-on science studies that strengthen observation, classification, and experimentation skills.

#### **10:00-11:00 Second Morning Work Cycle**

The second work cycle is dedicated to the development of literacy. During Reading and Writing Workshops children are active members of a literature rich community. Children develop a robust vocabulary, spelling skills and clear handwriting as they engage in reading, discussion, and purposeful daily writings.

#### **11:00-12:00 Lunch and Outdoor Exploration**

Students eat outside most days, weather permitting. After lunch, teachers support children's exploration of movement, nature, and play by providing opportunities to utilize the campus' natural spaces.

#### **12:00-12:30 Story Time**

Students delight in this time set aside to share literature and learning about the world, past and present, near and far.

#### **12:30-1:30 Independent Centers**

Independent Centers allow children to engage in works related to all aspects of the curriculum. Centers are a time to return to open-ended works as well as an opportunity for focused, individualized instruction.

#### **1:30- 2:30 Specials**

Our K1 class participates in all the special classes offered at The Cooper School. They enjoy small group instruction in Keyboard, Whole School Choir, Art, Handwork, Karate, Yoga, Movement, Mandarin and Spanish.

#### **2:30-2:45 Close of Day**

Children close their day with a school-wide tradition that offers them the opportunity to reflect on the learning of the day.

#### **2:45-3:00 Dismissal**