North Colonie Curriculum Overview



Content Area: English language Arts

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Course Name: K ELA

Course Description: The Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts curriculum is modeled after proven research in early literacy that supports a two-strand approach to literacy instruction in the early years. With this approach, students in Grades K-2 complete one full lesson per day that builds foundational reading skills in the Skills Strand, as well as one full lesson that builds background knowledge in the Knowledge Strand. The deep content knowledge is sequenced together with research-based foundational skills in Grades K-2 so that students develop the early literacy skills necessary to help them become confident readers, as well as build the context to understand what they're reading.

Units Length of Time	Description
Knowledge 1 Nursery Rhymes and Fables 12 Lessons Skills: Unit 1	Knowledge 1: Well-known fables introduce students to new vocabulary, build phonological awareness, and prompt discussion of character, virtues, and behavior. Skills: Prerequisite skills in reading and writing.
Knowledge 2: The Five Senses 8 Lessons Skills: Unit 2 & 3	Knowledge: Students explore how they learn about the world using their five senses: sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch. Skills: Prerequisite Skills: Blending and Pre-writing Skills: Students will begin to make connections between sounds and symbols.

Units Length of Time	Description	
Knowledge 3: Stories 10 Lessons Skills: Unit 3	Knowledge: Students develop an awareness of language and recurring themes in children's literature, including classic stories, trickster tales, and fiction from other cultures. Skills: Students will begin to make connections between sounds and symbols.	
Knowledge 4: Plants 11 Lessons Skills: Unit 4	Knowledge: Read-aloud texts introduce students to basic knowledge of ecology, parts of plants, how plants grow, and the interdependence of all living things. Skills: Students will be introduced to 8 sounds, and the first decodable text.	
Knowledge 5: Farms 9 Lessons Skills: Unit 5	Knowledge: Students identify several farm animals and crops and contrast how plants make their food with how animals get their food. Skills: Students will be introduced to 9 new sounds and corresponding spellings.	
Knowledge 6: Native Americans 8 Lessons Skills: Unit 6	 Knowledge: Students explore cultures of three Native American groups, as well as how conditions in different geographical regions influence their ways of life. Skills: Students will be introduced to one new letter/sound correspondence. Other unit learning objectives include: Consonant clusters Letter names Automatization of the letter-sound correspondences and blending procedures students learned in Units 3–5. 	
Knowledge 7: Kings and Queens 8 Lessons Skills: Unit 7	Knowledge: Students listen to read-aloud texts, both fiction and nonfiction, about kings, queens, and royal families, which build students' understanding of royal customs. Skills: The six sounds presented in Unit 7 differ from the sounds studied up to this point because all six are generally written with two letters instead of one. English has more than forty sounds and only twenty-six letters.	
Knowledge 8: Seasons and Weather 8 Lessons Skills: Unit 7	Knowledge: This is an introduction to weather and the seasons, where students learn that regions of Earth experience different characteristic weather patterns throughout the year. Skills: The six sounds presented in Unit 7 differ from the sounds studied up to this point because all six are generally written with two letters instead of one. English has more than forty sounds and only twenty-six letters.	

Units Length of Time	Description	
Knowledge 9: Columbus and The Pilgrims 8 Lessons Skills: Unit 8	Knowledge: A look at the first contact between Europe and the Americas and some of its results. Skills: Students will be introduced to fourteen new double-letter spellings for consonant sounds and four new high-frequency Tricky Words.	
Knowledge 10: Colonial Towns and Townspeople 10 Lessons Skills: Unit 9	 Knowledge: Students are introduced to the early history of the United States as they explore what life was like for people in colonial times. Skills: Students are introduced to the uppercase letters having a different shape than the lowercase letters as well as fifteen additional Tricky Words. Unit 9 also introduces Story Questions Activity Pages, which contain questions on the stories in the Read 	
Knowledge 11: Taking Care of The Earth Skills: Unit 9	 Knowledge: Students are introduced to the importance of environmental awareness and conservation as they become familiar with the earth's natural resources. Skills: Students are introduced to the uppercase letters having a different shape than the lowercase letters as well as fifteen additional Tricky Words. Unit 9 also introduces Story Questions Activity Pages, which contain questions on the stories in the Reader. 	
Knowledge 12: Presidents and American Symbols 10 Lessons Skills: Units 9 & 10	Knowledge: Students learn about the legacies of five famous presidents, several national symbols, the branches of government, the role of the president, and elections. Skills: Students are introduced to the uppercase letters having a different shape than the lowercase letters as well as fifteen additional Tricky Words. Unit 9 also introduces Story Questions Activity Pages, which contain questions on the stories in the Reader. In Unit 10, students will be introduced to five additional vowel sounds and the most common spelling for each sound and eleven additional Tricky Words, most of which contain one of the sounds taught in this unit. However, these words have the sound written with a different spelling.	

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Kindergarten Next Generation ELA Learning Standards	New York State Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards