

21st Century Learning in SAU 15

Twenty-first-century learning enables our students to be academically competitive in the global community. Education must challenge students with rigorous, personalized academic experiences, foster innovation and creativity, and embrace emerging technologies. In a 21st century learning environment, students actively engage in a cohesively integrated curriculum, access information and apply it to authentic problems in our society.

SAU 15 has identified ten essential elements for learning in the 21st century:

- media literacy
- problem solving
- digital citizenship
- creative & innovative thinking
- collaboration
- global awareness
- reflection
- adapting to change
- communication
- core academic mastery

Students who master these skills have the ability to adapt to varied roles and responsibilities, work effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities hence preparing them for the complex challenges of our ever-changing world.

Science

Life Science:

- Students recognize that humans learn from each other in many different ways.

Physical Science:

- Students understand that things close to the Earth fall to the ground unless something supports them.
- Students describe the many different ways things can move.



Social Studies

Civics: Students understand the importance of rules in our school and community.

Economics: Students understand that people buy and sell things with money.

Geography: Students investigate how the Earth-Sun relationship affects our daily lives.

US/NH History: Students discover the concept that people are different and change over time.

World History: Students explore ways that societies around the world express themselves artistically.

SAU 15

AUBURN, CANDIA & HOOKSETT, NH

KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM



SAU 15 CURRICULUM

We have high expectations for our students and teachers. Our comprehensive curriculum is challenging and relevant to all students, providing a strong foundation for success in a global community. Included in this brochure is a sampling of the skills and understandings we focus on in each content area.



Mathematics

Our core instructional standards stress not only procedural skill but also conceptual understanding. To ensure they are learning the critical information, students will apply their understanding to a range of new problems and situations. In kindergarten, instructional time will focus on two critical areas:

- (1) understanding the relationship between numbers and quantities & compare whole numbers, initially with sets of objects;
- (2) describing their physical world using geometric ideas and vocabulary.

More learning time in Kindergarten will be devoted to number than to other topics.

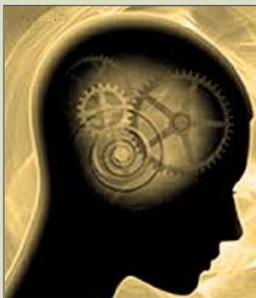


Standards for Mathematical Practice

The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe habits of mind that educators at all levels seek to develop in their students. These practices rest on “processes and proficiencies” with longstanding importance in mathematics education.

Mathematically proficient students:

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.



English Language Arts

English Language Arts is comprised of four areas: reading, writing, language, and speaking & listening.

Reading: A key requirement for reading is that all students must be able to comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity as they progress through school. In kindergarten, students will:

- know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words;
- identify and discuss characters, settings, and major events in a story;
- actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding;
- identify the author, illustrator and the roles each play.

Writing: While all text types are important, particular emphasis is on students’ ability to write sound arguments on substantive topics and issues, as this ability is critical to college and career readiness. In kindergarten, students will:

- explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish shared research and writing projects;
- use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion/argument, informative and narrative pieces.

Speaking and Listening: The English language arts classroom includes oral language in a purposeful, systematic way to help students master the printed word. In kindergarten, students will:

- describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail;
- participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners in small and larger groups.

Language: Students must be able to communicate effectively in a wide range of print and digital texts, each of which may require different grammatical and usage choices to be effective. In kindergarten, students will:

- demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing;
- determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on kindergarten reading and content and be able to use words and phrases acquired through conversations.