



Circle Play & Learn Academy Grade 1 Curriculum

The curriculum listed here is a sampling of possible topics; using their professional judgment, teachers will choose the topics and formulate lesson plans specifically for the children in the class. Also, parent requests are gladly honored.

Academic Skills

- Memorization, recall
 - Recitation of poetry and stories
- Planning ahead, order of operations
- Listening, following directions
- Following rules
- Making something new
- Short-term focus on paper work

Social Studies

- World Cultures
 - Stories and songs from many countries around the world
- Holidays and Festivals
 - Michaelmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Saint Patrick's Day, Mardi Gras, Easter, May Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day
- Introduction to foreign languages – Spanish, French

Mathematics

- Counting to 100
 - Skip counting by 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 10s, and 100s
- Geometry—recognizing and naming shapes, relating and fitting shapes together, straight/curved
 - Form Drawing different lines (straight, curved, wavy, zig-zag, etc.)
 - Form Drawing shapes
 - Mirroring shapes
 - Tracing
- Weight, size, volume, and quantity estimation and comparison
- Simple, short patterns
- Writing Arabic and Roman numerals to 100
- Concepts of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing
 - Word problems
 - Using manipulatives to solve equations
 - Writing mathematical calculations
 - Memorization of math facts up to 10
 - Introduction to all addition/subtraction and multiplication/division tables
 - Relationship of numbers using calculations

Language Arts

- Early Literacy and Literacy skills
 - Holding books correctly, deciphering pictures in books
 - Recognizing symbols
- Alphabet—Learning to recognize and write letters
 - Capital letters
 - Letter sounds
 - Eurythmy for each sound
 - Write own name
 - Recognizing the first letter of words, introduction to recognizing the last letter of words
 - Vowels
 - Lower-case letters
 - Consonant blends, digraphs, and trigraphs
 - Introduction to vowel blends
 - Write loved ones' names
 - Copy written words with capital and lower-case letters
- Storytelling and retelling by both teacher and student
 - Theatrical and dramatic arts
 - Inventing stories and poetry
- Comprehension
 - Dialogue and discussion
 - Imagining what comes next
 - Relating stories to their own lives and experiences
 - Understanding point of view of various characters
- Rhyming, alliteration, rhythm, syllables, repetition, rhythm, meter
- Conversation and dialogue
- Fairy Tales

Science

- Meteorology
 - Weather
 - Seasons
- Geology (qualities of stones)
- Food
 - Agriculture
 - Cooking
- Categorizing
 - Sorting, comparing/contrasting
 - Kingdoms (Plant, Animal, etc.)
 - Recognizing and naming species
- Biology
 - Diet and behavior of certain animal species

- Metamorphosis (frogs, butterflies)
- Physics
 - Gaseous, solid, and liquid states of water
 - Density – floating/sinking
- Astronomy
 - Moon, sun, stars, planets, constellations

Community

- Cooperative game playing
- Imaginative free play with friends
- Relationships: self, parent/child, stranger, inter-generational, friends, relatives, non-human, spirit
- Emotions
- Empathy, perspective (of others)
- Sharing, giving, receiving, generosity, gratitude
- Responsibility, household chores
- Manners, respect
- Giving instructions and making requests politely, expressing displeasure respectfully
- Nobility – presentation with toy sword, including inherent responsibilities

Self

- Knowing own likes, dislikes, needs
 - Expressing self clearly and politely
- Courage
- Honesty
- Kindness
- Gratitude
- Joy, humor
- Love
- Trust/distrust
- Self-discipline

Health/Physical Education

- Sit/stand, Bend/straight, Push/pull, gentle/firm, throw/catch, balance/tumble, roll/expand, low/high, fast/slow, big/small
- Directions forward, backward, sideways, far, close
- Prepositions: in front, above, inside, outside, behind, below, beside, on, under
- Body parts
- Outdoor time for health of lungs, eyes, and large motor development, as well as increased impetus for creativity and confidence
- Character play
- Gross motor skills: jumping, skipping, stretching, bending, kicking, reaching, climbing, etc.
- Collaborative games

- Hopscotch
- Use of sport implements – balls, hula hoops, jump ropes, balance beam, etc.

Humanities—Music, Art, Dance, Beauty

- Songs, poems, dance, fingerplays
- Instruments: Vocal, percussion, natural
- Skills of dexterity: painting, coloring, drawing, chalking, cutting, gluing, stamping, stickering, sewing, embroidery, modeling
- Qualities of music: fast/slow, repetitive
- Colors: Light/dark, primary colors, color blends, rainbow/colorwheel
- Artistic appreciation, beauty, emotional expression/communication
- Finest quality art supplies for a beautiful feeling during creation and a high quality resulting product—expensive paintbrushes, watercolor paints, beeswax crayons, special paper, real clay
- Finest quality toys—playsilks of real silk, wooden toys, handcrafted toys, all-natural, soft to the touch, attractive
- Knitting

Discipline

For the most part, Circle Play & Learn teachers elicit positive behaviors from children because they create a comfortable and predictable daily rhythm, which makes the children comfortable. Additionally, they instruct through song and teach through example, modeling the behaviors they desire rather than lecturing about them. This is very successful. However, when a little extra guidance is needed, Circle Play methods veer slightly from traditional Waldorf education. We follow the recommendations put forth in No Drama Discipline by Daniel Siegel. Even as Circle Play teachers hold high standards and expectations of good behavior, they are very gentle in their guidance. The children respond very well and happily to this.