Curriculum Map

For more than 60 years, Sequoyah School has been dedicated to providing an education that challenges the mind, nurtures the heart, and cultivates human dignity. Sequoyah’s curriculum emphasizes deep understanding of concepts and mastery of important life skills. This is accomplished through an integrated curriculum in which students investigate essential questions, Units of study culminate in exhibitions and performances that demonstrate student learning. In addition, students design and implement service projects that apply learning in the real world.

The Curriculum Map outlines the introduction of concepts and skills over time and across subjects. Many skills and concepts overlap from classroom to classroom. The Map is designed to support both teachers and parents in attending to the individual needs of students.

Language Arts

The Language Arts program utilizes a workshop approach to help students to develop a love for reading and writing, the skills to construct meaning from text, and the confidence for public speaking and self-expression. Students celebrate the work of great authors, while working to become published authors in various forums, including Sequoyah’s schoolside literary journal, Titan Tales.

Math

The Math curriculum seeks to inspire students to recognize the beauty and relevance of mathematics, while preparing students to master the necessary skills while becoming patient and creative problem solvers. The program emphasizes five essential aspects of mathematical thinking: numbers and numeration; operations and computation; data and chance; measurement and geometry; and patterns, functions and Algebra. In the younger classes (K-2), instruction emphasizes conceptual understanding and application through the use of real materials. In the older classes (3-8), students build upon their conceptual understanding while developing fluency through a variety of computational strategies, problem solving, and application.

Science

The Science program helps students cultivate their inquisitiveness, curiosity, and desire to explore the world around them. Students visit galleries, parks, and local farms. Students make decisions about how to use mathematics. Students return to examine local land uses and their impact on the environment. Students explore the Chumash people and their relationship with the natural environment. Students learn efficient watering methods.

Social Studies

The Social Studies program begins with a focus on individual and then expanded outward to local communities, Los Angeles, California, the nation, the world, and, yes, the cosmos. Teachers build upon emergent opportunities to encourage the collaborative study of individuals and groups within society.

Glossary

CURRICULUM UPDATE
An ongoing review by classroom teachers and specialists describing learning objectives and activities. It is intended to respond to current needs and/or student curiosity; teachers help shape the process.

EMERGENT CURRICULUM
Topics of study that grow organically from current events and/or student curiosity; teachers help shape the process.

INTEGRATED CURRICULUM
An interdependent exploration of academic content.

PLACE-BASED LEARNING
Curricula inspired and guided by learning that happens in a particular place or environment.

HABITS OF MIND
A framework of dispositions that guide teaching and learning.

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING
A process that immerses students in real-world problems through an interdisciplinary approach.

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING
Centering curriculum projects on local or societal challenges. Students learn about issues and collaboratively develop thoughtful solutions.