



Peachtree Academy

Elementary Curriculum Guide

Core curriculum

Language Arts

The Language Arts program is designed to introduce children to the love of experience and enhance their love and intrinsic passion for great literature. The phonics-based program in grades K-2 instills the desire to read and ensures reading mastery at an early age. All grades participate in an Accelerated Reader program, which promotes critical thinking and reader comprehension. In each classroom, vocabulary building, grammar, and the mechanics of language are presented as integral parts of the language arts program. Teachers in all disciplines work to promote writing across the curriculum, and pay particular attention to oral and written communication. Students participate in a variety of writing workshops that teach pre-writing, writing, conferencing, revising, and editing to promote proper writing skills.

Math

Peachtree Academy promotes the ideals that children build understanding and develop skills as a result of many meaningful and connected learning experiences. Teachers at Peachtree Academy use Everyday Mathematics, the elementary curriculum of the University of Chicago Mathematics Program, to teach mastery of mathematics. This program provides a manipulative-based approach emphasizing that how a student learn is as important as what they learn. Experimentation, risk-taking, and the value of different approaches are emphasized as well as the importance of effective communication. A compelling strength of this program is that one lesson can be investigated and solved by students at many different mastery levels. Thus, students who need more time evaluating a problem and understanding the concept are not pushed inappropriately, nor are other students required to “hold themselves back.” We use this program because we believe that the conceptual learning method instills a life-long love and foundation in mathematics.

Science

At Peachtree Academy the science curriculum is a combination of hands-on activities and textbook study. Our activity-based science program encourages students to experiment, observe, analyze, research and discover for themselves the importance of the scientific process. Many methods are used to capture each child’s natural interests in science, including laboratory demonstrations, guest speakers, art activities, outdoor observations, written and oral reports, video streaming, computer research and field study.

Social Studies

In grades Kindergarten through Fifth, the social studies curriculum encompasses a two-part design. Teachers encourage student development through self-awareness and community involvement, as well as an understanding of the historical and world perspectives.

In addition to a historical instruction, our Social Studies program includes several community service projects. Peachtree Academy works closely with the Rockdale Emergency Relief and other community organizations to provide goods and services for people in need.

Exploratory Subjects

Art

The study of art begins in kindergarten and continues through the 7th grade through a series of studio projects. Students gain knowledge and learn skills in the materials and processes of art, the components of design, and the variety of forms of expression, as well as an overview of the history of art. This year's art program consists of lessons instructed with the emphasis on cultural art. Peachtree Academy's art program offers several opportunities to participate in various art contests, both local and national, throughout the year. This year's focus is on cultural arts.

Music

Through our music programs, students in grades K-7 are introduced progressively to the components and forms of music, the instruments of an orchestra, highlights of classical music, the opera and famous composers. Students in all grades are trained in singing and choral speaking, and all students participate in Winter and Spring choral programs each year.

Physical Education

The Physical Education and Athletics Program is essential in educating students about healthy lifestyle choices and developing a life-long habit of physical activity. Students in all grades enjoy 30-45 minutes of physical education daily, whether instructional or playground time, in an age-appropriate, skills-building program. Students are trained in physical fitness through conditioning, movement, manipulative skills, and game skills.

Foreign Language

Peachtree Academy teaches each child, Pre-K through 8th grade, Spanish in the classroom with a curriculum called Hands on Spanish. Additionally, we have added Mandarin Chinese to the list of academic opportunities for students interested in furthering their world perspective through language development and cultural awareness.

Chapel

Our weekly Chapel service is an opportunity to glorify God through praise songs, student scripture skits and a Bible or character building lesson for the week. The students enjoy the time spent singing songs of worship and interacting with peers and faculty. Our Chapel service also includes bi-weekly guest speakers from the community that include ministers, youth leaders, motivational speakers, and other notable guests. Some of our guest speakers have included; Native American Storyteller Carol Brown, Ashley Roesler from Rockdale Emergency Relief, Vicki Chesney with First Baptist Church of Conyers and Dr. John Beyers of First United Methodist Church in Olde Town Conyers. Community service, famous people of character, manners, etiquette, and team building are some of the themes that are incorporated into discussions in weekly Chapel sessions.