



***Curriculum Guide
2009/2010***

***Level 1
Kindergarten***

Ms. Mary Doty

Reading Readiness

Students bring a broad range of language readiness skills and experiences to Kindergarten. To enhance each child's ability to use language effectively, the program is multi-sensory structured. This means we employ a variety of sensory techniques—visual, auditory, and tactile/kinesthetic modalities—to teach skills and concepts.

The main goal of language development in reading readiness in Level 1 is for students to master the alphabet/letter sound association.

To meet that goal, we:

- Use a structured, systematic approach with consistent review of previously presented concepts.
- Develop skills related to phonological processing (rhyming, segmented and blending)
- Teach sound/symbol correspondence and the rules that govern the structure of language.

Using this scope and sequence approach and the foundation of a literacy-based environment ensures instruction in essential skills for reading.

Writing/Motor Skills Development

The main goals for writing and fine and large motor skills development in Level 1 are:

- Writing left to right
- Writing first and last name
- Writing with correct directionality
- Writing numbers, letters, and three letter words
- Using inventive spelling

Children engage in daily journal writing, language mechanics and manuscript instruction. Teachers model writing and take dictation. Students process with kinesthetic techniques by using manipulatives such as clay, rice, sand, and so forth.

Speaking and Listening

In Kindergarten, students are learning to articulate ideas and concepts and to differentiate between making statements and asking questions. Through consistent direction and teacher intervention, students learn to take turns when speaking, to respect other speakers, to listen to directions, and to follow instruction.

To gain a deep understanding of Mathematical ideas, children need to be able to integrate and connect a variety of concepts in many different ways. The effective use of manipulatives helps children connect ideas and integrate their knowledge so that they gain a deep understanding of Mathematical concepts.

The Level 1 Math Program has three stages of development:

1. Concrete

- a. A Mathematical concept is introduced with manipulatives and the children explore the concept using the manipulatives in a purposeful activity.

2. Representational

- a. A Mathematical concept is represented on paper using pictures to stand for the concrete objects (or manipulatives) of the previous stage.

3. Abstract

- a. Mathematical symbols (numerals, operation signs, etc.) are used to express the concept in symbolic language.

The main goals in Level 1 Mathematics are:

- Understanding what math is
- Recognizing numbers, and what they represent, up to 100
- Writing the numbers to 25
- Recognizing basic shapes

Mathematics Topics Include:

- Counting
- Number Relations
- Measurement
- Problem Solving
- Geometry
- Graphing

At this Level, students are learning to have an appreciation for the world around them. They are inquisitive and curious. The Science program teaches them to look at the world around them as a Scientist:

- Wondering
- Observing
- Asking questions
- Making connections
- Predicting
- Testing ideas
- Coming up with conclusions

These skills are the launching pad for Science investigations. We explore as Botanists, Astronomers, and Biologists throughout the school year.

Fall	Winter	Spring
Physical Science	Earth & Space Science	Life Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Fair • Senses • Backyard Habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather systems • Basic parts of the solar system • Backyard Botany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Nutrition & Our Body • Reef Habitat-Whales • Backyard Botany

Botany and conservation are ongoing and are integrated into many aspects of the curriculum. Through backyard gardening and composting projects, children learn about backyard habitat—structure, lifecycle, growing requirements, and critters—as well as basic concepts of ecology. Through this hands-on study, students gain an appreciation for the natural world.

The school-wide Science Fair is held in November. Kindergarten students participate by contributing to a class project on the Senses. After learning about smell, taste, sight, hearing, and touch through hands-on experiments, students teach their Waimea Country School peers what they have learned during the Science Fair.

The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society. Social studies prepare young adults to be responsible citizens by stressing the safeguarding of rights, fulfillment of responsibilities, and honoring the dignity of all people.

By Kindergarten, students are beginning to realize that they are a unique person who interacts with other individuals, groups, and cultures, including family, school, community, Hawai'i, the nation, and the world.

Students learn about their own identity within the context of family and the classroom. They learn that each person and family has unique characteristics that are of value and should be respected. They learn that people are similar and different in various ways. Students also have the opportunity to participate in various activities that require them to speak to others, to listen to one another, and to cooperate with one another.

The heart of the Level 1 Social Studies program is community. The majority of the school year is spent on exploring local communities and our place in them. As the year progresses, we branch out to larger picture of the world around us.

Fall	Winter	Spring
Local Community	Our Country	Our World
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classroom• School• Waimea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Big Island• U.S.A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Other cultures• Ancestry

Waimea Country School embraces a school-wide character education program that focuses on a different value each month. Through this study, students learn the value of community and 'Ohana.

Hawaiian Studies

***WCS All Levels
2009/2010***

Hawaiian Studies at Waimea Country School are integrated into many areas of the curriculum rather than taught as a separate class. Our main goal with Hawaiian Studies is to expose our children to aspects of the culture—from learning songs and chants to studying cultural beliefs and practices to understanding the importance and history of the Hawaiian culture.

Students move from learning basic Hawaiian words and phrases through songs, chants, and direct teaching to learning about state history and geography. Early Hawaiian life, voyaging and exploration, and cultural influences are covered in the upper Levels.

All students in the school participate in our Hui ‘Ohana program. These “family groups” within our WCS ‘Ohana are comprised of students from all Levels and are headed up by a full time teacher. Hui ‘Ohana share a lunch and a reading period each week and meet frequently throughout the year to learn about Hawaiian culture—singing songs, learning chants, practicing for Lei Day, participating in Makahiki, and so on.

Waimea Country School embraces a school-wide character education program that focuses on a different value each month. The overriding theme for the school throughout the year is Pono—the Hawaiian cultural ideal of balance and rightness. We interpret Pono as 1) I control myself; 2) I respect myself and others; 3) I am safe and responsible. Through this character education study, students learn the value of community and ‘ohana.

Art and Music

***WCS All Levels
2009/2010***

Art is taught by individual Level teachers, with guest artists brought in whenever possible and appropriate. Art is largely integrated into academic assignments and activities, however there is also direct instruction in art techniques. Students in all Levels participate in art contests throughout the year, such as the Hawai‘i State Library System Book Poster Contest and the Kahilu Theatre Art Show.

All students in all Levels receive music instruction once a week with a part-time music teacher. In Level 4, students participate in a strings performance class, with instruction in ukulele and violin provided in alternating years. In addition, music is integrated into class projects and activities, as appropriate, by the classroom teacher.

A major component of the music program is learning songs and hula for both the winter Holiday Performance and the spring Lei Day performance.

The goals of the music program include:

- Introducing students to basic rhythm, beat, and tempo
- Providing performance opportunities
- Engaging students with music and movement
- Teaching appreciation of a variety of musical genres
- Providing age-appropriate instrumental instruction

Health and Fitness
Instructor: Nicole Vedelli

WCS All Levels
2009/2010

Over the course of the 2009/2010 school year, students will participate in a physical educational program designed to provide the basis for a wide range of learning experiences. With an emphasis on “healthy choices”, units are characterized by loco-motor skills, body awareness, endurance, and cooperation.

Every class will focus on stretching routines, practice, rules of the game, and healthy competition. Students are expected to come to class prepared with appropriate footwear, clothing, and attitude. Physical Education classes are taught twice a week: Levels 1, 2/3 for 30 minutes, and Level 4 for 35 minutes.

Health and Fitness
UNITS by Trimester & Level

Levels 1, 2/3	Levels 4
<p>Fall Trimester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directional Movement ▪ Jump Ropes ▪ Balls ▪ Paddles ▪ Yoga ▪ Physical Fitness Challenge 	<p>Fall Trimester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jump Ropes & Heart Rate ▪ Balls ▪ Paddles ▪ Yoga ▪ Physical Fitness Challenge
<p>Winter Trimester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obstacle Course & Relay ▪ Makahiki Games ▪ Healthy Living & Safety ▪ Strength & Endurance ▪ Tumbling & Rhythmic Movement 	<p>Winter Trimester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obstacle Course & Relay ▪ Makahiki Games ▪ Healthy Living & Heart ▪ Strength, Endurance & Running ▪ Tumbling & Rhythmic Movement
<p>Spring Trimester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soccer Skills & Circuit Training ▪ Physical Fitness Challenge ▪ Skills, Drills & Games: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volleyball ▪ Flag Football 	<p>Spring Trimester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soccer Skills & Circuit Training ▪ Physical Fitness Challenge ▪ Skills, Drills & Games: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volleyball ▪ Flag Football ▪ Horsemanship Class (Level 4)