



***Mehlville School District***

*Individually Focused. Committed to All.*

# Parent/Student/Family Curriculum Handbook

## Early Childhood

### 2022 - 2023



Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Families of the Mehlville School District:

The Curriculum Department is pleased to present you with the Mehlville School District Parent/Student/Family Curriculum Handbook. This handbook has been developed to help you understand what children should know and be able to do by the end of each grade level in each subject area.

This handbook is revised annually and includes Board-approved curriculum revisions to help meet the identified educational objectives for your child's grade level. Our teachers, principals and directors have provided suggestions for families to enhance and assist with your child's learning. We hope this handbook is helpful to you in having meaningful discussions with your child and your child's teacher about the curriculum being taught in their classroom.

Mehlville teachers and administrators work diligently to provide the best education possible for your children. We appreciate your support and the opportunity to serve in such a wonderful community. If you have any questions or comments regarding curriculum, feel free to contact your teacher, principal, curriculum directors (listed in the Acknowledgements section at the back of this book), or me. We welcome your thoughts and appreciate hearing from you.

The Mehlville School District provides educational opportunities for students and families from birth through adulthood. We are very proud to serve thousands of families beginning with our Parents as Teachers Program (PAT), Early Childhood Program, K-12 Programs, and our Community Education Program. It is our hope these important programs enhance the quality of life for all district patrons.

To access the handbook online, please go to [www.mehlilleschooldistrict.com](http://www.mehlilleschooldistrict.com), click on Curriculum, then Handbooks. We are happy to provide hard copies for families that prefer them over online access. Please take a few moments to look at the handbook and feel free to let us know your thoughts regarding the prepared documents.

The Mehlville Board of Education, Central Office Team, Principals, Curriculum Directors, Teachers and Support Personnel all wish you and your child a successful school year.

Sincerely,  
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## English Language Learners

The early childhood English Language Learners (ELL) curriculum enables ELL students to participate actively in a social and educational setting. Particular emphasis is placed on developing communication skills and introducing students to the procedures of the American classroom. Further emphasis is placed on developing the academic skills in speaking and listening that will enable the student to participate in an American classroom.

### Course Objectives

#### Beginning Proficiency – Level 1

Three and four year old children will:

- State name, gender, and age with 90% accuracy
- Follow the teacher's one-step directions given in a clear context and amplified with visual cues with 80% accuracy
- Attend to storybooks and demonstrate interest in books as assessed by the teacher in two out of three observations
- Use appropriate social language to interact with peers in play situations by asking to play, for a toy, or refuse an activity as assessed by the teacher in two out of three observations
- Express needs, feelings and say "No!" clearly as assessed by the teacher in two out of three observations
- Demonstrate appropriate play skills such as assembling puzzles, playing simple board games, use scissors, crayons, glue, and taking turns as assessed by the teacher in two out of three observations
- Participate in group chants, songs and choral responses with 80% accuracy as assessed by the teacher in two out of three observations
- Use formulaic structures: "All gone!", "My turn!", "All finished." "Bye-bye.", etc. with 80% accuracy

#### Intermediate Proficiency - Levels 2 and 3

Three and four year old children will:

- Label selected body parts with 80% accuracy
- Label selected toys with 80% accuracy
- Point to selected colors with 90% accuracy
- Label selected objects in the classroom and on the playground such as: glue, stickers, markers, paper, pencil, napkin, paper towel, swing, slide, etc., with 80% accuracy
- Follow directions based on repeated prompts, "bring me...", "find me...", "get the...", "showme..." "line up", "stop", "look..." with 80% accuracy
- Become familiar with story characters such as Clifford and Arthur, a few fairy tale characters and recognize same as assessed by teacher in two out of three observations
- Retell a simple story (with repetition, picture cues and prompts) or pretend read with a score of three based on a scoring guide
- Use drawing and/or letters to write a simple story or communicate information as assessed by the teacher in two out of three observations

#### Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- Preserving your home language but working with your child's school to assist your child in acquiring the skills needed to participate in the shared culture of the school
- Celebrating your child's diversity and using it as a resource for all children; share books/stories that reflect your cultural heritage and that of others; your bilingual child will benefit from stories in both languages
- Joining them in singing songs or chants; playing board games, lotto, number Bingo, and "Simon Says"; manipulating magnetic letters; and counting objects
- Giving them frequent opportunities to interact with peers
- Furnishing art supplies and writing materials (pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, glue, and blank paper) and encouraging individual expression

## Language and Literacy

The Mehlville Early Childhood Language and Literacy Curriculum will provide the student with extensive experience with language, print, and literature in a variety of contexts. They will begin to communicate effectively orally and in writing for different purposes and with different audiences.

### Course Objectives:

- Represent feelings and ideas through pretend play, movement, music, and through art and construction
- Use language to clearly communicate, respond appropriately in conversation, and use expanded vocabulary
- Listen for different purposes by following simple directions, listening responsively to books, and responding to questions
- Apply early reading skills by showing interest in books, comprehending texts, and exhibiting book handling skills
- Use concepts about print by reading environmental print, identifying some letters, and by recognizing that print represents the spoken word
- Attend to sound in language by repeating rhymes, simple songs, poems, and fingerplays, and by participating in word games
- Use writing as a means of expression/communication by using scribble-like letters and pictures to write and by telling others about the intended meaning of their writing

### Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- Reading to and with them while pointing to words as you read
- Providing opportunities to report their observations, dictate stories, draw pictures, ask questions and express concerns
- Playing games that involve specific directions such as “Simon Says”
- Providing materials that will encourage writing and drawing
- Singing nursery rhymes, simple songs or a favorite poem
- Providing a home library of reading materials

## Library Media

(If available at your child’s school)

Early childhood students will be introduced to activities and services provided in the Library Media Center.

### Course Objectives

- Determine information need by stating the purpose with 80% accuracy
- Locate a variety of resources print and non-print with 80% accuracy
- Develop as a self-motivated reader with 80% accuracy
- Identify the librarian with 90% accuracy
- Return library materials in a timely manner with 90% accuracy
- Demonstrate proper care of the books with 90% accuracy

### Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- Visiting the library and getting them their own library card
- Visiting the library for a “storyteller” story time
- Reading to them and reading with them on a daily basis
- Visiting a bookstore and participating in the story time for toddlers and other activities

## **Mathematics**

The Mehlville Early Childhood Mathematics Curriculum will help the student acquire and use strategies to perceive, understand, and solve mathematical problems. The student will explore mathematical processes, number and operations, patterns, relationships, functions, geometry and spatial relations, and measurement.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Use numbers to show quantity, use language to represent the number of objects, solve problems using numbers, and use numerical representations
- Investigate positions and locations and explore shapes in the environment
- Recognize relationships in the environment and use patterns
- Make comparisons and use measurement
- Collect, organize, and display information

### **Parents/Families may assist their children by:**

- Making an effort to count things out loud when you are with your child (steps, people, books, cookies, toys)
- Playing board games that use dice
- Playing games that encourage keeping score on paper
- Playing blocks with your child. Talking about different characteristics of the blocks (cube, triangle, cylinder)
- Providing an assortment of beads to make patterns

## **Physical Development and Health**

The Mehlville Early Childhood Physical Development and Health Curriculum will address gross motor skills, fine motor skills, and personal health and safety. The student will engage in movement activities that demonstrate balance, control, and coordination as well as fine motor activities using strength and control, and eye-hand coordination. The student will also understand and manage their personal health and safety.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Use gross motor skills with purpose and coordination, use fine motor skills with purpose and control, and respond to sensory input to function in the environment
- Practice healthy behaviors by showing independence in personal hygiene, participating in daily physical activity, and by exhibiting body strength
- Practice safe behaviors by listening to and following directions during emergencies, following vehicle and street safety, recognizing personal danger, and knowing when and how to seek help

### **Parents/Families may assist their children by:**

- Teaching and discussing good eating habits
- Teaching social manners (covering mouth when sneezing/coughing, hand washing, etc.)
- Weighing and measuring themselves and making charts to help them see how they have grown
- Singing songs about body parts and healthy habits ("Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes," brushing teeth)
- Providing good examples of healthy eating and personal habits

## Science

The Mehlville Early Childhood Science Curriculum focuses on inquiry skills. The student will actively investigate by observing, exploring, manipulating tools, and making comparisons among objects.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Explore, investigate, solve problems, and represent observations of the physical world in a variety of ways
- Explore, investigate, solve problems, and represent observations of plants and animals in a variety of ways
- Explore, investigate, solve problems, and represent observations of earth and space in a variety of ways

### **Parents/Families may assist their children by:**

- Discussing the daily weather
- Planting a garden
- Providing objects that roll (balls, cars) and materials to make ramps (cardboard, blocks)
- Completing cooking tasks together
- Taking outdoor walks and discussing observations of plants and animals

## Social and Emotional Development

The Mehlville Early Childhood Social and Emotional Development Curriculum will explore self concept and self control where the student will demonstrate self-confidence, self-direction, the ability to follow rules and routines, use classroom materials carefully, and manage transitions. Through the learning approaches, the student will show curiosity, take initiative, exhibit creativity, show confidence, and display persistence. The student will also interact with others and use problem solving skills.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Exhibit self-awareness, develop self-control, and develop personal responsibility
- Build relationships of mutual trust and respect with others and work cooperatively with children and adults
- Show curiosity, take initiative, exhibit creativity, show confidence, display persistence, and use problem-solving skills

### **Parents/Families may assist their children by:**

- Allowing them to freely express their opinions
- Teaching them how to do things on their own
- Talking about rules and maintaining consistency, but compromising when appropriate
- Following a routine at home, and discussing that some things are done in a particular order
- Letting them know it is okay to make mistakes; these are learning experiences. Praise them when they try again.

## **Special Education**

Special School District (SSD) provides special education and related services for students with educational disabilities in the Mehlville School District. In collaboration with partner districts, Special School District provides technical education and a wide variety of individualized educational and support services designed to ensure the student's successful contribution to our community.

If you suspect that your child may have an educational disability and require an evaluation for special education, you should contact your child's teacher, school counselor or principal.

## **Technology Literacy**

The early childhood technology literacy curriculum will teach proper care and responsible use of the computer, media equipment and telephone.

### **Course Objectives**

- Locate the mouse, keyboard, monitor and printer
- Use a piece of software
- Demonstrate proper care and use of computers
- Use a variety of media formats

### **Parents/Families may assist their children by:**

- Playing an educational game on the computer with them
- Having them follow along with an audio book
- Recording a conversation with them and then listening to it together

## Websites to Help Your Child Continuing Learning at Home

Prior to publication of this document, each site below was checked for appropriateness. The Mehlville School District is not responsible for any content or advertisements housed/published on these sites.

### District Purchased: Log In through Class Link

#### Discovery Education

*Videos, articles, and content for all subject areas.*

#### i-Ready

*Math & ELA practice through student individualized “My Path” or digital math games.*

#### NewsELA

*Large content of authentic and accessible articles to support/enhance curriculum and engage learners. Articles available across multiple reading levels.*

#### Reading A-Z

*Leveled books for reading instruction at all ages K-5.*

#### Scholastic Learn at Home

*Activities & projects to keep kids reading, thinking and growing.*

#### World Book Online

*Online reading resources*

#### Typing Club (Grades 3-5)

*Touch typing practice and instruction for kids*

### Free Online Sites

#### [Epic!](#)

*Online reading resources. Videos, read to me books, Ebooks, leveled books, and more available to support reading instruction.*

#### [Khan Academy](#)

*Standards-aligned, student-paced instruction in math and social studies.*

#### [GoNoodle](#)

*Brain break videos for children that include: movement, academic, Social Emotional Learning, mindfulness, and more!*

#### [Kids Health](#)

*Resources for teaching health and safety. Students can access information without logging in.*

#### [Scratch](#)

*Coding website. You can use scratch to create stories, games, and animations.*

#### [Code.Org](#)

*Coding website dedicated to bringing computer science skills to all learners*



## **World Book Online Web**

World Book Online, a grade-appropriate research tool that includes encyclopedias, multimedia, eBooks, and primary source databases, is available to Mehlville students both at school and at home. The online reference tool developed by education experts also includes a time-line builder, citation builder, individual research accounts, a translation tool generating content in thirty languages, text-to-speech feature, video tutorials, interactive activities, magazine articles, newspapers and the following databases:

- World Book Kids – encyclopedia for elementary school students age 7 and up
- World Book Student – encyclopedia for middle school and high school students age 11 and up
- World Book Advanced – encyclopedia for high school and college students age 13 and up
- Living Green – online interactive site that examines causes of pollution and offers tips on green practices
- Early Peoples – online interactive site that examines history of ancient cultures
- Inventions and Discoveries – online, interactive site that examines inventions and discoveries
- Dramatic Learning – uses plays, skits and monologues to help students become more fluent readers and help them understand core concepts and retain information
- Early World of Learning – narrated stories, interactive games and reference materials to help young learners

To Access World Book Online:

- Go to <http://mehlilleschooldistrict.com>
- Select Parents/Students
- Select Library Resources
- Go to World Book Online

World Newspapers: Located on the upper left side of the World Book Advanced home page is Research Tools. Within the Research Tools is World Newspapers which provides newspapers from the United States and around the world.

To access a newspaper:

- Select World Newspapers on the World Book Advanced home page
- Choose a location from around the world
- Click GO