

FRANKLIN ROAD ACADEMY



LOWER SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROGRAM GUIDE 2009-2010

4700 FRANKLIN ROAD
NASHVILLE, TN 37220
615.832.8845

WWW.FRANKLINROADACADEMY.COM

LOWER SCHOOL

Mission Statement

The mission of Franklin Road Academy is:

- *To instill in our students a lifelong love of learning, emphasizing academic excellence and college preparation.*
- *To develop students of integrity with Christian values to sustain and lead them in lives that will make a difference.*
- *To guide students to discover needed balance for life through opportunities in the arts, athletics and activities.*

Lower School Programs of Distinction

- Enrichments
- Foreign Language
- Science Lab/Earth Day
- Tablet PC program
- Embedded Professional Development for teachers in Language Arts and Math
- Leadership Program/Character Education

Leadership FRA

Leadership FRA is a three-year academy-wide initiative with the goal of inspiring leaders for life. At FRA, we believe each individual has the capability to be a leader—a person who influences others positively in the world.

The goals of the program are to bolster integrity and Christian values, assist each student in identifying and developing his or her leadership skills, place value on each student's unique leadership qualities, and foster an overall atmosphere and culture of leadership. This involves students, parents, and faculty at all grade levels in the academy.

PREKINDERGARTEN

PREKINDERGARTEN 4

LANGUAGE

Identifies name
Recognizes upper & lower case letters
Beginning to recognize letter sounds
Listens to stories
Follows directions
Beginning to use inventive spelling

MATH

Recognizes shapes & numbers 1-10
Counts to 20
Sorts & classifies objects
Continues patterns with 3-4 repetitions
Understands one-to-one correspondence
Beginning simple addition

CENTERS

Housekeeping
Music & listening
Blocks, letters, games & puzzles
Math
Computers
Sand & art
Science
Books & writing

MOTOR COORDINATION

Builds with construction sets
Manipulates pencil, markers, & crayons
Uses scissors & paint brushes
Jumps, hops & skips
Balances on one foot
Uses alternate feet on stairs

SOCIALIZATION

Follows 2-3 step directions
Works cooperatively in small groups
Attentively listens to a 10-15 minute story
Works & cooperates with adults

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance
counseling, library, & performing arts

HANDWRITING

Handwriting Without Tears —
Developmental approach to writing that
encourages natural writing practices

UNITS vary by season & holidays

PREKINDERGARTEN 5

LANGUAGE

Recognizes upper & lower case letters
Recognizes letter sounds
Forming capital & lower case letters
Improves listening skills
Follows multi-step directions
Uses inventive spelling

MATH

Recognizes numbers 1-20
Counts to 50
Patterns, sorts & graphs objects
Recognizes & draws shapes
Understands one-to-one correspondence
Understands more than & less than
Performs simple addition

CENTERS

Housekeeping
Blocks
Math
Computers
Sand & art
Science
Language arts

MOTOR COORDINATION

Builds with construction sets
Manipulates pencil, markers, & crayons
Uses scissors & paint brushes
Jumps, hops, & skips
Balances on one foot
Uses alternate feet on stairs

SOCIALIZATION

Follows 2-3 step directions
Works cooperatively in small groups
Attentively listens to a 10-15 minute story
Works & cooperates with adults

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance
counseling, library, & performing arts

HANDWRITING

Handwriting Without Tears —
Developmental approach to writing that
encourages natural writing practices

UNITS vary by season, holidays, & letter of
the week

KINDERGARTEN & 1st GRADE

KINDERGARTEN

READING & LITERATURE

Letter & sound correspondence
Auditory & visual discrimination
Beginning sight word vocabulary
Wright Group literary series
Exposure to various books & genres
Guided, shared, & independent reading
On-line storybooks
Systematic approach to phonics

WRITING

Handwriting Without Tears
Fine motor control
Construction of short stories & sentences
Uses inventive spelling
Simple punctuation
Guided, shared, & independent writing

ART

Crayons, markers, pastels
Paint & clay
Collages & art appreciation

SOCIAL STUDIES

Citizenship
Community, family, & self
Following rules
Cooperating with adults & peers
American symbols

MATH

Investigations in number, data & space curriculum
Making sense of mathematical ideas
Number recognition & understanding
Idea of equivalent sets
Counting by 1's, 5's, and 10's
Sort, classify, & graph
Create, describe, extend & repeat patterns
2-D & 3-D shapes
Linear measurement
Addition & subtraction with small sets
Use of manipulatives

SCIENCE

Apples, pumpkins, & seeds
Spiders
Leaves & trees
Five senses
Plants & insects
Eggs
Ocean life

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance counseling, library, performing arts, P.E., science lab, technology

1st GRADE

READING & LITERATURE

Basil reading stories
Comprehension & vocabulary
Scholastic guided reading
Independent reading
Oral reading & speaking
Sight words
Poetry, writing, reading, & technology

WRITING & SPELLING

Handwriting Without Tears
Punctuation & spelling
Construction of complete sentences
Capitalization
Typing
Weekly spelling activities & tests

PHONICS & GRAMMAR

Initial, medial, & final consonants
Short & long vowels; compounds & blends
Words with "le", hard & soft "c" & "g", & "y" and a vowel
Diagraphs & r-controlled words
Contractions, endings & suffixes
Naming, action, & describing words
Creative writing

MATH

Addition— basic facts, counting up
Subtraction— basic facts
Fact families
Solid & plane shapes
Money
Patterns
Location & movement
Calendar & time
Measuring
Building numbers— counting on
Fractions— halves, wholes, & equal parts

SOCIAL STUDIES & SCIENCE

All About Me
Thanksgiving & Christmas symbols
U.S. symbols
Earth science— pebbles, sand & silt
Our earth & dinosaurs
Physical science— solids, liquids
Life science— bats, sharks, land animals
Organisms & insects

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance counseling, library, performing arts, P.E., science lab, technology

2nd & 3rd GRADE

2nd GRADE

READING & LITERATURE

Oral & silent reading
Story structure
Fantasy, realistic fiction, & poetry
Making predictions
Drawing conclusions & inferences
Summarizing the main idea & details
Compare & contrast, cause & effect
Fact & opinion

NOVELS *Sarah, Plain and Tall*
 Pippi Longstocking
 I Have a Dream— The Story of
 Martin Luther King

GRAMMAR & COMPOSITION

Parts of speech
Punctuation & mechanics
Beginning research
Usages, vocabulary, & spelling
The writing process
Journals
Creative writing
Friendly letters
Book reports & research reports
Study skills

MATH

Problem solving skills
Add & subtract with & without re-grouping
Time & money
Measurement— length & weight, temperature
using American standard & metrics
Plane & solid figures
Graphing, symmetry, & spatial perception
Fractions
Number sequence patterns
Beginning multiplication & division
Estimation
Problem solving & reasoning skills

SOCIAL STUDIES & SCIENCE

Our World— study of the 7 continents
Projects: Build a box city, pioneer wagon or
diorama
Dress-up as a president & give oral presenta-
tion
Air & weather, balance & motion
Magnets, sound & heat, plants

LANGUAGE, PHONICS & SPELLING

Synonyms, antonyms, homonyms
Compound words
Consonant blends & vowel sounds
Diagraphs, contractions, affixes
Syllables, word attack, & dictionary skills

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance counseling,
library, performing arts, P.E., science lab,
technology

3rd GRADE

READING & LITERATURE

Oral & silent reading
Reading for meaning
High interest reading
Fantasy, realistic fiction & poetry
Oral book presentations
Listening skills
Time For Kids

NOVELS *Ramona Quimby, Age 8*
 Charlotte's Web

GRAMMAR & COMPOSITION

Parts of speech
Punctuation & mechanics
Beginning research
Usages, vocabulary, spelling & definitions
The writing process
Journals
Creative writing
Phonics & decoding
Sentence structure
Study skills

MATH

Numeration & order
Addition & subtraction facts
Add & subtract with & without re-grouping
Time & money
Place value
Multiplication facts & related problems
Division with & without remainders
Measurement— length & weight, tempera-
ture using American standard & metrics
Graphic & geometry
Fractions & decimals
Problem solving & rounding
Investigations

SOCIAL STUDIES & SCIENCE

Tennessee History & Government
Environment, map & globe skills
Graphs & charts
Consumer economics unit
Immigration, 3rd grade flea market
Earth— rocks & minerals
Weather, soil, erosion, climate
Physical— water cycle, scientific method,
matter, properties, states, changes, meas-
urement
Forces & work, machines

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance counseling,
library, performing arts, P.E., science lab,
technology

4th GRADE

4th GRADE

READING & LITERATURE

Reading skills taught through 4th grade
Basal Reader
Accelerated Reader
American tall tales
Oral reading

NOVELS *Mrs. Frisby and Rats of the Nimh*
Bud, Not Buddy
Number the Stars

GRAMMAR & COMPOSITION

Parts of speech
Punctuation & mechanics
Vocabulary (Wordly Wise)
Research
Spelling
The writing process
Summaries
Creative writing

MATH

Place value & money
Adding & subtracting whole numbers
Multiplication & division concepts & facts
Time, date & graphs
Multiplying 1-digit, 2-digit, & 3-digit numbers
Division
Geometry & measurement
Fraction concepts & operations
Customary measurement
Understanding decimals, graphing
Probability
Roman numerals
Investigations

SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. Geography— 5 themes of geography
Map skills
Regions of the United States
State research & national parks

SCIENCE

Cells & classification of living things
Plants, oceans, & earth's surface
Weather & forms of energy
Matter & properties of matter
Chemical testing
Discovery Fair

ENRICHMENTS

Foreign language, art, guidance counseling,
library, performing arts, P.E., science lab,
technology

ENRICHMENTS

ENRICHMENTS

ART

All Lower School students attend art class on a rotating schedule (PK4, PK5, & K for 30 minutes; Grades 1- 4 for 45 minutes). Students use a variety of mediums to explore the elements of art: shape, color, line, value, texture, space and form. Art history is incorporated throughout the curriculum. Each art level is age appropriate in regard to vocabulary and concepts and is a stepping stone for the next grade level. Media skills explored are painting, drawing, design, clay, textiles, collage, mixed media, sculpture, masks, and printmaking.

GUIDANCE COUNSELING

The PK4-grade 4 curriculum includes topics such as character education, anger management, conflict resolution, and lessons created to meet the specific needs of the class at that time. Class lessons are geared toward teaching skills, but class time allows counselors to develop personal relationships with each student. Counselors meet with students individually when a need arises. Students, parents and teachers speak with counselors when an individual session is needed. They also develop ways to best serve the child at school and at home. Group sessions are held to address specific group needs. Counselors act as resources to parents and teachers, and make referrals to outside agencies.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The PK-grade 4 Foreign Language Exploratory Program creates curiosity, motivation, and self-confidence for students to continue learning languages throughout their educational experiences. Students meet regularly on a rotating schedule. The goal is to create a deeper understanding and appreciation of other cultures while also developing each student's basic aural comprehension and pronunciation skills. Simple vocabulary and phrases are taught through songs, games, and everyday experiences.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The program focuses on fitness, movement, motor and team building skills. Physical education is "movement-based and fitness oriented." Activities are geared to meet grade-specific benchmarks, to instill the desire to be active for life, and to help students acquire the skills and confidence they need to participate in a variety of physical activities. Grades 1- 4 have P.E. daily. Kindergarten has P.E. once a week.

ENRICHMENTS

LIBRARY

Our library has over 13,000 volumes, including picture books, early readers, chapter books, and nonfiction resources targeted specifically to young readers. All grade levels visit the library on a rotating schedule to check out books. Students may visit any time for book checkout. Reading aloud to students is emphasized. Annual library special events include a book fair, student read-a-thon, and visits by nationally known authors. Library resources furnish teachers with book selections and material to support classroom instruction. Computer research stations support internet research projects which are coordinated with classroom work. All grades learn skills for effective library use. Upper grades learn to use the computerized card catalog.

PERFORMING ARTS

All Lower School students will learn four areas of Performing Arts including music, theater, dance, and public speaking. A variety of activities include playing instruments, singing, folk and classical dance, theater skills and games, enunciation, and practiced stage presence. These activities and lessons will prepare students for a variety of performances throughout the year.

SCIENCE LAB

All Lower School students, grades K-4, participate in science enrichment labs weekly on a rotating schedule (K for 30 minutes; grades 1-4 for 45 minutes). Labs are coordinated to support and enhance grade level science curriculum, and include the study of physical, earth, and life systems. Science labs are inquiry-based, utilizing hands-on and critical thinking skills. Labs utilize the process of scientific inquiry: asking questions, making observations, predicting, identifying what is known, carrying out investigations, analyzing data, and drawing conclusions.

TECHNOLOGY

All teachers have laptop/tablet computers and routinely integrate technology throughout the curriculum. Classrooms have four to six computers for students. There is a fully-equipped, up-to-date computer lab. Electronic research stations are available in the library. Teachers for grades K-4 bring students to lab on a rotating schedule for curriculum integration using technology resources. Grades K-3 meet with a Technology Specialist once during a 6-day rotation and grade 4 meets twice during a 6-day rotation. Typical usage includes, but is not limited to: internet research, word processing, curriculum related software, multimedia projects and drawing.