

# Language Arts



In Language Arts we use **Journeys**, by HMH, which is a comprehensive, evidence-based K-5 literacy program.

**Student log-in for Journeys:**  
[www.k6.thinkcentral.com](http://www.k6.thinkcentral.com)

## Reading:

In kindergarten students will focus on the alphabet and its role in reading and writing. They will practice rhyming, matching words with beginning sounds, and blending sounds into words. Students will also learn to retell stories in sequence with key details and main ideas.

## Writing:

Students will begin to experiment with writing and will be encouraged to use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing letters to share information, ideas, and feelings. They will learn to use a logical sequence and include details in their writing. Students will also learn about using capitalization and punctuation in their writing.

## Speaking and Listening:

Students will participate in discussions by listening and taking turns. They will learn to speak audibly, ask questions, and express their ideas clearly.

## You can help your child by...

- Reading with them every day
- Talking to them about their day at school
- Encouraging them to write letters or words or draw a picture about their day
- Playing word games and singing songs with them

## Handwriting:

All students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade receive handwriting instruction using the program "Handwriting Without Tears."

<http://www.hwtears.com>

# Popular Books for Kindergarten

One of the most important things a parent can do to help their child is to instill a love of reading in them from a young age. There is a direct connection between the amount of reading children do and their achievement in school. Please take time every day to read to or with your child. Here are some great titles to get you started...

### Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

by Bill Martin

### Where the Wild Things Are

by Maurice Sendak

### The Very Hungry Caterpillar

by Eric Carle

### The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn

### If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

by Laura Joffe Numeroff

### Who's Looking at You?

by Stephane Frattini

### Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden

by George Levenson

### National Geographic Kids-Frogs!

by Elizabeth Carney

<http://www.goodreads.com>

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."  
— Dr. Seuss

## Clinton Macomb Public Library:

All CVS students have access to the Clinton Macomb Public Library's online resources! You can download e-books, use research links and access great educational websites like  
<http://kids.mel.org/>

Visit [www.cmpl.org](http://www.cmpl.org) and enter your student's Chippewa Valley ID number as the username and the last 4 digits of your phone number as the password.

# CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS



# Kindergarten

## PARENT GUIDE

Language Arts  
Mathematics  
Science  
Social Studies



## Welcome to Chippewa Valley Schools!

### Our Mission

*Inspiring and empowering learners to achieve a lifetime of success*

### Our Vision

*Setting the standard for educational excellence*

# Science



Science is a way of understanding the world and a pattern of thinking that begins in the very early years. Students will begin developing science and engineering skills by learning to ask questions, using models, planning and carrying out investigations, and analyzing data. Students will be encouraged to obtain, evaluate and communicate their findings orally as they make claims, find evidence to support their claims, and support this with scientific reasoning.

## Observation with Senses

*Students will:*

- Make purposeful observation of the natural world using the appropriate senses

## Pushes and Pulls

*Students will:*

- Describe the location of an object in relationship to another object
- Demonstrate the differences between a push and a pull
- Demonstrate how a push/pull can change the speed and/or direction of an object

## Living and Nonliving Things

*Students will:*

- Sort nonliving and living things
- Describe survival needs of living things
- Describe how plants grow in soil and how they need water/air to grow and survive
- Describe how animals need water/air to grow and survive, and how they need plants for food energy

*The way science is approached might seem different than what you remember. You can help your child by encouraging your child to talk about the “I can...” statement used in the classroom each day.*

# Mathematics



Chippewa Valley Schools uses **Bridges in Mathematics**, a K–5 math program that will help us meet the new standards and make math meaningful and exciting. In **kindergarten**, students focus on whole numbers and shapes.

*Throughout the year, students will:*

- Count and compare numbers to 100, with a special focus on numbers to 20
- Think about joining and separating situations as addition and subtraction
- Sort, compare, and draw shapes
- Combine shapes to make other shapes and complete puzzles

When you are helping your child, the math might sometimes seem unfamiliar or different than you remember, but there are many ways you can help!

- Invite your child to talk about math by asking questions like, “Did you do a problem like this at school? How did you think about it?”
- Focus on the pictures. Bridges uses visual models to make mathematics accessible to all learners. Talking about the pictures is a great way to get started.
- Ask questions like, “What do you notice about this picture? Where do you see the numbers in this picture? Can we use the picture to help solve the problem?”

Get more information and ideas about how to help your child by visiting the websites:

[www.chippewavalleyschools.org](http://www.chippewavalleyschools.org), click **Academics**, click **Curriculum**, click **Elementary Math-Bridges**

[www.mathlearningcenter.org/families/bridges2](http://www.mathlearningcenter.org/families/bridges2)  
click **Kindergarten**

By being open to learning and talking with your child, you can help your child develop strong skills and a love of math.



# Social Studies



## Geography

*Students will:*

- Be able to describe places using positional words
- Understand what maps and globes represent
- Understand how we use resources from the earth to get what we need and want

## Economics

*Students will:*

- Learn the difference between needs and wants
- Understand why people trade
- Distinguish between goods and services

## History

*Students will:*

- Gain an understanding of their past and where they came from
- Learn about the concept of time

## Civics & Government

*Students will:*

- Learn to be responsible citizens
- Understand the importance of getting along with others and how to problem solve

## Public Discourse, Decision Making, & Citizen Involvement

*Students will:*

- Learn their roles in school and their community

## Literacy in Social Studies

*Students will:*

- Determine the meaning of vocabulary
- Explore fiction and nonfiction texts
- Make connections to texts and themselves
- Begin to explore main idea and details within a text