

Hillside School Modified Kindergarten



What is the modified
program?

October 18, 2017

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45-12:15	All Students	All Students	All Students	All Students	All Students
12:15-3:00		Group A	Group B	Group A	Group B

Kindergarten Schedule

8:45-9:15 Sharing Circle and Daily Message

9:15-9:30 Shared Reading

9:30 - 10:00 Word Study

10:00 - 10:30 Specials

10:30 - 10:45 Snack

10:45 - 11:30 Math

11:30 - 12:00 Reader's Workshop

12:00 - 12:15 Creative Play

12:15 - Dismissal for A or B Group

12:20 - 1:00 Lunch and Recess

1:00 - 1:45 Guided Reading Groups / Learning Centers

1:45 - 2:15 Writer's Workshop/Individualized conferencing

2:15 - 2:45 Social Studies/ Science

2:45 - 3:00 Free Centers/ Social Skills

Benefits of Small Group Instruction Guided Reading

Due to the modified schedule guided reading instruction is able to begin in late September. These small skill based groups are directed to students' specific needs.

Modified day allows the teacher to:

- *Establish a more focused, quiet learning environment
- * Meet more frequently with groups
- * Collect more data and track progress with more frequent one on one time.
- *Structure small groups that meet the needs of individual students by matching instruction to meet the needs of learners
- *Foster independence through free choice centers with peer to peer collaboration
- *Accelerate students reading skills at a quicker pace.

Writer's Workshop

- *Small group instruction on various writing themes like personal narrative, informational writing, opinion writing - rigorous themes that need extra teacher support to guide the writing. Meeting in small groups or 1:1 allows for a deeper understanding of students and their learning needs .
- *Conferring one on one - allows for more teacher one on one time per student.
- *Sharing of work, children practice sharing with their peers and presenting their work. This sharing builds self-esteem and public speaking skills in a setting that is less intimidating.

Social Skills

- *Monitor and facilitate communication among peers that is appropriate.
- *It allows for a calmer environment where every voice can be heard. Students that shy away from participating in a whole class setting feel more confident in sharing their ideas.
- *Gives opportunity for children to connect that may not otherwise seek each other out.
- *Teacher develops a deeper relationship with each child.

What does the research say?

- *Research shows that beginning readers benefit most from being taught explicit skills during intensive small group instruction.
- *In order to accommodate these needs, teachers plan reading centers for small groups that offer ample practice opportunities for children.
- *Additionally, small-group time enables children to have access to high quality interaction with their teachers (Wasik, 2008).
- *Whole-group lessons can often be too challenging for students with the least literacy knowledge—and too easy for students with the most literacy knowledge (Williams, et al., 2009). Therefore, the whole-group approach does not always meet students' needs, even in kindergarten.

The modified day gives you:

1. More instructional time on task
2. More frequency to meet with your small groups
3. 1:1 time
4. Deeper understanding of your students needs as learners



Best Of Both Worlds !

The students benefit from

whole class instruction five times a week

as well as

individualized instruction in a small group setting
twice a week.