



**Welcome to Kindergarten  
Curriculum Night!**



# Class Schedule

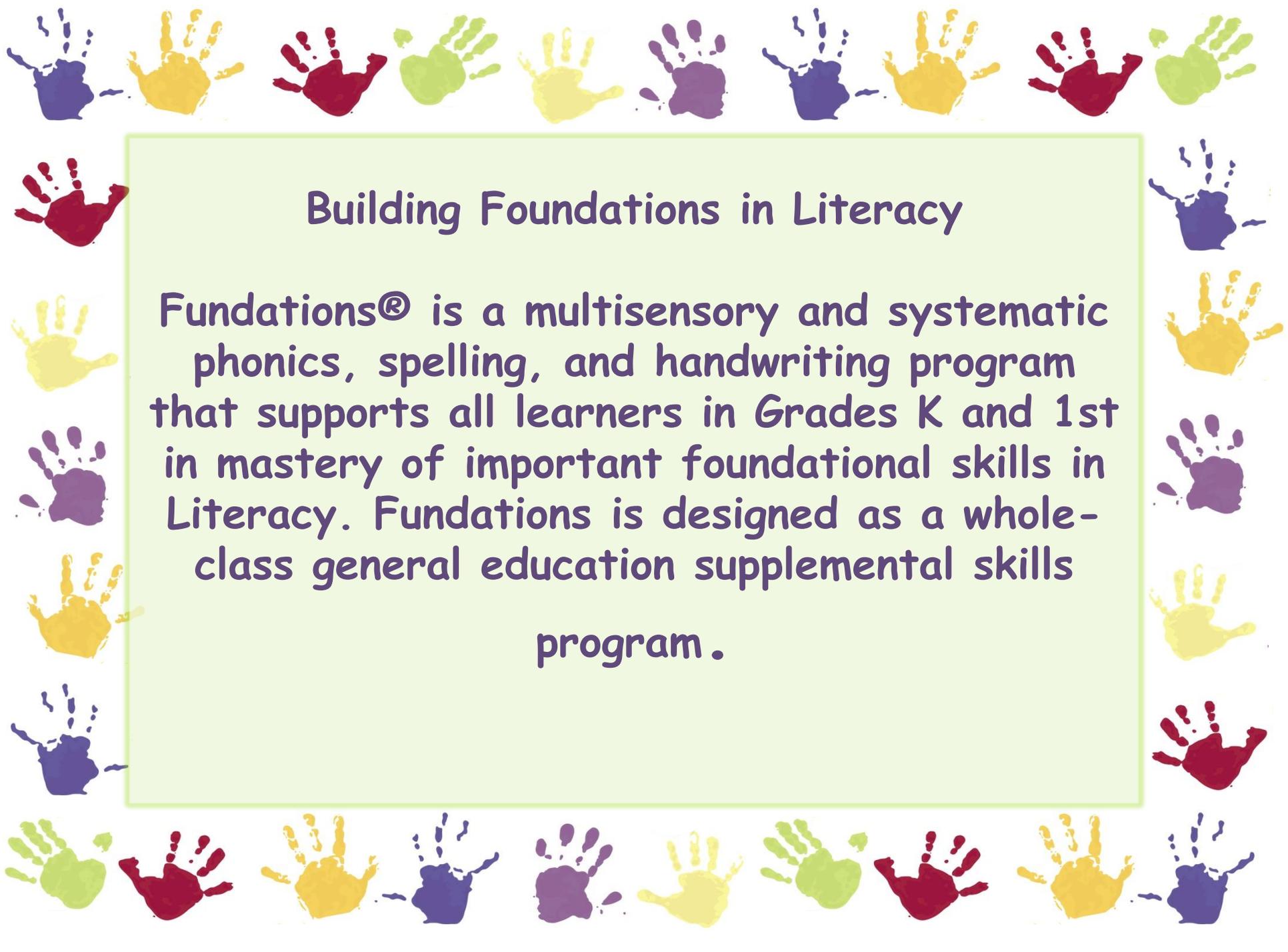
The information below explains how each day is organized

- Morning Message
- FUNdations
- Literacy Block
  - Guided Reading
  - Writing
  - Phonemic Awareness
- Snack/Recess
- Math
- Lunch/Recess
- Read time/single or small groups
- Free Choice Centers
- Specials
- Evaluation/Prepare for Dismissal



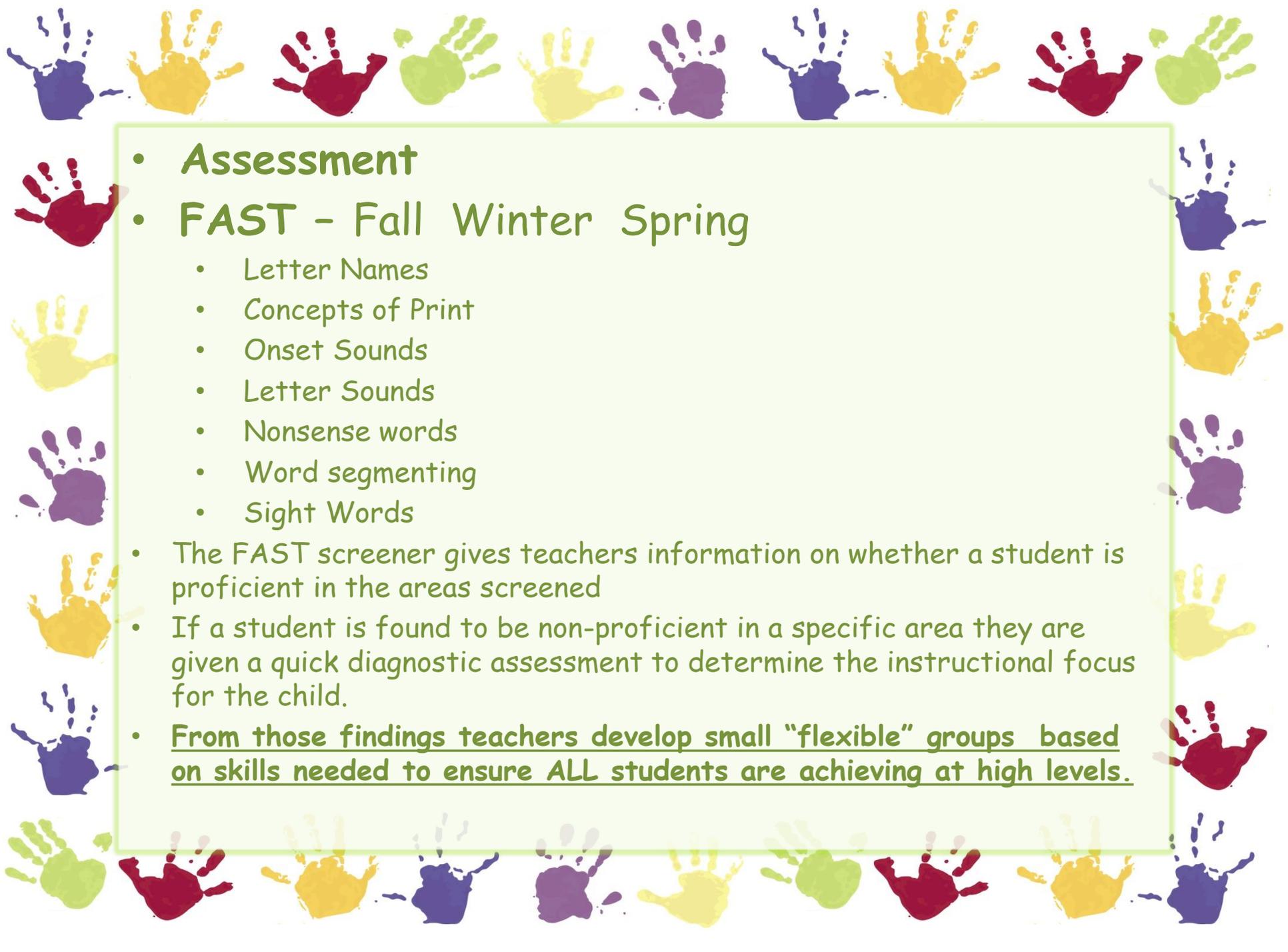
# English Language Arts

- Instruction and Assessment of Iowa Common Core standards
- Balanced Literacy Approach
  - Guided Reading (skill specific and standards instruction)
  - Shared Reading (standards instruction)
  - Independent Reading
  - Writing
- Focus on reading skills and strategies: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension



## Building Foundations in Literacy

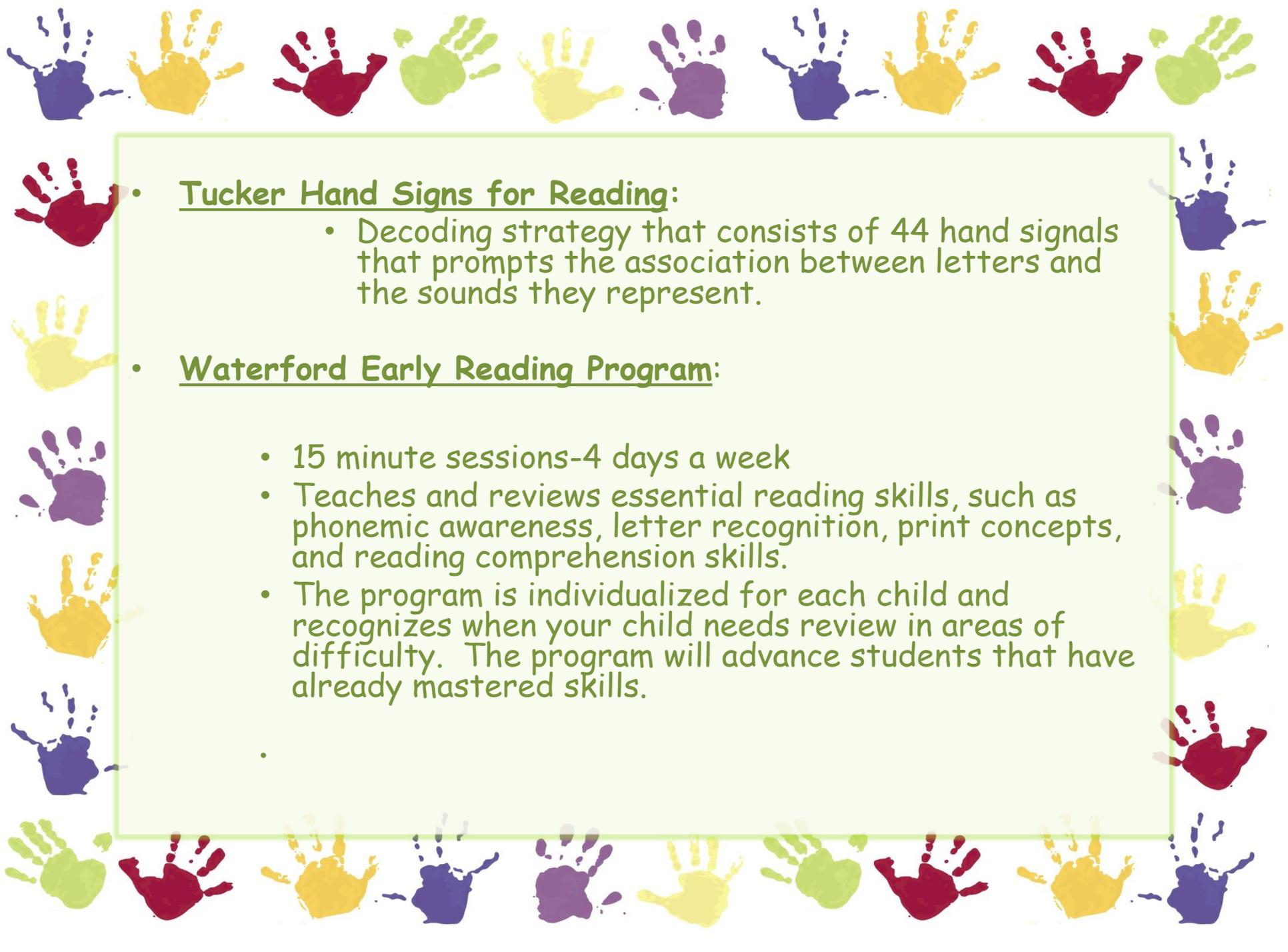
Fundations® is a multisensory and systematic phonics, spelling, and handwriting program that supports all learners in Grades K and 1st in mastery of important foundational skills in Literacy. Fundations is designed as a whole-class general education supplemental skills program.



- **Assessment**

- **FAST - Fall Winter Spring**

- Letter Names
  - Concepts of Print
  - Onset Sounds
  - Letter Sounds
  - Nonsense words
  - Word segmenting
  - Sight Words
- The FAST screener gives teachers information on whether a student is proficient in the areas screened
  - If a student is found to be non-proficient in a specific area they are given a quick diagnostic assessment to determine the instructional focus for the child.
  - From those findings teachers develop small “flexible” groups based on skills needed to ensure ALL students are achieving at high levels.

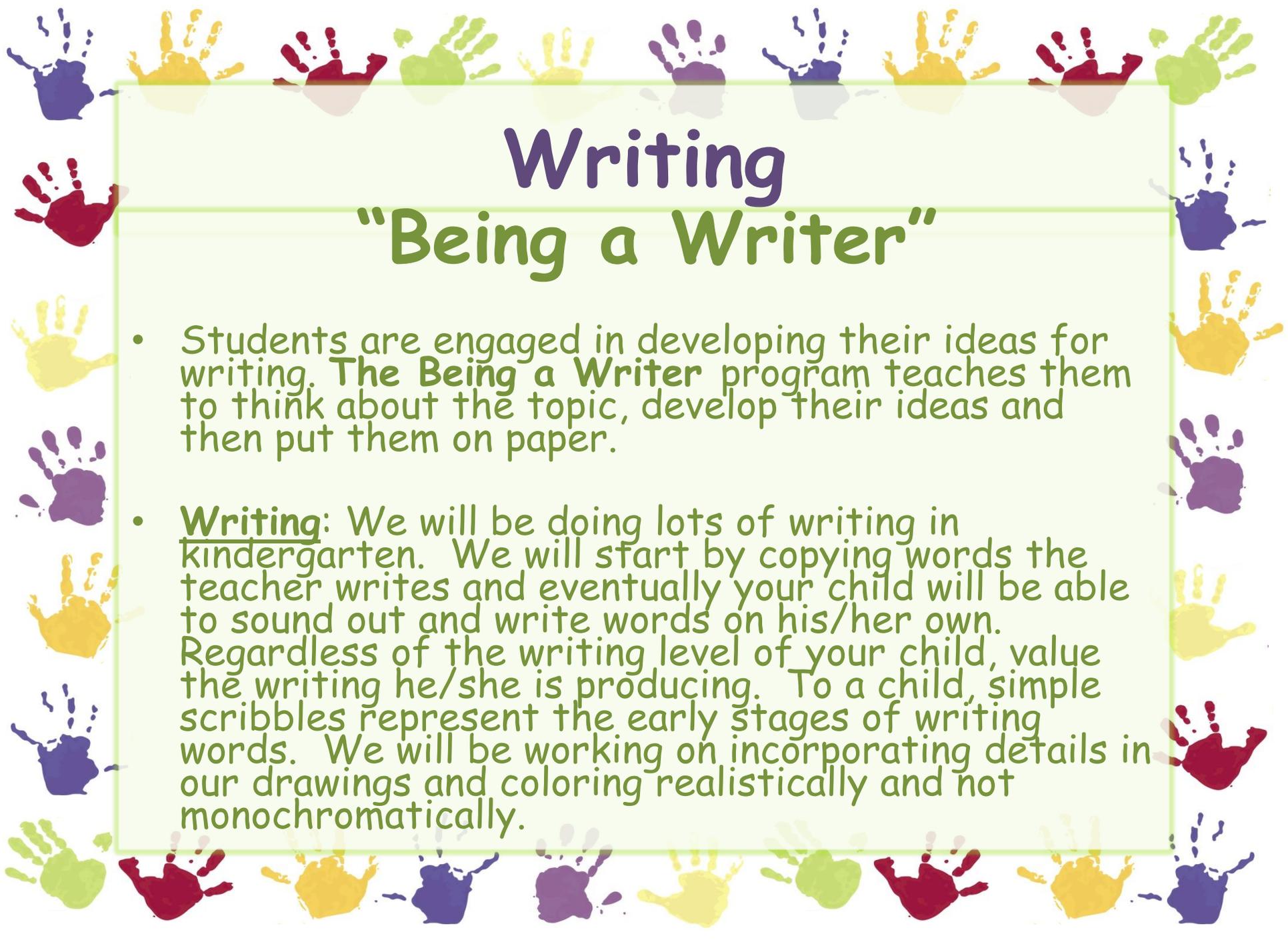


- Tucker Hand Signs for Reading:

- Decoding strategy that consists of 44 hand signals that prompts the association between letters and the sounds they represent.

- Waterford Early Reading Program:

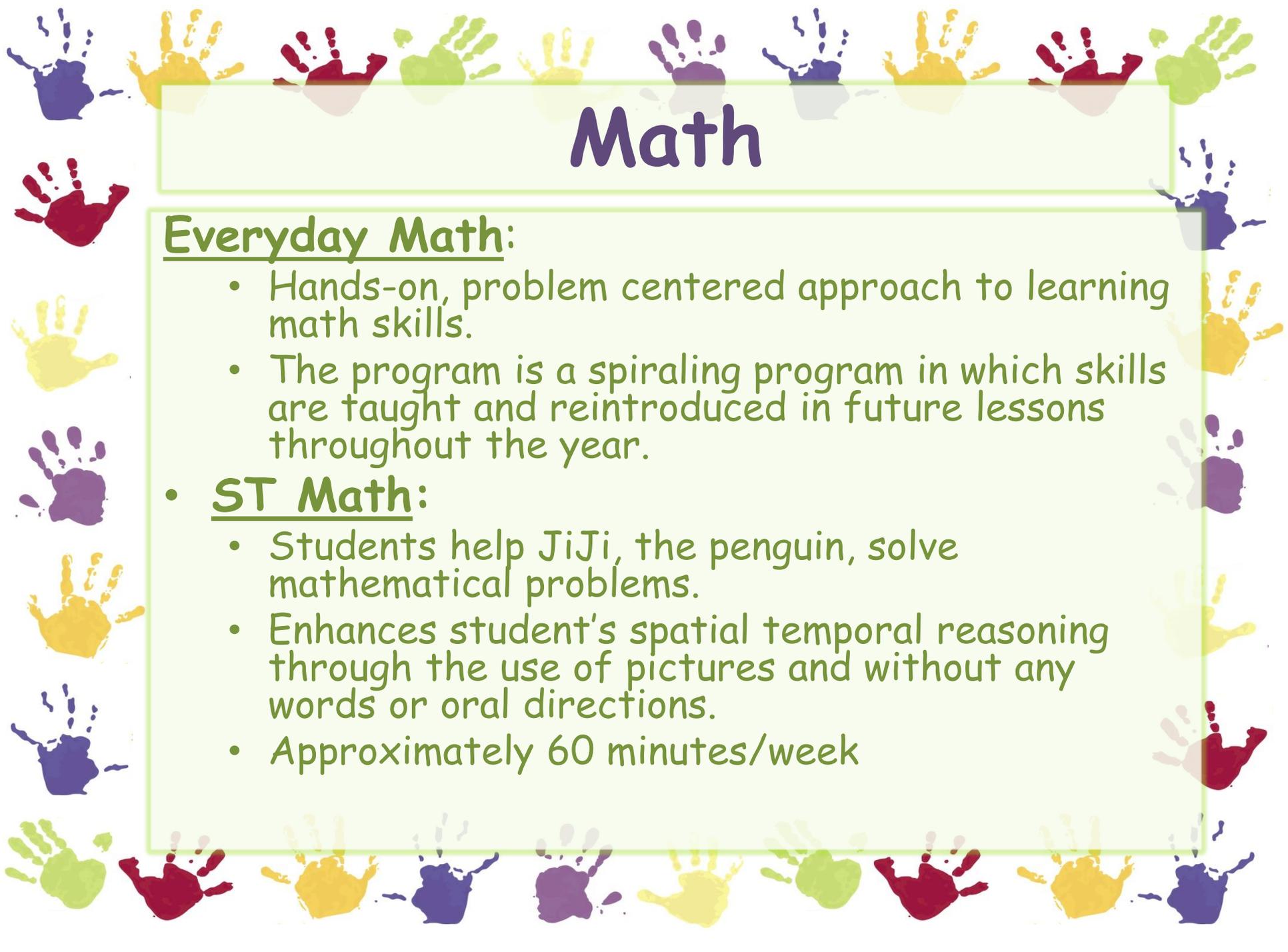
- 15 minute sessions-4 days a week
- Teaches and reviews essential reading skills, such as phonemic awareness, letter recognition, print concepts, and reading comprehension skills.
- The program is individualized for each child and recognizes when your child needs review in areas of difficulty. The program will advance students that have already mastered skills.
-



# Writing

## "Being a Writer"

- Students are engaged in developing their ideas for writing. The **Being a Writer** program teaches them to think about the topic, develop their ideas and then put them on paper.
- **Writing:** We will be doing lots of writing in kindergarten. We will start by copying words the teacher writes and eventually your child will be able to sound out and write words on his/her own. Regardless of the writing level of your child, value the writing he/she is producing. To a child, simple scribbles represent the early stages of writing words. We will be working on incorporating details in our drawings and coloring realistically and not monochromatically.



# Math

## Everyday Math:

- Hands-on, problem centered approach to learning math skills.
- The program is a spiraling program in which skills are taught and reintroduced in future lessons throughout the year.

## • ST Math:

- Students help JiJi, the penguin, solve mathematical problems.
- Enhances student's spatial temporal reasoning through the use of pictures and without any words or oral directions.
- Approximately 60 minutes/week



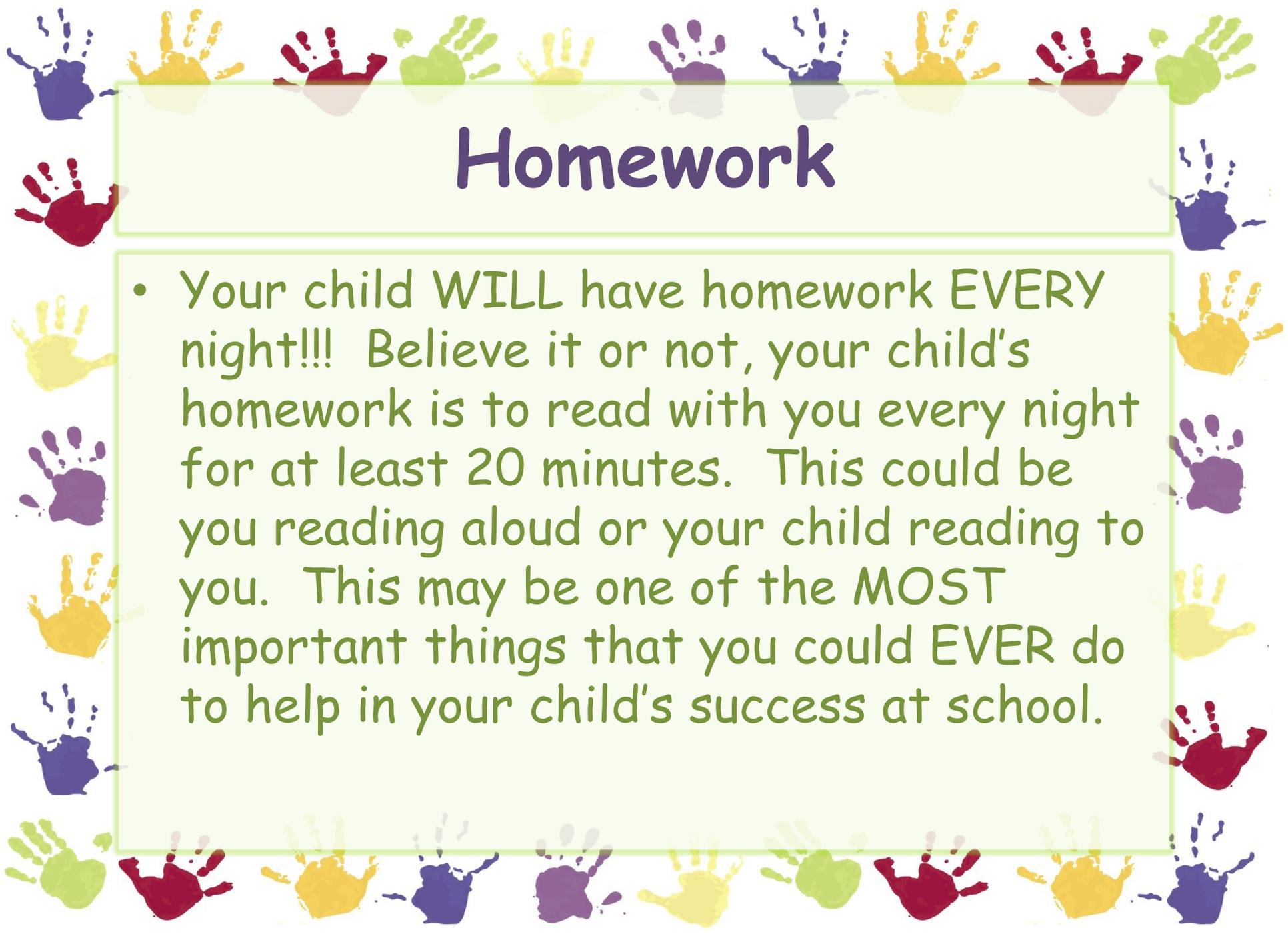
# Social Studies

- *Social Studies Alive!*
- Second Step
- Instructional "Shifts"
  - Craft Questions that Spark and Sustain and Inquiry
  - Integrate Skills and Content Purposefully
  - Provide Opportunities for Communicating Conclusions and Taking Informed Action
  - Engage in Rigorous, Student-centered Learning
- Junior Achievement
- Foss kit: Wood
- Foss kit: Animals 2x2

A decorative border of colorful handprints in various colors (blue, yellow, red, green, purple) surrounds the central text and list. The handprints are arranged in a roughly rectangular pattern, with some overlapping.

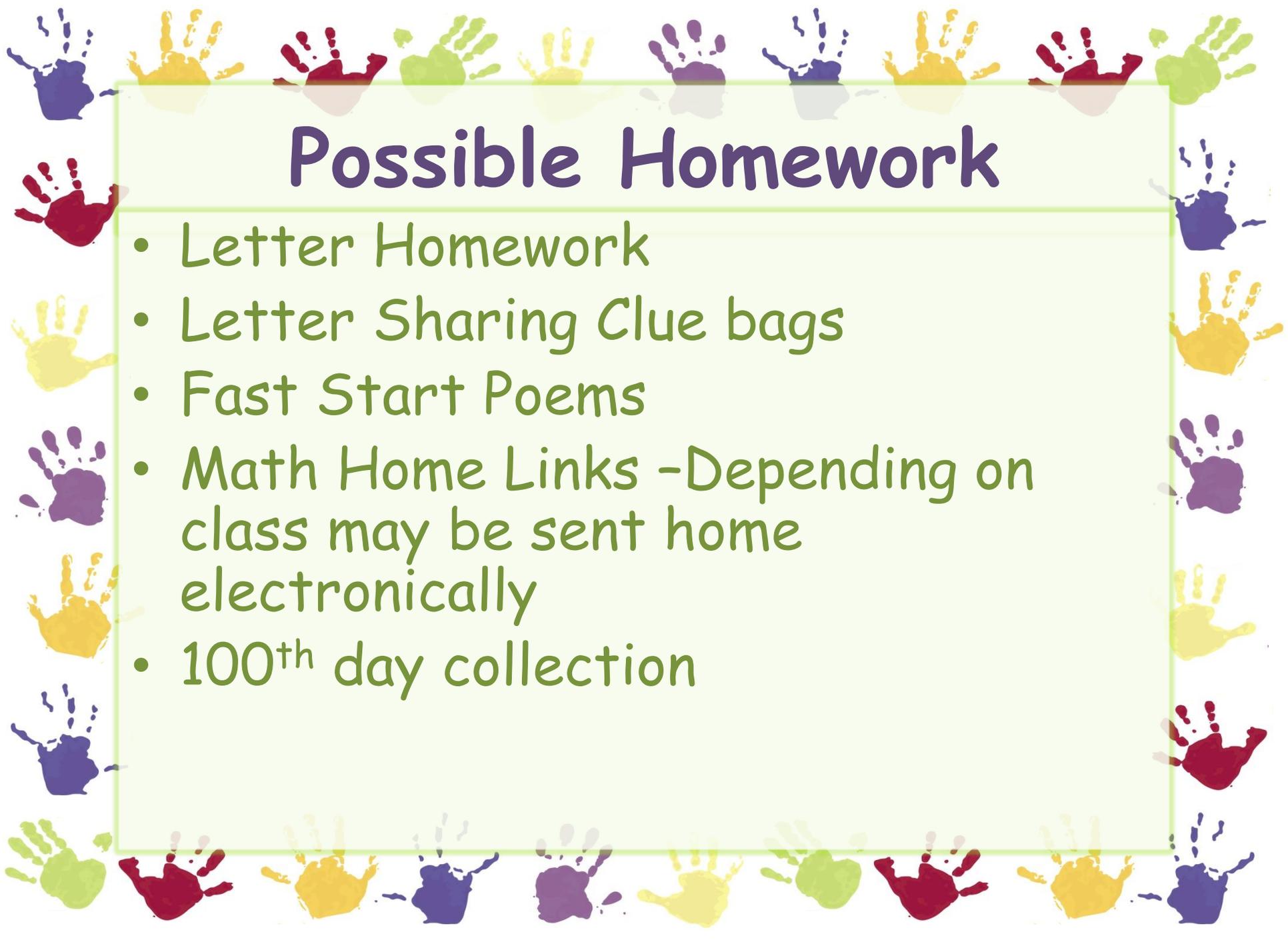
# Science

- Foss kit: Wood
- Foss kit: Animals 2x2



# Homework

- Your child **WILL** have homework **EVERY** night!!! Believe it or not, your child's homework is to read with you every night for at least 20 minutes. This could be you reading aloud or your child reading to you. This may be one of the **MOST** important things that you could **EVER** do to help in your child's success at school.



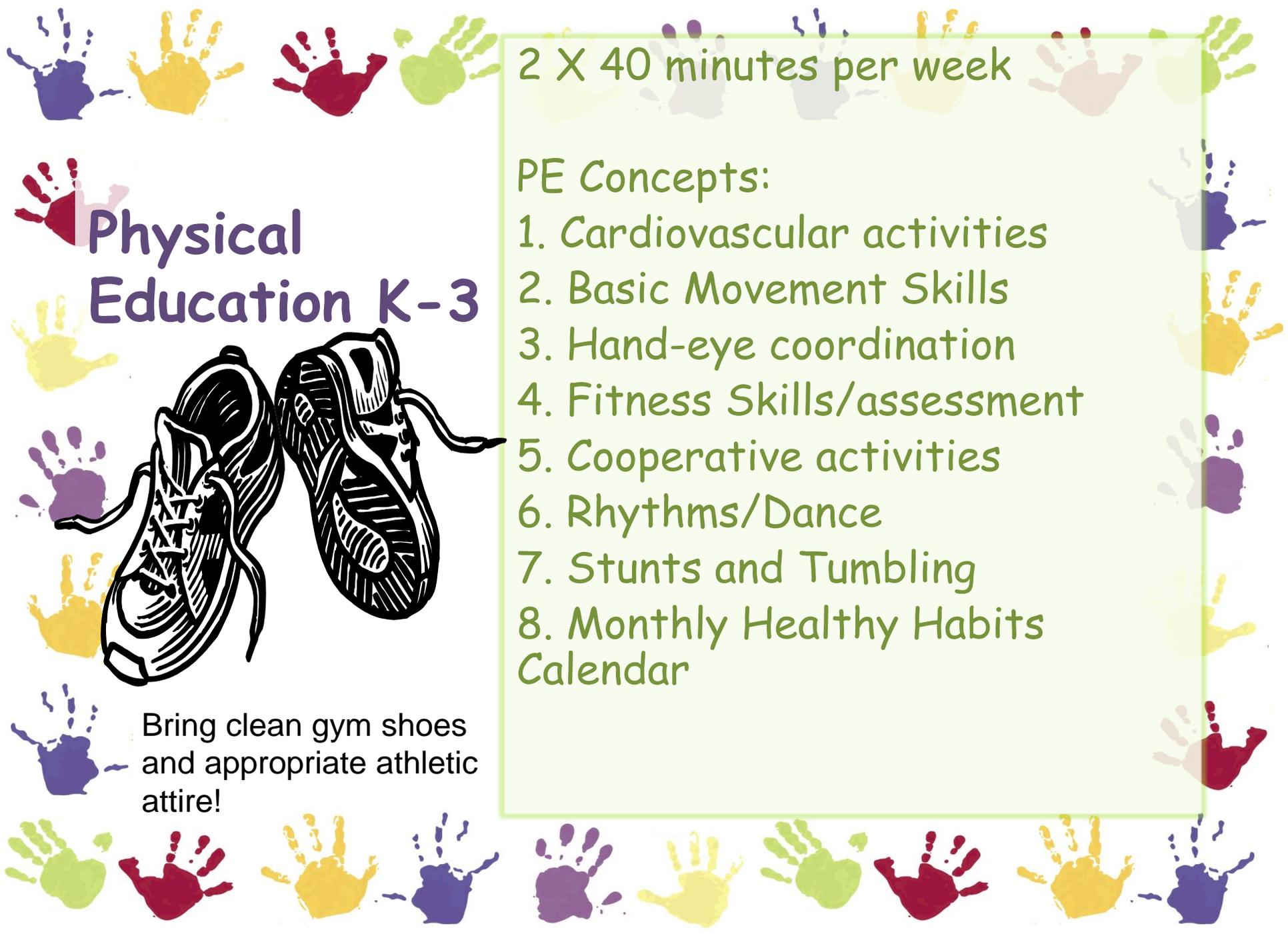
# Possible Homework

- Letter Homework
- Letter Sharing Clue bags
- Fast Start Poems
- Math Home Links - Depending on class may be sent home electronically
- 100<sup>th</sup> day collection



# Communication

- **Enews**: During the enrollment process, if parents provide an email address, they will be automatically signed up for building and district enews.
- Enews subscriptions can be managed by going to the district website ([www.pleasval.k12.ia.us](http://www.pleasval.k12.ia.us))
- **Email Communication**: Many teachers send home regular electronic newsletters through their school email accounts. Check with your child's teacher to learn more about how he or she communicates with kindergarten parents.



# Physical Education K-3

2 X 40 minutes per week

PE Concepts:

1. Cardiovascular activities
2. Basic Movement Skills
3. Hand-eye coordination
4. Fitness Skills/assessment
5. Cooperative activities
6. Rhythms/Dance
7. Stunts and Tumbling
8. Monthly Healthy Habits Calendar



Bring clean gym shoes and appropriate athletic attire!



# Kindergarten General Music

## Vocabulary

- Singing Voice
- Whisper Voice
- Speaking Voice
  - Echo
- Steady Beat

## Major Units

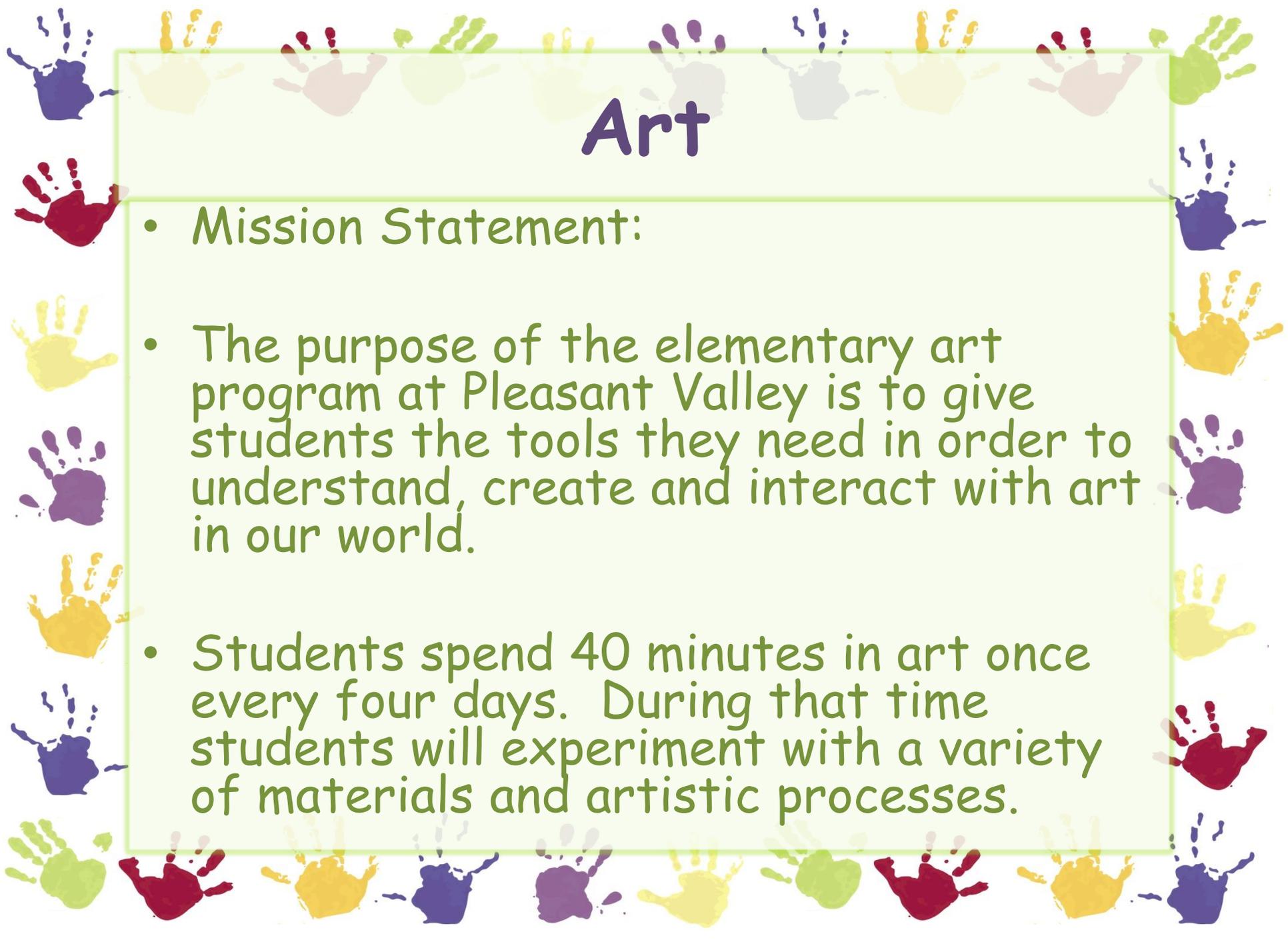
- Using our different voices
- Seasonal Songs
- Winter Program
- Moving to Music
- Steady Beat vs. Rhythm
- Using Percussion

# School Library Program

## Mission Statement

*The mission of the Pleasant Valley school library program is to provide an inviting, dynamic learning environment and services that support and enhance teaching, literacy, learning and the appreciation and enjoyment of literature.*





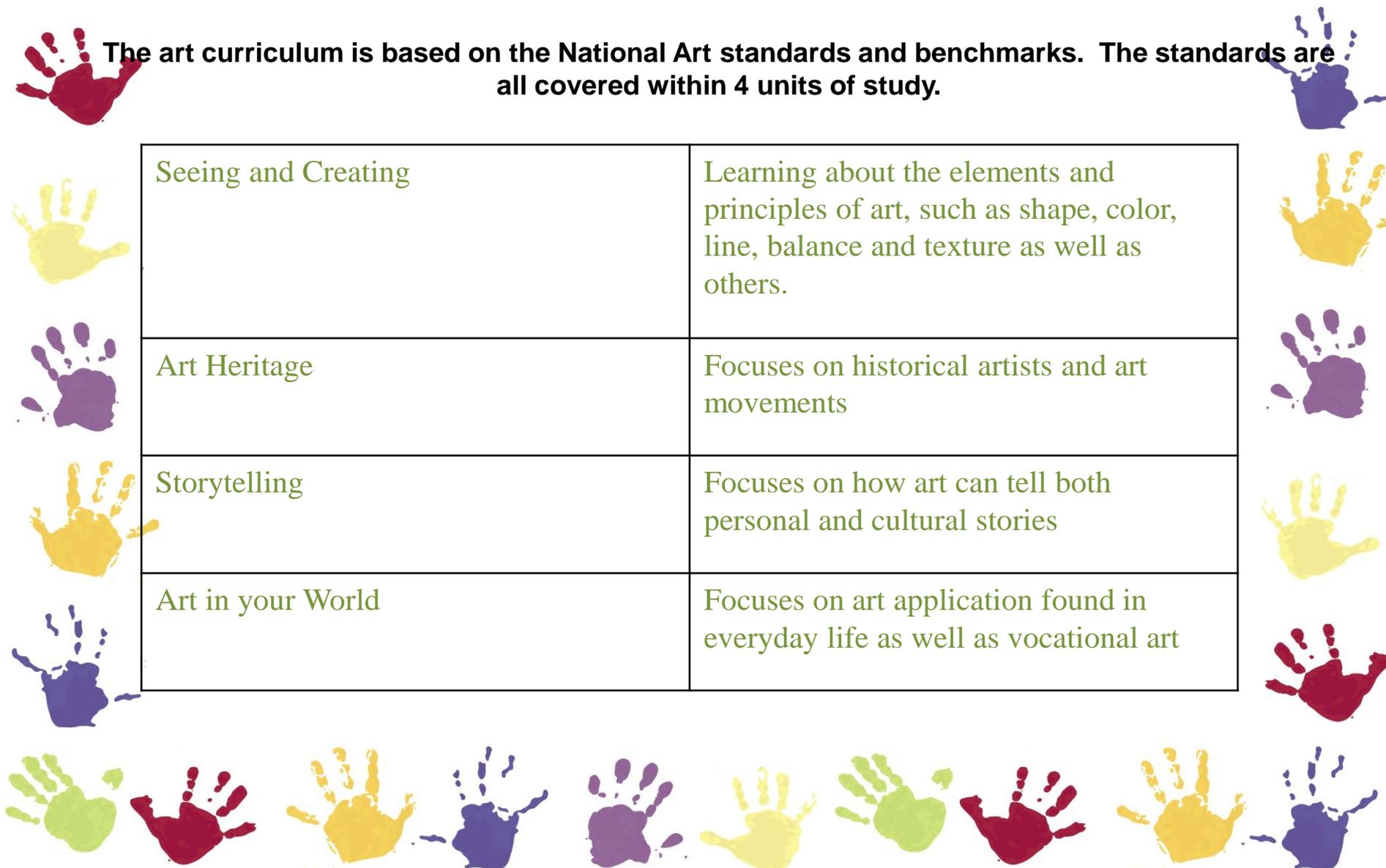
# Art

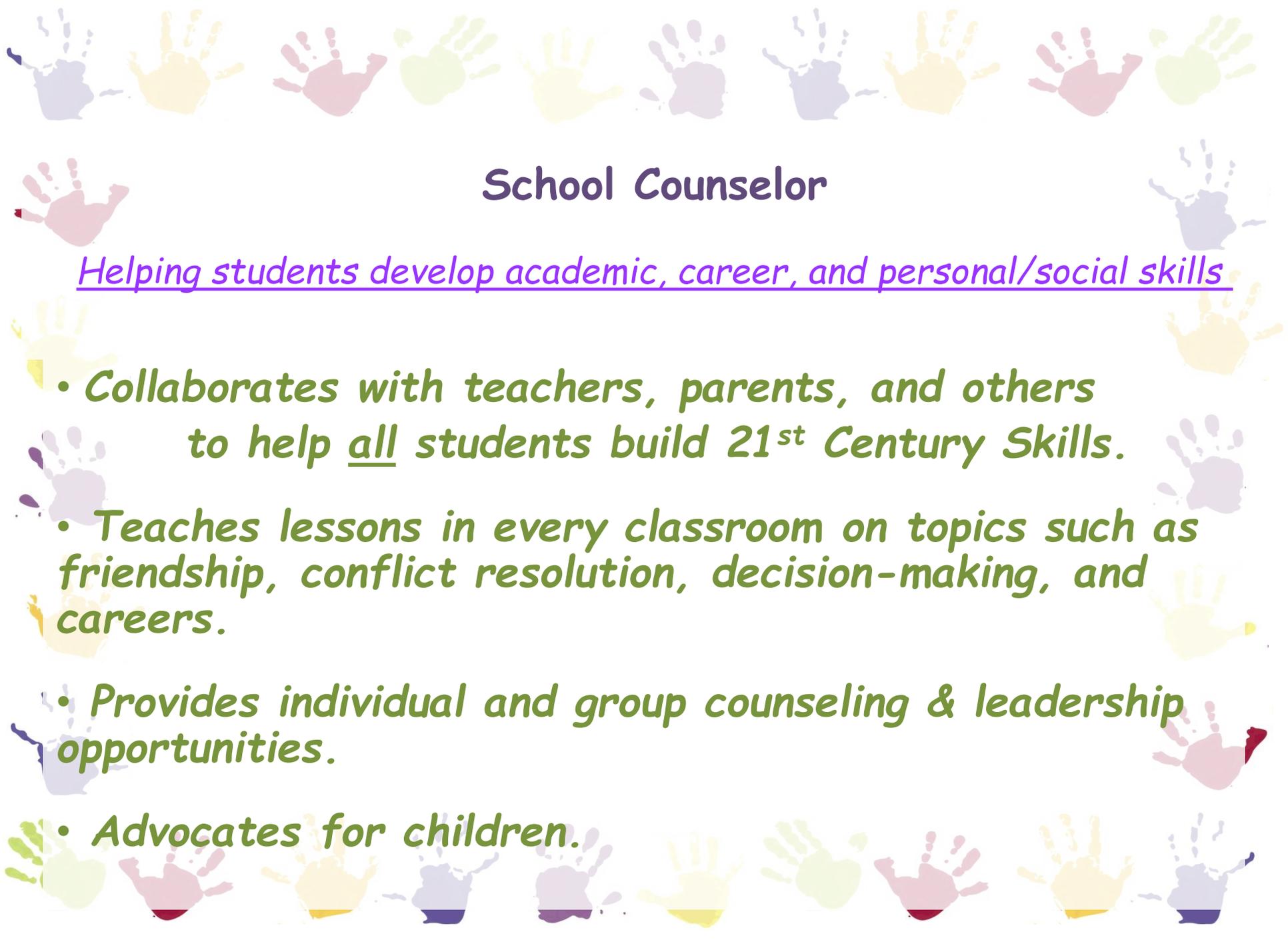
- Mission Statement:
- The purpose of the elementary art program at Pleasant Valley is to give students the tools they need in order to understand, create and interact with art in our world.
- Students spend 40 minutes in art once every four days. During that time students will experiment with a variety of materials and artistic processes.



The art curriculum is based on the National Art standards and benchmarks. The standards are all covered within 4 units of study.

Seeing and Creating	Learning about the elements and principles of art, such as shape, color, line, balance and texture as well as others.
Art Heritage	Focuses on historical artists and art movements
Storytelling	Focuses on how art can tell both personal and cultural stories
Art in your World	Focuses on art application found in everyday life as well as vocational art





## School Counselor

Helping students develop academic, career, and personal/social skills

- Collaborates with teachers, parents, and others to help all students build 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.
- Teaches lessons in every classroom on topics such as friendship, conflict resolution, decision-making, and careers.
- Provides individual and group counseling & leadership opportunities.
- Advocates for children.