

## Music

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

- Learn to move with non-locomotor and locomotor movements to music in different styles
- Use words for and experience basic musical concepts
- Feel a steady beat in music of different styles and cultures
- Explore making high and low movements and vocal sounds
- Experiment with non-pitched percussion and begin using handbells
- Prepare to sing songs for Mass

## Physical Education

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

- Complete an exercise regimen designed to prevent injury, increase dexterity, promote greater strength, and enhance sense of well-being and confidence
- Learn rules of contests and reasons behind same
- Practice competitiveness with regard to Christian sportsmanship
- Learn the value of treating teammates and opponents with dignity and respect
- Participate in numerous games and activities

## Technology

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

Students develop the skills they will need for success in a technological world with a repertoire of basic competencies from the following benchmarks:

- Technology operations, concepts and productivity tools
- Communication, collaboration and creativity
- Technology problem-solving and decision-making tools

The Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Denver, under the jurisdiction of Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila, S.T.L. and at the direction of the Superintendent, state that all of their Catholic schools admit students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the right, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the schools. Furthermore, Archdiocesan schools admit handicapped students in accord with the policy on Admissions, 4.2.1. These schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, age, handicap, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of their educational policies, employment practices, scholarship and loan programs or athletic or other school administered programs.

The purpose of this brochure is to provide a general overview of the curriculum offered to students at STM Catholic School. Please contact the school for more detailed information.



**STM CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

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# STM CATHOLIC SCHOOL



## Curriculum Overview for KINDERGARTEN

St. Thomas More Catholic School provides a rigorous academic program, with concentration on the core curriculum of math, language arts, social studies, science and religion. In addition, we offer a well-rounded program of music, art, physical education, library and technology.

# Faith † Excellence † Virtue † Charity

## Language Arts

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

Experiencing literature by focusing on literary themes is the core of the program. Listen to and analyze stories, participate in shared, guided and independent readings, develop age-appropriate writing skills, and develop phonemic skills for decoding words. Goals are achieved primarily by direct instruction and small center activities. Center activities include writing, reading, drawing, listening, and phonics. The phonics program is a highly structured and systematic approach in learning beginning reading skills. On a daily basis children are given auditory, visual and kinesthetic experiences in phonemic sounds.

## Math

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

We strive to have a child-centered program based on a kinesthetic approach. We use manipulative materials to develop concepts and skills. A very clear, precise framework is laid out where students develop a strong understanding of number sense and mathematical reasoning. Key elements are:

- Focus and Depth
- Use of Models
- Strong Number Sense
- Emphasis on Problem Solving

## Science

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

Using a hands-on approach, students are guided through the scientific process of observation and prediction. As often as possible, the science program is integrated into the overall Kindergarten curriculum. Science units are: Life Science, Physical Science, Earth Science, and the Human Body.



## Social Studies

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

The Social Studies program helps the students move beyond their own regions to broaden their sense of place. It emphasizes how the world was long ago and compares it to the world now. Literature, biographies and lessons about real families introduce students to people and events in other times and places. The students will explore geographic and social aspects of their world.

## Religion

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

Two sources are used for Religion. Our religion book has four themes: They are: The World is a Gift from God, God Loves Us, We are Friends of Jesus and We Live as Friends of Jesus. We also use the Seeds magazine, which is based on the Gospel message for the upcoming week. Religious holidays are very special times in Kindergarten. During the month of May we honor Mary and learn the rosary. They also learn to build physical boundary skills through Called to Protect.

## Kindergarten Schedule

Morning schedule includes opening activities such as prayer and introduction to centers. Centers may include the following: writing, iPads, reading groups, phonemic awareness activities, math, art and science activities. At morning recess we have our first snack. Afternoon activities include Religion, Social Studies, Science, playtime, whole group academic instruction, and “special classes.” Special classes include Physical Education, Art, Technology, Music and Library.

## Extended Activities

The following themes are also integrated into the Kindergarten curriculum: Native American Day (Fall) and Life Cycle of the Butterfly (Spring).

## Art

### Learner Objectives & Curriculum Overview:

Students will use a variety of art mediums and processes to discover new ways of making meaning. In creating artwork, student will develop skills such as planning, problem solving and innovation:

- Create art that expresses their own thoughts and beliefs
- Identify and value the thoughts, beliefs and expressions of others by talking about others’ artwork
- Build life skills by: working on teams, problem solving, implementing projects, planning, working independently, and developing creativity
- Create and describe art that expresses themes in the Catholic faith
- Identify and explore the history of art
- Create and describe art that expresses cultural heritage
- Learn the basic Elements of art and Principles of design
- Explore and identify various media including collage, drawing, painting, and weaving