**Kindergarten Course Overview**

**ELA Goals**

Students enter kindergarten with a wide variety of cognitive abilities and life experiences as they transition from oral to written literacy. They begin to demonstrate their understanding of the organizational and basic features of print as they learn to track print and distinguish words from pictures and letters from words. Students should learn the basics of sound-print code and begin to develop comprehension strategies that will enable them to manipulate grade-level texts of appropriate complexity, including both story books and simple informational texts. Students will begin to connect their inquiries and responses directly to the text and identify main ideas. Kindergarten students will develop the ability to write letters and represent words with letters, identifying some high-frequency sight words and understandings of basic conventions of language. Kindergarteners will continue to increase the complexity of their spoken language and to use language in both one-on-one and group settings.

**Math Goals**

In Kindergarten, there are eight mathematics content standards for students to practice. Your child will learn to demonstrate skills and strategies needed to succeed in mathematics, including critical thinking, reasoning, effective collaboration and expression. Your child will also be encouraged to seek help and to apply feedback to the task at hand while setting and monitoring individual goals. Learning to problem solve successfully will be a goal we work on all year.

**Social Studies Goals**

Students will begin to understand the foundations of the social studies strands: history, geography, government, and economics. Students begin their introduction to United States history through the study of important American holidays and symbols. Basic concepts of geography are presented. Civics provides students with an introduction to rules and character traits of good citizens. Basic economic concepts are also introduced.

**Science Goals**

The Kindergarten Georgia Standards of Excellence for science engage students in raising questions about the world around them. Though not developmentally ready for in-depth explanations, kindergarten students wonder why things move and note the various patterns in their movement (e.g., the sun and the moon appear and disappear in the sky). Students learn to use whole numbers to describe scientific data and how to identify parts of things (i.e. tools and toys). Kindergarteners use their senses (sight, smell, taste, touch, and sound) to group objects and to make observations about the physical world by describing, comparing, and sorting items according to physical attributes (i.e. number, shape, texture, size, weight, color, and motion). They learn to follow rules to stay safe.

Source: https://www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/Default.aspx