

What Will Your Child Remember About Kindergarten?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS kindergarteners will experience this year:



“Growing Vegetable Soup”

Students will taste new fruits and vegetables, while learning how to sort foods according to their food groups and sources. They will create a drawing of foods they enjoy and identify whether each is a fruit or a vegetable.



reading

“Community Workers”

Students will research and interview local professionals in their communities. They will practice asking interview questions and recording notes, and will share what they learned about the worker.



math

“Designing Monuments”

Students will examine monuments on the National Mall, create their own unique monuments using basic shapes, and look at the creative ways classmates used shapes to make their monuments.

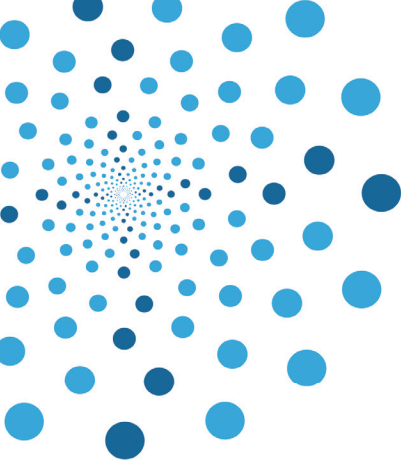


science

“Thinking Inside the Box: Designing Plant Packages”

Students will read the storybook, *A Gift from Fadil*, about two children in Jordan who want to give their older sister a plant from their garden as a wedding gift. They will then apply their knowledge of plants, problem-solving skills, and creativity to design a package that can keep a plant alive and healthy for several days.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your students will learn this year, and how to support your student's learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 1st Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 1st graders will experience this year:



science

“Just Passing Through: Designing Model Membranes”

Students will learn how membranes function, and then use their knowledge of the basic needs of living organisms to design a membrane for a frog habitat that delivers just the right amount of water for the frog.



reading

“Inspiring People”

Students will create cartoon stories after learning how cartoonists show the most important parts of a story. They will write a narrative story about perseverance; identify the beginning, middle, and end; and create a comic strip depicting these key parts of the story.



math

“Bracelet Bonds”

Students will use math to design bracelets. They will use subtraction skills to find the mystery number of beads missing from bracelet kits, and then use those numbers to explain the mathematical secrets behind the bracelet design.

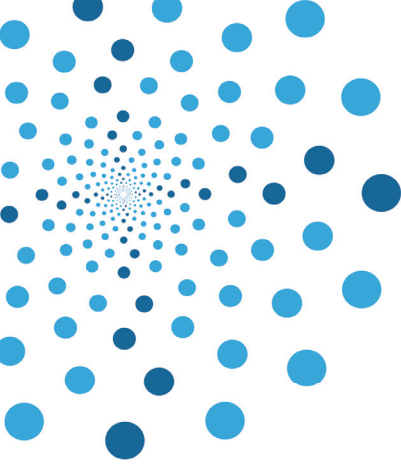


world
languages

“My Community Map”

Students will create a map of their community for visitors to show their understanding of how maps help people move around unfamiliar places. They will also create a travel itinerary to orient visitors to important locations in their communities.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student's learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 2nd Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 2nd graders will experience this year:



science

“The Best of Bugs: Designing Hand Pollinators”

Students will become agricultural engineers when they apply their knowledge of insect life cycles, pollination, and natural systems to design their own methods to pollinate plants by hand.



health

physical
education

“Biking in the Park”

Students will learn how to ride a bicycle, and practice their skills during a group ride to the park. To prepare, they will learn bike safety, including the ability to correctly fit their helmet, perform a standard bicycle check, use hand signals, and identify road signs.



reading

“Now and Then”

Students will create exhibits and serve as tour guides in a school-wide “technology over time” museum. Students will create a timeline that shows the changes in technology over the years.

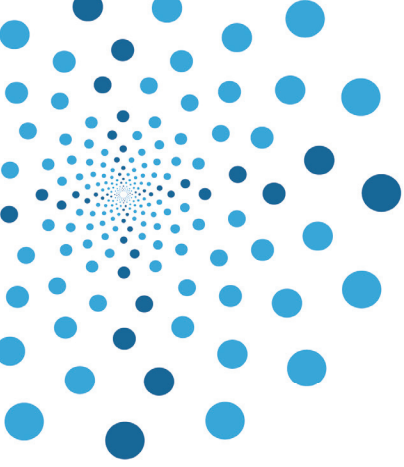


math

“Party Planning”

Students will experience the way event planners use math to plan great parties. They will have to stay within a budget while selecting items for the party, and use math skills to track expenses.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 3rd Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 3rd graders will experience this year:



reading

“A Right or a Responsibility”

Students will learn about voting as a citizen’s right and responsibility, as well as past and present barriers to voting. They will then create a campaign to encourage adults to take an active role in their government by voting.



science

“A Stick in the Mud: Evaluating a Landscape”

Students will dig into the role of geotechnical engineers, selecting a safe, flood-proof, and erosion-proof location for a new TarPul (a kind of cable bridge used in Nepal). Working with a model riverbank, they will study soil properties, examine maps to assess potential erosion, and consider villagers’ preferences for a TarPul location.



music

“Narrative Compositions”

Students will learn how music can tell a story and then compose lyrics and a melody to tell the story of a child who created change. Students will also perform the composition as part of their Cornerstone.

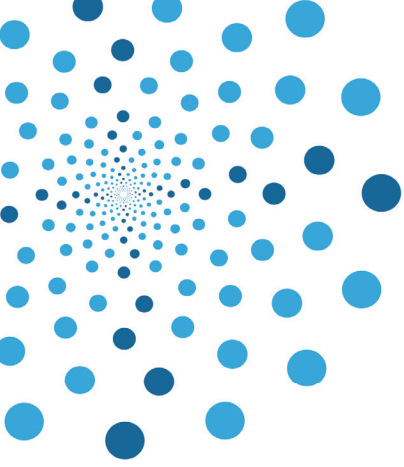


math

“Area Architects”

Students will assume the role of an architect and redesign the interior of a national or international landmark. They will analyze the existing floor plan, and then respond to the request of the “client” by redesigning the room sizes, while keeping the total floor area of the building the same.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 4th Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 4th graders will experience this year:



math

“Theater Seating”

Students will design a movie theater, analyzing how to arrange 100 seats to offer the best viewing experience. Students will use factors, multiples, and divisibility to determine all possible seating arrangements, then select a seating arrangement, build a model, and justify their choice in a letter to City Council.



reading

“Revolution and Independence”

Students will perform a dramatic interpretation after learning different perspectives on the American Revolution. They will rehearse and perform a dramatic interpretation of a poem or an excerpt from a short story, nonfiction text, or a play that captures a perspective of the American Revolution, and compose a piece to inform the audience about the significance of the text they choose to perform.



music

“Creating a Folk Dance”

Students will learn about various folk dances by incorporating multiple movements and formations, and will practice some of the dances themselves. Students will then compose their own folk dances in small groups and perform them for the class.

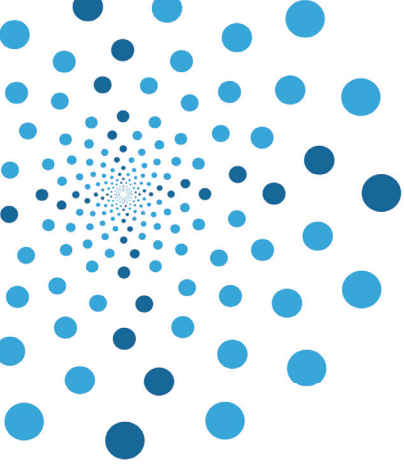


science

“Designing Windmills”

Students will learn how wind turbines generate renewable energy after reading the storybook, *Leif Catches the Wind*. Students will study how common machines such as mechanical pencils and egg-beaters work, and use their mechanical engineering skills to design sailboats and windmills that catch the wind.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 5th Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 5th graders will experience this year:



math

“Dream Maker Space”

Students will design a high-tech maker space for the school. They will select technologies, tools, and gadgets for a dream maker space, and then use multiplication skills to calculate the total price. They will also recommend a selection of 3D printers, robots, electricity kits, and more to make the best use of the maker space budget.



science

“Tehya’s Pollution Solution”

Students will learn about a spill on the Elwha River in the Pacific Northwest through the storybook, *Tehya’s Pollution Solution*. Applying their knowledge of ecosystems and food webs, students will test the oil-absorbing properties of different materials to design a process for cleaning up an oil spill.



reading

“Inventions and the Process of Discovery”

Students will pitch an invention after identifying a problem the invention will solve. They will use research and evidence to design an innovation that solves the problem. Inspired by the popular TV show *Shark Tank*, students will build a model of the invention and create a presentation to pitch the invention to potential investors.

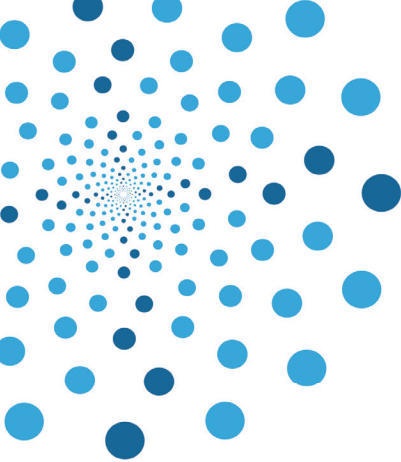


world
languages

“My Family Vacation!”

Students will create a family vacation plan and choose a country where the language of study is spoken. They will find attractions families would enjoy and put together a travel itinerary in the target language.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 6th Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 6th graders will experience this year:



reading

“From the Eyes of the Monster”

Students will choose and read a classic tale featuring a monster, paying special attention to how the monster responds and changes during the story. Students will analyze the story’s characters, plot, and point of view to rewrite the classic tale from the perspective of the monster. Students will then research the social history behind the story and versions of the story in different cultures.



“The Grid”

Students will learn how to use a compass and to read and create a map. They will apply that knowledge by navigating the city on an orienteering field trip. During the adventure, students will record a range of data, including steps, individual physical responses, duration, route, and visual observations.



“United Nations Simulation”

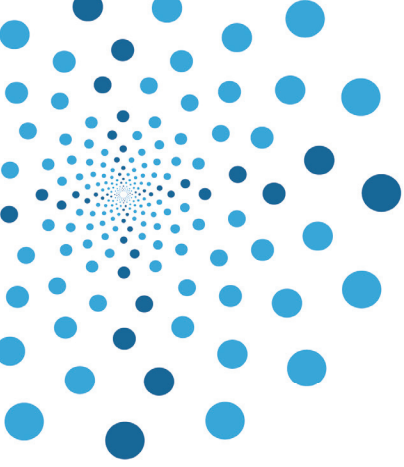
Students will participate in a United Nations simulation, investigating the impact of the 2013 Typhoon Haiyan on the Philippines and engaging in writing and speaking exercises to simulate how the United Nations responds to natural disasters.



“Rethink Your Drink”

Students will decide if a drink is as healthy as it seems by comparing nutrition labels and serving sizes, and using ratios to compare sugar content. They will create a public service announcement to inform fellow students and encourage them to rethink their drinks.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 7th Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 7th graders will experience this year:



reading

“My Vivid Life”

Students will write vivid and compelling narratives after studying the craft of writer Roald Dahl. They will dive into the use of dialogue and description, and write narratives to paint vivid pictures for the reader.



art

“Power Beyond Measure”

Students will create a powerful self-portrait, developing visual vocabulary through examining representations of power across cultures and time periods. They will read contemporary artists who manipulate this vocabulary to create alternative structures of power, and use what they’ve learned to create a portrait showing themselves in a power role through image capture, manipulation, and mixed media.



“Emergency Preparedness and CPR”

Students will learn CPR and create a family emergency plan. Using resources from the American Heart Association, the Department of Homeland Security, and other government agencies, students will assess the home and family needs to plan for safe exit, meeting places, and care of family members who might not be able to care for themselves.

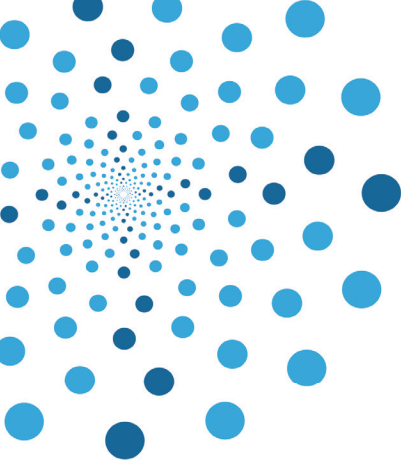


math

“Why-Fi”

Students will design a plan for city-wide Wi-Fi hotspots. They will use 3D printers and scale drawings to model placement of Wi-Fi hotspots, and make recommendations for their placement in a city. Students will also write a rationale using proportional relationships, decimal computation, and area to defend the realism and usefulness of the model and recommendations.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>



What Will Your Child Remember About 8th Grade?

Cornerstones are powerful classroom lessons taught as a part of the DCPS curriculum—the lessons students will remember years from now. Every student, in every grade, and in every ward across DC will experience Cornerstones in Art, Health, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Cornerstones help students make real-world connections through hands-on activities and engaging ideas.

Here is a sample of the Cornerstones that DCPS 8th graders will experience this year:



“Place Matters”

Students will examine how the built environment impacts the health of individuals and communities. They will analyze the relationship between various health resources and pollutants within a community and the health of its members. Students will then develop a documentary on an environmental issue within their community and propose a solution.



science

“Awesome Roller Coaster Adventure”

Students will design and build a roller coaster, exploring the impact of types of materials, the size of the riders, and the height and shape of the track. They will use technology and online simulations to understand the physics of roller coasters by exploring the relationships between potential energy, kinetic energy, mass, and speed.



reading

“Dreaming in America”

Students will practice and deliver a TED Talk or spoken-word performance answering the question, “What is the American Dream and how is it achievable for all Americans?” Students will study effective narratives by analyzing structural and language techniques used by powerful TED speakers, and present their own talks to peers and the community.



math

“The Art of Branding Logos”

Students will become logo designers, creating a personal logo and then using the mathematics of transformations to resize and rotate it to fit on various kinds of merchandise while preserving its precise shape.

To learn more about Cornerstones and other lessons your student will learn this year, and how to support your student’s learning at home, visit: <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/ensuring-student-success>