



Music

Mrs. Theresa Mazzaferro

General music classes meet weekly for a 30-40 minute class depending on grade level. Some of the skills learned throughout elementary school include singing, movement, and playing both melodic and rhythm instruments. Students are also introduced to music of different cultures. This is an effort to integrate with each grade level's social studies curriculum area of focus.

Highlights include:

Kindergarten

- * Playing party games
- * Rhythm band instruments
- * Singing and movement activities

Grade 1

- * Introduction to the Orff instruments (glockenspiel, xylophone, metallaphone)
- * Patriotic songs
- * Tree lighting on the Moodus Green

Grade 2

- * Note reading using glockenspiels
- * Continued use of Orff instruments
- * Partner and line dances

Grade 3

- * Playing the recorder
- * Continued use of Orff instruments
- * Melodic and rhythmic notation
- * Arbor Day performance
- * Performing Arts/Chorus

Physical Education

Mrs. Laurie Tuohy

The physical education program at East Haddam Elementary School is designed to help children develop basic movement skills through a variety of activities. Learning fundamental locomotor and manipulative skills, along with understanding spatial and body awareness, are the main focus for grades PreK-1. Second and third graders continue to develop these same skills along with many new focuses that are applied through more complex games and activities. Some of these focuses include cooperative activities, fitness application, and sport related involvement.

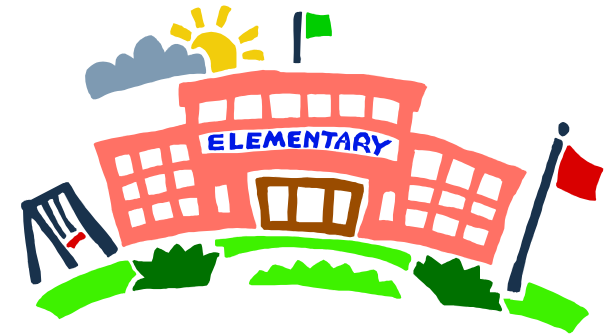
All grade levels participate in different sized groups, such as working individually, with partners, small groups, or with the whole class. These positive social interactions contribute to students' understanding of teamwork and good sportsmanship. All students become aware of the importance and joy of having a physically active lifestyle!

Students are constantly encouraged to participate in regular physical activity outside of physical education class since they only visit once a week. Preschool meets for twenty minutes, kindergarten for thirty, and first through third grades meet for forty minutes. Sneakers and comfortable clothing are required for full enjoyment and safety for all.



Visit www.easthaddamschools.org for more information about any of these programs.

SPECIAL AREA PROGRAMS 2009-2010



EAST HADDAM ELEMENTARY
45 JOE WILLIAMS ROAD
MOODUS, CT 06469
860-873-5076

Mrs. Joanne Collins
Principal
Mrs. Mary Beth Havens
Assistant Principal

ART

Mrs. Susan Weaver

Art is a visual form of communication essential to the understanding of and participation in our increasingly complex, interdependent society. Through art, we learn that seeking a creative approach to life is a significant and valued human endeavor.

The art program at East Haddam Elementary School involves students in perceiving the world in which they live, reacting to the things they see and feel, and interpreting their emotions and insights through a variety of projects and visual materials. Art creates the opportunity for each child to be consistently involved with his/her own learning from the inception of an idea to its concrete realization. This encourages children to make numerous decisions regarding the visual problems they have to solve and, in turn, establishes self-directed learners.

Activities in the art room develop a child's imagination, sense of design, awareness of self and intuitive approaches to problem solving while encouraging inquiry, discovery and wonder. These include drawing, painting, collage, printmaking and sculpture.

In Kindergarten-Grade 3, young children experiment enthusiastically with art materials and investigate the ideas presented to them through visual arts instruction. They exhibit a sense of joy and excitement as they make and share their artwork with others. Creation is at the heart of this instruction. Students learn to work with various tools, processes and media. They learn to coordinate their hands and minds in explorations of the visual world. They learn to make choices that enhance the communication of their ideas. Their natural inquisitiveness is promoted, and they learn the value of perseverance.

As they move from kindergarten through the early grades, students develop skills of observation, and they learn to examine the objects and events of their lives. At the same time, they grow in their ability to describe, interpret, evaluate, and work in the visual arts. Through examination of their own work and that of other people, times, and places, students learn to unravel the essence of artwork and to appraise its purpose and value. Through these efforts, students begin to understand the meaning and impact of the visual world in which we live. All classes meet once a week. Kindergarten meets for 30 minutes, and grades 1-3 meet for 40 minutes. Appropriate washable clothing should be worn on Art Day.

HEALTH

Miss Carol Ann Migatz

The elementary school health program is designed as a comprehensive approach that makes curriculum connections to other disciplines, as well as connections to parents and the community.

Care is made to communicate and build relationships with parents, staff and the community to bring interesting, challenging and creative lessons to the students which broaden their awareness of the interrelationships and depth of health and wellness.



The health curriculum is based on both the National Standards and the Connecticut Frameworks for Health Education. These standards focus on curriculum concept comprehension, as well as the students' ability to: analyze influences toward health behaviors, access information and resources, demonstrate interpersonal and goal setting skills and practice health enhancing behaviors which avoid or reduce health risks using critical thinking and decision making skills.

Some of the topics covered during weekly health classes include safety, smoking and drugs, the human body, nutrition, self esteem, hygiene, germs, first aid, substance abuse prevention, human growth and development, exercise and healthy living and disease prevention. In addition, there are a number of integrated topics that include our environment, habitats, conflict resolution, teasing, bullies, family and community.

Activities in classes regularly involve making projects, individual and group work, creating skits and role plays, designing and creating books, reading, researching and discussing current events.

The health program strives to be creative, integrated, innovative, challenging and fun!

LIBRARY/MEDIA

Mr. Gary Mezzi

The library-media program at East Haddam Elementary School is designed to support the various school curricula, to train our students to become lifelong readers, and to support the information and technology literacy goals of the Connecticut Department of Education.

Kindergarteners begin to learn the difference between fiction and nonfiction, how to choose a book that will be enjoyable to them, and how to care for library materials. Children will retell and act out stories, and movement and tactile involvement are emphasized. Poetry is introduced through nursery rhymes.

First graders are introduced to different authors, including Caldecott recipients and authors of beginning chapter books. First graders learn what makes an author and illustrator unique in terms of visual style, choice of topic, humor, and other elements. New books are highlighted throughout the year to instill a sense excitement and discovery.

Second grade is marked by an introduction of literature genres such as folk tales, biography and poetry. These different genres are also used as a jumping off point to learn about the different Dewey categories and where they are located in our library. Second graders also begin formal instruction in searching our library database, and learn how those searching skills can be applied to other electronic databases. Second grade students also undertake a research project which allows them to begin to explore the library as a research tool.

Third graders refine their research skills during extended science and social studies projects. Topics such as using a book's index, types of reference material and citing sources are explored. Library skills in areas like the Dewey Decimal System, research tools and reference books are taught. Third graders are introduced to chapter books in a variety of genres and are encouraged to challenge themselves as readers.

