



SCHUTZ
AMERICAN SCHOOL

Elementary Curriculum Guide

2026-2027

Schutz Mission

The mission of Schutz American School is to provide a premier education empowering all of our students to pursue their passions as confident global citizens.

“Schutz is Family”

Aims

Identity: All our students will discover their passions and grow in understanding their personal strengths.

Competency: All our students will achieve educational outcomes that are challenging and relevant, motivating them to go beyond.

Agency: all our students will contribute as confident global citizens.

Core Values

Respect

We care for people, places, and things.

Responsibility

We do what we are supposed to do and can be counted on.

Resilience

We keep trying and learn from challenges. We grow stronger every day.

Compassion

We are kind and helpful. We help others feel valued and included.

Integrity

We are honest and do the right thing, even when it's hard.

Schutz Early Years Philosophy

“At Schutz American School we see children as unique human beings who want to connect. This capacity for relationships supports children with learning about themselves and others and provides many opportunities to express (and learn about) how to be caring, resilient, confident, compassionate and responsible.”

[\(Early Years Philosophy Statement.\)](#)

Schutz Early Years Curriculum Standards

To support the development of our youngest learners, Schutz uses the [GOLD Standards](#) to support the growth of our youngest learners in the following areas:



**Social
Emotional**



Language



Cognitive



Physical



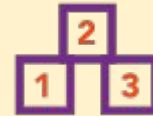
The Arts



Literacy



**Science/
Social
Studies**



Math

PreK2 Units Overview

Unit Title	I am Special	I am an Artist	I am an Explorer	I am Caring
Enduring Understanding	I am special. My personal characteristics make me unique.	I am an artist. I use creative ways to express myself.	I am an explorer. Exploration helps me understand my world.	I am caring: I care about living things.
Concepts	Form Connection Identity Self-Awareness, Interests	Function Causation Perspective Exploration Mediums & Tools Creativity	Function Form Connection Play Exploration Discoveries	Responsibility Care Living/Non-Living Survival
Approaches to Learning	<i>I take care of myself and my belongings.</i> <i>I take care of others.</i>	<i>I observe and notice.</i> <i>I listen and respond.</i>	<i>I observe and notice.</i> <i>I ask questions.</i>	<i>I observe and notice</i> <i>I take care of others.</i>

PreK3 Units Overview

Unit Title	Connection	Feelings	Observation	Needs
Enduring Understandings	We connect through shared interests and characteristics.	People express feelings in different ways.	Our senses guide us in our observations	Living things have basic needs that help them grow.
Concepts	Form Connection Identity Belonging Diversity, Community	Causation, Responsibility Friendships Needs and Wants Feelings	Function Connection Perspective Senses Environments Investigations Research	Change Responsibility Care Living/Non-living Survival
Essential Questions	What is identity? How do we connect with others?	How can we communicate feelings and needs? How do we make friends? How do we show caring and respect for ourselves and others?	How can we explore using our five senses? How do our observations lead us to questions? What connections can we make?	What do living things need? How do living things change as they grow? What is our responsibility towards living things in our environment?

PreK4 Units Overview

Unit Title	Relationships	Expressing Ideas and Feelings	Using Our Senses	Decisions in Our Community
Enduring Understandings	Relationships impact our beliefs, values and culture.	We express our feelings and ideas by using different materials and tools.	Our senses guide us in our observations.	We can make decisions about organizing ourselves in our communities.
Concepts	Form Connection, Identity Belonging Diversity Community	Function Causation Perspective Exploration Mediums and Tools Creativity	Function Connection Perspective Senses Environments, Investigations Research	Responsibility Change Roles Decision-making Space
Essential Questions	What is identity? How do we connect with others? What makes someone a friend and family member?	How do artists use tools and materials? What are the connections between materials, tools and the artist?	How can we use our five senses to explore? How can our observations lead to questions? What connections can we make?	What are our roles and responsibilities in our community? How do communities make decisions? How do we organize our spaces and time?

Schutz Kindergarten to Grade 5 (K-G5) Curriculum Standards

To support the development our K-5 students, Schutz uses the following curriculum standards:

Standards	Subject Area(s)
<u>American Education Reaches Out (AERO) Social Studies Standards</u>	Social Studies
<u>AERO World Language Standards</u>	French and Arabic
<u>Common Core English Language Standards</u>	English Language Arts
<u>Common Core Mathematics Standards</u>	Mathematics
<u>National Core Arts Standards</u>	Music, Visual Arts
<u>Next Generation Science Standards</u>	Science
<u>Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) Standards</u>	Physical Education

Kindergarten Units Overview

Unit Title	Communities	Stories	Forces and Motion	Living Things
Enduring Understanding	Relationships impact our beliefs, values and culture	Stories can be told in different ways for different	We can make decisions about organizing ourselves in our communities.	All living things are interconnected within the environment.
Concepts	Connection Causation Responsibility Impact Relationships Community Identity	Function Connection Perspective Imagination Communication	Function Causation Change Motion Force/Power	Form, Connection Responsibility Living things Ecosystems
Essential Questions	What different communities do we belong to? What roles do we take on in our community? How do our actions impact community?	How are stories told and shared? How do stories help us learn and reflect? How do stories influence our actions and feelings?	What are the types of movement How do objects react to movement? How can we design like engineers?	What resources do living things need? How do living things interact and share resources? How do living things impact the environment?

Grade 1 Units Overview

Unit Title	Healthy Choices	Personal Histories	Light and Sound	Earth's Cycles	Communities	Biomimicry
Enduring Understanding	The choices we make affect our health and relationships.	Our personal histories provide insight into the past.	We can use light and sound to express ourselves.	The Earth's natural cycles influence the behavior of living things.	Communities build systems that allow people to live and work together.	Biomimicry helps us design solutions to human problems.
Concepts	Causation Form Responsibility Health Well-Being Relationships Community Conflict	Perspective Connection Change History Time Place	Form Function, Causation Light Sound Properties Expression	Causation Change Connection Pattern Cycles Earth Space	Function Responsibility Connection Structure Systems Community, Citizenship	Connection Function Causation Earth Systems Survival Design
Essential Questions	What are healthy habits? How can we make balanced choices? How can we cooperate and resolve conflict?	What tools do historians use to understand the past? How can we gather evidence of the past? Why do we tell stories from the past?	What are the properties of sound and light? How can materials change light and sound? How can we use light and sound to express ourselves?	What causes day and night? What causes seasonal patterns? How do Earth's cycles influence living things?	What are the roles and responsibilities of members in our communities? What are the systems in our communities? How do people help the systems in our community work?	What are the survival characteristics and behaviors of living thing? How can we design like engineers? How can we use biomimicry to design solutions?

Grade 2 Units Overview

Unit Title	Diverse Communities	Earth	Interconnected Habitats	Matter	Economy	Cooperation and Conflict
Enduring Understanding	We create communities through shared understanding of diverse cultures.	Earth's natural processes impact the earth's surface over time.	Exploring the natural world reveals the interconnected roles and forms of living things in their habitats.	Matter has observable properties that can be changed and used in different ways.	Communities are organized around economic activities.	Cooperation and conflict impact communities.
Concepts	Form Connection Perspective Values Diversity Culture	Form Causation Change	Form Change Responsibility Pattern Stability	Form Function Change Pattern Energy Matter	Form Function Causation Economics Values System Community	Responsibility Causation Change Rights Conflict Citizenship
Essential Questions	What are cultural markers? How are cultures are similar or different? How do communities share their stories?	What are Earth's natural features? How does the Earth change over time? How do we design solutions to protect the environment from wind and water?	How can we observe the natural world? What is the role and purpose of living things in their habitats? How are living things connected and interdependent?	What are the structure and properties of matter? How can heating and cooling change matter? What is the purpose of matter?	What are needs and wants? What are the features of economic activities within our community? What is the impact of economic activity on the community?	What are examples of conflict and cooperation? What factors contribute to conflict and cooperation? How do we manage conflict?

Grade 3 Units Overview

Unit Title	Rights and Responsibilities	Migration	Engineering and Design	Weather	Transportation and Communication	Interdependence
Enduring Understanding	We all play a role in creating our community.	The migration of people over time shapes societies.	Engineering design processes are inspired by core scientific principles.	Understanding weather patterns and hazards empowers communities to prepare and respond effectively.	Scientific understanding and technological innovation change the way societies communicate, connect, and organize themselves	Changes to the environment impact the survival of living things.
Concepts	Responsibility Causation, Change Rights Conflict Citizenship	Change Causation Perspective Communities Journeys	Causation, Perspective Function Pattern Innovation Design	Connection Function Perspective Pattern Cycles Natural Processes	Function Change Causation Technology Systems Communication Transportation	Connection Causation Responsibility Interdependence Ecosystem Environment Adaptability
Essential Questions	What are the rights of community members? What are the responsibilities in our school community? What are the roles in our classroom community?	How have communities have changed over time? What factors influence human migrations? How can we map patterns of migrations over time?	How can we investigate forces on objects? What are magnetic interactions? How can we design innovations inspired by force and interaction principles?	What are the patterns of weather? How can we use data to describe climate in regions of the world? How do communities around the world respond to weather hazards?	How does technology meets the needs of citizens? How does technology change over time? What is the Impact of technology on community systems?	What are the life cycles and traits of living things? How are diverse ecosystems interdependent? How do humans impact the environment?

Grade 4 Units Overview

Unit Title	Body Systems	Civilizations	Waves	Natural Hazards	Governance	Energy
Enduring Understanding	The choices people make affect their body systems and wellbeing.	People and events from the past shape our understanding of history.	Waves create, communicate, and help us to understand the world around us.	Human innovation informs solutions that impact people and the earth	Systems of governance address the needs and rights of its citizens.	Energy converted and transferred from natural resources impacts the environment.
Concepts	Function, Connection, Responsibility Systems Health Well-being	Change, Causation, Perspective Time Pattern Relationship	Form Perspective Causation Design Innovation	Function Change Responsibility Earth Systems Patterns Technology	Function Connection Perspective Governance Citizenship, Systems	Form Causation Responsibility Energy Matter Sustainability
Essential Questions	How do body systems work? How do connections between systems to support support health and wellbeing? How can we make responsible choices to promote well-being?	How do civilizations change and continue? What are the relationships between people and events through time What are different perspectives throughout history?	What are the properties and behavior of light and sound waves? How have communication tools and technologies developed to meet human needs? What is the role of creativity and technology in solving problems and sharing ideas?	What are Earth's natural processes? How does Earth change over time? How do humans innovate to respond to emergent issues?	What are the types of governance? How are government and community systems Interconnected? What is citizenship?	What are forms of energy? What is transference and conversion of energy? What is the impact of renewable and non-renewable energy sources?

Grade 5 Units Overview

Unit Title	Adolescence	Space Systems	Exhibition	Earth's Systems	Economies	Equality
Enduring Understanding	We change as we grow.	Exploration of Earth's position in the solar system has contributed to historical discoveries.	Our interests and actions affect ourselves, our community and the world.	We can use scientific understanding to protect the Earth's resources and environment.	Economies are shaped by geographic and human factors.	Informed citizenship impacts inequalities in communities.
Concepts	Change, Causation, Responsibility Adolescence Health Well-being	Form Connection Perspective Systems Space Time		Connection Causation Change Earth Systems Sustainability Conservation	Function Connection Causation Geography Economics Cooperation	Form Causation Responsibility Citizenship Equality Impact
Essential Questions	How do we physical, social and emotional change in adolescence? How does change affect the self? Why should we celebrate who we are?	What is Earth's position in the solar system What are key historical discoveries of earth and space? How can we think like an astronomer?		How are the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere interconnected? What are the cycles of matter and energy in ecosystems? How do communities and individuals work towards sustainable water conservation?	How can we define regions by their characteristics? What are the trade patterns among different regions? What are the impacts of trade?	What are types of inequalities? What is the impact of inequality on communities? What is active citizen engagement?