



***Somerset Academy Village  
Elementary  
Curriculum Guide***

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## **SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC.**

*We are District Accredited!*

### **DISTRICT VISION**

Somerset Academy, Inc. is dedicated to providing equitable high quality education for all students.

### **DISTRICT PURPOSE**

Somerset Academy, Inc. promotes a culture that maximizes student achievement and fosters the development of responsible, self-directed lifelong learners in a safe and enriching environment.

#### **School Administration**

*Anthony Marucci, Principal*

*Patricia Boiteux, Assistant Principal*

***SOMERSET ACADEMY VILLAGE***



## **SOMERSET VILLAGE ACADEMY**

S.W.A.M.P.-Students Will Achieve Maximum Potential

### **Vision**

*The vision of Somerset Village Academy is to continue to be recognized and respected as a top ranked learning community that graduates productive and caring citizens who are prepared to succeed in a global society.*

### **Purpose**

*The purpose of Somerset Village Academy is to provide an individualized, academically rigorous, and engaging curriculum focusing on the ever-changing needs of our learners. Our educational process encompasses the partnership among the school, family, and community, in order to develop a life-long love of learning. We strive to develop students who are self-assured, well-rounded, and prepared for future success.*

***SOMERSET ACADEMY VILLAGE***

## **English/Language Arts:**

### **Curriculum:**

#### **K-5 Journeys**

*Journeys* features research-based core instruction with built in intervention resources including vocabulary, comprehension, language, and writing. Small Group Instruction uses **Journeys Leveled Readers** to support students at their instructional level. In addition, these resources maximize students' connection beyond their own life experiences and teach them a variety of strategies within text to deepen their understanding of story elements and apply meaning in both fiction and nonfiction text.

The **K-5 Journeys Practice Book** is a consumable workbook which aids struggling readers while interacting with vocabulary, skills, and strategies featured in the main selection.

**Triumphs** is a Tier II intervention system designed to build oral vocabulary through 15-minute daily lessons using **Small Group Read-Alouds** for Grades K–3. The Treasures Literacy and Reading Tool Kits also provide intensive intervention resources which include 15 minute lessons which target, apply, and practice key reading foundational skills for students in the primary grades. In addition, the Literacy Kit provides a comprehensive set of teaching tools and Leveled Readers designed to differentiate literacy and language instruction for intermediate students.

**ThinkCentral** lessons, developed for use on Promethean Interactive Whiteboards, includes built in, hands-on activities into the curriculum. These Whiteboard Lessons provide fun and hands-on learning in the areas of phonics, vocabulary strategies, grammar, text analysis, and writing skills.

Every lesson provided scaffolding that English language learners need to read complex texts and meet high standards of literacy. These components include resources in both print and online, English language learners have access to resources that help them develop the skills necessary to succeed. The **ELL Newcomer's Kit** comes with a Teacher's Guide, Audio CD, Vocabulary and Concept Poster, and progress monitoring support.

#### **Grades 3-5: Literature Based Instruction**

Literature-based instruction is the type of instruction in which authors' original narrative and expository works are used as the core for experiences to support children in developing literacy. The types of activities done with the literature are the natural types of things children and adults would do when reading and responding to any good book. For example, it is natural to share and talk about a good book after reading it; it is not natural to answer ten questions about the book. The teacher's role becomes one of planning and supporting authentic learning experiences.

Literature-based instruction is much more than giving students quality literature; it is doing the authentic things with the literature that all writers and readers would naturally do, and giving students support with these activities as they need it. Children and young adults develop literacy (reading, writing, thinking) by having real literacy experiences and getting support from more-experienced individuals, who may be adults or peers. Research clearly shows that literature-based instruction helps all students

become better readers, writers, and thinkers. Literature-based instruction is introduced in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade using the Magic Tree House Novels, taken to the next level in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade with two different novels, and implemented fully in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade where Novels are read one after the other.

### **Grades 1-5: Top Score Writing**

**Top Score Writing** is an effective approach to informative/explanatory, opinion/argumentative and narrative teaching that prepares students for the state writing assessment providing both interactive online and blending learning resources to schools and districts. This process facilitates the distribution and access of ability appropriate informative, opinion/argumentative, and narrative passages that are built directly into structure lessons. These lessons include modeling, guided and independent practice, as well quizzes, test and homework. Each curriculum set includes 110 day-to-day lessons and over 100 brand new passages. Lessons are designed to be fun, engaging and interactive

### **Grades K-5: Ready**

This English Language Arts program offers options for supplemental instruction and assessment preparation. It supports the Instructional Shifts in ELA while students develop key skills through an integrated literacy approach. This supplemental program covers 100% of the Florida standards and addresses core curriculum gaps as we transition to the new standards. It provides practice in close reading of literary and content-rich nonfiction text to achieve mastery. It helps students to cite evidence from complex text to support conclusions and respond to text-dependent questions. It integrate reading, writing, and speaking tasks to boost students' college and career readiness and prepare students for the new FSA assessments with Performance Tasks and Common Core Reviews.

## **Mathematics:**

### **Grades K-5: Go Math! Common Core**

**GO Math! Common Core** lessons are designed to fully facilitate theoretical development, as students work from introduction to mastery of each content standard listed in the Common Core. Throughout the lessons, students will use manipulatives, models, quick pictures, and symbols as they apply mathematical practices to build understanding. Students are actively engaged in reasoning during instruction so they are prepared to transition from concept or skills comprehension to solving problems in contextual or real-world situations.

Five major research strands are reinforced throughout this program: Writing to Learn, Vocabulary, Scaffolding, Metacognition, and Graphic Organizers. These strands identify the key components of mathematics instruction identified by recent research and to help readers make connections to real world situations.

## **Grades K-5: Ready**

*This Mathematics program offers options for supplemental instruction and assessment preparation. This supplemental program covers 100% of the Florida Standards and addresses core curriculum gaps as we transition to the new standards. It provides practice with integrating the Mathematical Practices to develop proficiency. It helps to deepen students' understanding of math using the Gradual Release of Responsibility model, multiple representations, and real-world problems. It provides opportunities for collaborative learning and to build a deeper understanding of the coherence of the standards. It prepares students for the new FSA assessments with Performance Tasks and Common Core Reviews.*

## **Science:**

### **Grades K-5: Science Fusion**

***Science Fusion** is a state-of-the-art science program designed for building inquiry in the academic areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and advanced learning in the classroom, at home, on a laptop, a tablet, or using a science textbook. The digital curriculum, virtual labs, hands-on activities, and write-in science textbook develops important critical thinking skills that prepare students for success in future science courses and in the workplace.*

## **Social Studies:**

### **Grades K-5 Florida Social Studies**

*Florida's vision for social studies is based on the rigorous and in-depth expectations as defined by Florida Law and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) for Social Studies. Florida lawmakers have long understood the importance of a complete K-12 social studies education. In social studies, students acquire essential knowledge and develop and apply skills as they investigate society, explore issues, make decisions, and work independently and cooperatively with others. An effective social studies program provides a coordinated, systematic study, drawing upon the disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. It prepares students to be personally and socially aware, promotes multiple perspectives, encourages intellectual curiosity, enhances critical thinking skills, reinforces a broad range of communication skills, fosters positive character development, and charges students to assume responsibility for positive change and civic action.*

*Specific literary tasks for social studies include, but are not limited to:*

- *Sequencing and making connections between historical events*
- *Understanding informational text structures and features*
- *Understanding content specific as well as general academic vocabulary*
- *Evaluating sources*

- *Recognizing issues and trends in context Engaging in reflective inquiry through reading and writing*
- *Recognizing and writing about cause-and-effect relationships*
- *Distinguishing between, and writing about, fact versus opinion*

## **INTERVENTIONS:**

### ***i-Ready***

<https://cainc.i-ready.com/> is an adaptive and advanced technology tool, used in every K-12 classroom, to provide a deep, customized evaluation of every student while continuously and consistently tracking growth and performance over a student's K-12 career. These assessments provide educators with large amounts of information, from a limited number of test items, to accurately and efficiently target each students' individual needs as compared to traditional fixed-form tests.

***i-Ready Diagnostic*** assessment adapts to each student, providing easier or harder questions, depending on students' answers to previous questions. These results provide teachers with information needed to understand the root causes behind student challenges. This is especially beneficial for providing differentiated instruction and for identifying gaps spanning back multiple years, or for determining where students are ready for further challenge. *i-Ready Diagnostic* assesses student performance across the key domains in reading and mathematics for grades K-12, proving a valid and reliable measure of student growth with detailed diagnostic results and individualized next steps for instruction.