

Countdown **College**
PREPARE. IGNITE. LAUNCH. **SOAR.**



Overview of C2C Curriculum

- Modeled on
 - Two college-preparation programs (Punte and SOAR)
 - Research in learning theory
- Backward design: What do students need to know at college entrance?
- Daily math, reading, writing, and math classes
- Nightly homework, accountability
- Years 1-2: Classes of 6 students, 2 instructors
- Years 3-4: Classes of 12 students, 2-4 instructors

Curriculum Map: Years 1 and 2

- Reading
 - Year 1: Narrative comprehension, analysis, and discussion
 - *The Giver*– Book Club
 - *Philosophy for Teens*—Reciprocal Teaching
 - Year 2: Expository reading: Speeches and writings of cultural group heroes
 - Close reading; Reciprocal Teaching
- Writing
 - Year 1: Family vignettes, Micro-research paper
 - Thesis, lead paragraph, providing evidence
 - Using readability to monitor sentence complexity
 - Year 2: Community hero essay
 - Sensory details, voice, paragraph construction
 - Character development
 - Using readability to monitor composition complexity

Curriculum map: Years 1 and 2 (cont.)

- Vocabulary and Grammar
 - Year 1: Latin roots, prefixes, spelling by pattern, and grammar (compound and complex sentences, sentence expansion, tenses, metaphors and similes)
 - Year 2: Latin and Greek roots, spelling by meaning and derivation, and image grammar (painting with appositives, participles, absolutes, action verbs, adjectives, noun collages)
- Math
 - Year 1: Proportional thinking (fractions, decimals, proportions and ratios, slope and lines, measurement)
 - Year 2: Algebraic manipulation (quadratic expressions, solving linear equations, intro to graphing calculators)

Curriculum map for Years 3-4

- **Science experience:**
 - Year 3: Watershed ecology in a rural environment—SMU Prairie Island, Garvin Brook and Cascade Meadows
 - School year: Investigations in home urban environments (partner-school teachers, SMU instructors via Blackboard)
 - Year 4: Urban and rural watershed management comparisons, development of a research proposal for investigation of water ecology issue
- **Language arts**
 - Expository Reading: Research reports (THIEVES, Reciprocal Teaching)
 - Expository writing: scientific writing, reporting research without plagiarizing, developing a research proposal
 - Scientific vocabulary
- **Math:**
 - Year 3: Descriptive Statistics
 - Year 4: Inferential statistics
- **Writing**
 - Writing college admission essays



We, the scholars in C2C, are the first in our families to, hopefully, go to and graduate from college. We all are shooting for the stars. We are the lucky 25, the first to be a part of this amazing first-generation initiative.

Manny Hurtado, C2C 2010



<http://countdown-to-college.blogspot.com/>
www.fgismu.org