

Welcome to First Grade!



2020-2021

Dear Parents,

As you know, this year will be a little different than most years in school! Our first graders this year are starting out having missed the last few months of Kindergarten, and we plan to teach them accordingly. Included in this packet is the curriculum for a typical year of *First Grade*. We may have to move a bit slower depending on the needs in our classroom. You will find that while we will try to do some *Social Studies* and *Science*, that many of the lessons will be very brief or we might not get to at all. Due to a shorter school day and also in the event of remote learning, we will have to adjust our expectations to meet the time constraints as well as the needs of our students. We have been enjoying settling in and getting to know your children and are looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Your First Grade Teachers:

Mrs. Downs, Mrs. Greene,

Ms. Seleb, Mrs. McEachern,

Ms. Messersmith,

Mrs. Verissimo, and Mrs. Yurick

Information About First Grade Reading



- Excitement, Engagement, Independence, and Stamina are our most important goals!
- Children are expected to meet the reading standards for first grade by the end of the year. If they are ready, they will move beyond.
- Children are taught reading strategies as a whole class, in small groups and individually to meet their needs.
- Children will progress at their own pace (not as a whole class).
- Children will each read at their own level (not at a class level).
- Reading is NONCOMPETITIVE!!
- Children will do the following AT EACH LEVEL:
 - Decode (using many DIFFERENT strategies)
 - Read with fluency (appropriate rate, expression, tone, phrasing)
 - Comprehend (retell, make predictions, make connections, infer, etc.)
 - Hold book conversations (agree, disagree, add on, etc.)
- Children learn to read different genres (fiction, nonfiction, poetry)
- Rereading books is encouraged as it promotes fluency, expression, and confidence!!

You will see your child grow as a reader in so many wonderful ways this year!!

First Grade Literacy

	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Writing</u>	<u>Word Work</u>
September	Launching Reading Workshop and Good Reading Habits	Launching Writing Workshop and Small Moments Writing	-Spoken/ written word -Letter name and sounds -Rhyming and Syllables
October	<u>Word Detectives</u> - using strategies to read words.	<u>Small Moments</u> - zooming in, craft moves, pop out words	-Beginning and Ending sounds -Onset & Rhyme - Word families
November	<u>Readers Have Big Jobs to Do</u> : Fluency, Phonics and Comprehension	<u>Writing Nonfiction</u> -all about books	-Vowel sounds - Short vowel patterns
December	<u>Readers Have Big Jobs</u> continued	<u>Writing Nonfiction</u> continued	- Middle sounds -Hearing and changing ending, first and last sounds -Consonant clusters
January	<u>Readers Have Big Jobs</u> continued	<u>Persuasive Writing</u> Writing reviews, opinions and letters	- Spelling patterns - Synonyms - Changing last letter
February	<u>Nonfiction Reading</u>	<u>Persuasive Writing</u> continued	-Long vowels -Contractions -Adding -s, -ing -Changing middle sounds
March	<u>Nonfiction Reading</u> continued	<u>Poetry and Songs</u>	-Digraphs -Compound Words
April	<u>Characters and Story Elements</u>	<u>Poetry and Songs</u> continued	-R controlled vowels -Inflectional endings (adding -ed, -ing)
May	<u>Characters and Story Elements</u> continued	<u>Writing Fiction</u>	-Contractions -Consonants with 2 sounds
June	<u>Reading and Role Playing</u>	<u>Writing Like Scientists</u>	-Contractions -Consonants with 2 sounds

First Grade Words for BOTH reading and spelling*

List A

no
is
can
me
you
and
he
at
so
on
in
up
am
we
like
see
I
go
it
do
an
the
my
to

List B

all
are
as
ball
be
boy
by
day
did
eat
for
get
girl
got
had
has
her
him
his
how
if
jump
look
man

List C

mom
not
now
of
or
out
play
ran
read
run
sat
saw
say
she
sit
then
they
this
too
us
was
went
will
yes

**from the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 1*

Everyday Math

Content and Practices Emphasized in Grade 1

Mathematical Content Emphasized in Grade 1

In *Everyday Mathematics*, children learn and master procedures, concepts and applications in these four Common Core State Standards content domains. The first-grade program emphasizes the following content.

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

Understanding addition, subtraction, and strategies for addition and subtraction within 20; representing and solving problems involving addition and subtraction; understanding and applying properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction; adding and subtracting within 20; working with addition and subtraction equations.

Number and Operations in Base Ten

Extending the counting sequence; understanding whole numbers relationships and place value, including grouping by tens and ones; using place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract.

Measurement and Data

Understanding linear measurement as repeating length units; measuring lengths indirectly and by repeating length units; telling and writing time; representing and interpreting data.

Geometry

Reasoning with shapes and their attributes; composing and decomposing geometric shapes.

Mathematical Practices Emphasized in Grade 1

Children also develop the following Common Core State Standards mathematical practices as they learn the first grade content. Children begin developing these processes and habits of mind in *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics* and continue to approach mathematical content in these same eight ways with increasing proficiency through *Sixth Grade Everyday Mathematics*.

Mathematical Practices

Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

Model with mathematics.

Use appropriate tools strategically.

Attend to precision.

Look for and make use of structure

Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

**taken from Teacher Masters for Family Communication*

Zaner - Bloser Handwriting Curriculum



Information about the program:

- The Keys to Legibility (Shape, Size, Spacing, Slant) for instruction and self-assessment
- Three-Step Lesson: Model, Practice, Evaluate
- Four basic strokes to form all letters (manuscript and cursive)
- Simple, student-friendly language
- Consistent sequence of instruction

Why Handwriting?

Research-Based (Not Reading-Based)

In our digital age, it's tempting to see handwriting as optional. But handwriting is still a key foundational skill for literacy development. Explicit instruction in handwriting supplements what students may—or may not—be getting from a reading-based program. In fact, Zaner-Bloser programs are proven effective for developing all types of literacy skills, including reading!

Self-generated action, in the form of handwriting, is a crucial component in setting up brain systems for reading acquisition. (James, 2010)

**taken from website www.zaner-bloser.com*

A B C D E F G

H I J K L M N

O P Q R S T

U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i

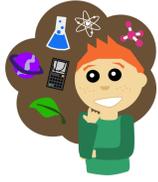
j k l m n o p q r

s t u v w x y z

? | " " ,

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Science and Social Studies



<p><u>September</u> Community Building Work Habits Apple Life Cycle</p>	<p><u>October</u> Fire Safety Nutrition Nocturnal Animals Pumpkins Halloween</p>	<p><u>November</u> Veterans Day Early Settlers Thanksgiving</p>
<p><u>December</u> Family Traditions Animal Adaptations Winter Holidays</p>	<p><u>January</u> New Years Light and Sound MLK Jr.</p>	<p><u>February</u> Dental Health Groundhog Day Valentine's Day President's Day</p>
<p><u>March</u> Seasons Weather</p>	<p><u>April</u> Water Cycle Plants Animals in Spring</p>	<p><u>May/June</u> Geography Map Skills National Symbols Insects</p>