First Grade

All About First Grade!

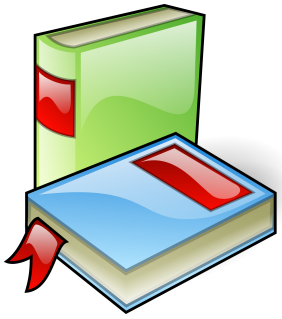
Welcome to First Grade! This is going to be a very exciting year for you and your child!

We have compiled a list of important information about what to expect in First Grade academics and how to best prepare your child for entering 1st Grade. We hope you find this information useful!

A few things your child will learn in READING:

Foundational Skills:

- Review of letter sounds, letter names
- Beginning, middle and end sounds in words
- Short vowel and long vowel sounds
- Syllables
- Letter blends, digraphs and trigraphs in the beginning of words and end of words (ex: Ch, Sh, Th, Fr)
- Vowel teams (ex: ea, ou, oa)
- Magic e (silent e)
- Prefix, suffix, word endings (ed, ing)
- How to segment word parts and blend them together
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Nouns
- Pronouns



Reading Comprehension:

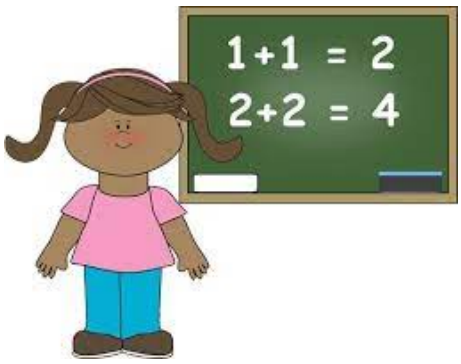
- Fiction story elements (Characters, setting events)
- Nonfiction Text Features (Bold word, Photographs, Graphs and labels)
- Main idea of a text
- Supporting details of a text
- Author's purpose (inform, entertain, persuade)
- Reading poems and learning rhyming words, alliteration, rhythm in poems.

Writing:

- Narrative (creative writing)
- Informational Writing
- How To Writing
- Opinion Writing
- Writing a Poem using rhyming words

A few things your child will learn in MATH:

- Adding numbers 0-20
- Subtracting numbers 0-20
- Adding and subtracting on a number line
- Adding and subtracting 10's numbers
- Addition and subtraction word problems
- Using a 100's chart
- Finding the missing number in an equation
- Fact families



Books to use to preview Social Studies concepts:

- Richard Scarry's What Do People Do All Day, by Richard Scarry
- Career Day, by Anne Rockwell
- US Symbols, by Ann-Marie Kishel
- *Long Ago and Today (Learn to Read, Read to Learn: Social Studies)* By Rozanne Lanczak Williams.
- Whoever You Are, by Mem Fox
- FOLLOW THAT MAP, by Scot Ritchie

Books to use to preview Science concepts:

- Energy: Physical Science for Kids (Picture Book Science) by, Andi Diehn
- How a Seed Grows (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science 1, 1) by, Helene J. Jordan
- From Tadpole to Frog (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science 1) by, Wendy Pfeffer

How to help First Graders at Home with Literacy

Standard	Skill	When reading at home…
Reading	Key Ideas & Detail	*explain the lesson or main point of the story *summarize the beginning, middle & end including key details *name characters, setting, problem & solution in the story *make a connection between the 2 characters or events in the story
	Craft & Structure	*explain the author's purpose {to give information or to tell a story} *identify words or phrases that suggest feelings *use text features {heading, table of contents, glossary, icons…} *identify information provided by text as well as by the pictures
	Integration of Knowledge	*use pictures clues to describe characters, setting and events *compare characters across different books in a series *compare & contrast non-fiction books on the same topic *identify the reasons the author gives to support the main point
	Range of Reading & Text Complexity	*choose various types of text {stories, poems…} *choose non-fiction texts to find answers to a question
	Print Concepts	*capitalize the first word in a sentence and use ending punctuation

	Phonological Awareness	***clap syllables for words in the story {ex: um-brell-a = 3}** ***flip vowels when sounding out words {try the long & short sounds}** ***identify blends and read as one sound {br, cl, gr, sw…}** ***break words into sounds {ex: shop = sh-o-p}**
	Phonics & Word Recognition	***sound out new words by blending the sounds** ***identify words with silent e and read with long vowel sounds** ***identify words with 2 vowels together & read the correct sound** ***clap out syllables in words and identify the vowel in each syllable** ***identify sight words in the story**
	Fluency	***read familiar stories repeatedly & with enthusiasm** ***use picture clues to figure out new words** ***reread if necessary to be sure the sentence makes sense**
Speaking & Listening	**Comprehension & Collaboration**	***listen when others are speaking** ***practice having a conversation about a book, movie or event** ***ask questions about things that don't make sense in conversation** ***ask questions about stories as you read**
	Presentation of Knowledge & Ideas	***tell about people, places & things with descriptive language** ***clearly explain your ideas and feelings using complete sentences** ***add pictures to writing to show detail and give more information**
Writing	**Text Types & Purposes**	***write to tell your opinion and give reasons {I like __ because…}** ***write to give information on a topic** ***write to retell a personal event in sequence {first, next, then, last}**
	Production & Distribution	***write about one topic and give details** ***share your writing with others and edit based on their feedback**
	Build & Present Knowledge	***use an author's model to write {ex: read a how-to book then write your own set of sequenced instructions}** ***find information in books to answer questions**
Language	**Conventions of Standard English**	***write capital & lowercase letters on lined paper** ***speak & write with correct grammar {match nouns & verbs, use pronouns, use adjectives to give detail…)** ***speak & write in past, present and future tenses** ***use conjunctions {and, but, or, so, because} to extend sentences**
	Vocabulary Use	***use picture clues & surrounding text to learn the meaning of new words** ***define words and sort them into categories with other similar words** ***make personal connections by using words in real-life examples** ***use different words that mean the same thing {big, large, gigantic}**

How to Help First Graders at Home with Math

Operations & Algebraic Thinking	**Represents & Solves Problems**	***show different ways to solve word problems {use objects, draw a picture, write a number sentence, etc} *identify the type of word problem needing to be solved {adding to, taking away from, putting together, taking apart or comparing} *explain how different strategies are used for certain types of problems *solve word problems that use 3 numbers**
	Understands & Applies Properties of Operations	***use what you know about numbers to help solve problems {ex: if the problem is 2 + 6 + 4, recognize that 6 & 4 make a group of 10 to easily add 2 + 10 and get 12} *explain how number sentences can be rearranged {ex: 3 + 8 = 11 and 8 + 3 = 11 are the same problem}**
	Adds & Subtracts within 20	***explain how addition and subtraction are related {ex: instead of subtracting 10 – 8, add by counting on from 8 to get 2} *add and subtract numbers 0 to 20 *quickly add and subtract numbers 0 to 10 in your mind *demonstrate various ways to make 10**
	Works with Equations	***explain symbols + , – and = *recognize & fix incorrect equations {ex: 5 + 2 = 2 or 4 + 1 = 5 + 2} *solve equations with the unknown in any place {ex: ? + 6 = 12 or 5 = ? – 3}**
Operations in Base Ten	**Extends the Counting Sequence**	***count to 120 starting at any number *read & write numbers 0 – 120 *draw or use objects to represent amounts 0 – 120**
	Understands Place Value	***break 2 digit numbers into tens and ones *explain how teens are made of 1 ten and a specific set of ones *explain that tens {10, 20, 30, etc} refer to groups of tens *compare 2 digit numbers using symbols >, < and =**
	Uses Place Value to Add & Subtract	***add 1 and 2 digit numbers up to 100 *use drawings or objects to represent numbers to 100 *explain adding tens to tens & ones to ones for 2 digit number problems *tell 10 more and 10 less than a number *subtract tens and explain how you figured it out**
Measurement & Data	**Measures Length**	***line up objects according to length *explain the rules of measuring {end to end without gaps or overlapping} *tell how long something is in specific terms {ex: 10 inches, 4 steps, 13 pop cubes, 20 paperclips…}**
	Tells & Writes Time	***tell and write time to the hour and half hour *use digital clocks and analog clocks**

	Represents & Interprets Data	***sort objects into categories** ***count to compare the categories and tell which has more & less** ***create various types of graphs to display data** ***read graphs to answer questions and find information**
Geometry	**Reasons with Shapes**	***draw & describe shapes {how many sides & corners, color, size…}** ***draw 2D shapes {rectangle, square, trapezoid, triangle, ½ & ¼ circle}** ***create 3D shapes {cube, rectangular prism, circular cone, cylinder}** ***split circles and rectangles into equal parts** ***explain vocabulary halves, fourths and quarters** ***explain how breaking shapes into more pieces creates smaller pieces**