

MAJOR GRADE LEVEL CONCEPTS AND SKILLS – GRADE 1

READING

Children begin to see themselves as readers. They use a variety of skills and strategies to figure out words and to understand the meaning of what is read (comprehension).

Your child will...

- Read books with simple patterns, using phonics, meaning, and picture clues
- Read independently for short periods of time and point to words as she/he reads
- Increase basic sight vocabulary
- Recall or retell some details of the story or text
- Begin to think beyond the story or text by predicting or inferring
- Use non-fiction materials such as science & social studies books, maps, charts, and diagrams

Parents can...

- Show your child reading is necessary. Point out road/parking signs and store names
- Read aloud stories, poetry, recipes, letters, directions, etc.
- Talk about the title and cover of the book and predict what the story will be about
- Stop in the middle of the story and ask what happens next
- Ask questions as you read a story
- Ask child to reread a sentence if he/she appears to have trouble understanding
- Have your child follow with his/her finger as you read

MATHEMATICS

The use of objects and manipulatives continue to support children's understanding of concepts and the development of basic skills. Algebraic sense or patterns and relationships expands as greater than/less than symbols are introduced. Children are expected to share their thinking as they solve problems.

Your child will...

- Count forward by 1's, 2's/ 5's/10's to 100
- Use blocks or models to demonstrate his/her understanding of addition and subtraction
- Create and use strategies for solving addition and subtraction basic facts (0-12)
- Create, compare, and extend a wide variety of patterns
- Demonstrate the knowledge of place value up to 100 with and without manipulatives
- Estimate and measure time, capacity, and length and identify coins
- Name and draw shapes and understand likenesses and differences between shapes
- Read and interpret simple graphs and charts

Parents can...

- Play counting games in the car, not always beginning at 1. Ask what number comes before or after a certain number.
- Help master basic facts, going back to objects or a strategy. Use a deck of cards to create games for addition and subtraction problems
- Use math to solve real life problems such as measuring a room for carpet or cutting a recipe in half
- Have your child identify the shape he/she sees in common objects like a flower, food, or toys
- Construct simple graphs at home for common activities, like chores, reading aloud, or the weather

TECHNOLOGY AND LIBRARY -

Your child will...

- Gather/organize/evaluate/communicate information in developmentally appropriate ways
- Acquire skills to use available technology resources
- Gain an understanding and appreciation for literature

LANGUAGE ARTS

First graders begin to choose topics as they practice the writing process. They refine their thinking about the topic, acquire more basic skills, and see themselves as writers.

Your child will...

- Develop connected ideas with words and pictures
- Attempt to sequence ideas in logical order
- Form simple sentences, answer questions
- Write lists, label drawings, write/draw in journal
- Use end punctuation and capital letters when revising
- Accurately spell grade level high frequency words

SCIENCE

Through hands-on activities, students explore various scientific concepts and begin to develop an understanding of the scientific method. They start to understand how science relates to the world they live in.

Your child will...

- Understand how the five senses provide information and use them to observe
- Understand the ecosystems along a seashore
- Use drawings, oral language, and simple writing to record observations
- Analyze, question, and evaluate the concepts he/she is learning
- Investigate and monitor changes in air and weather using simple tools.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Children will study social relationships focusing on school and friendships, their environment in and around the land, multicultural traditions, and ethnic/cultural families and celebrations.

Your child will...

- Develop his/her social skills by exploring friendships
- Expand his/her view of himself in relationship to families
- Develop a multicultural perspective by exploring other cultures' traditions and families
- Begin to understand his/her physical environment by using geographical terms

PE/HEALTH - ***Your child will...***

- Understand safety rules about fires, practice drills, and other emergencies
- Understand how personal care procedures relate to overall health
- Practice movement skills like walk, run, jog, jump, hop, etc.
- Develop teamwork skills by participating in games and activities

MUSIC/VISUAL ARTS - ***Your child will...***

- Play or move to a steady beat
- Sing simple melodies
- Use four voices (speak/sing/whisper/shout)
- Discriminate between instrument sounds
- Work with essential elements such as color, line, shape, texture, and composition
- Gain an appreciation of art in many forms and from many cultures