Science

Students will...

- Understand scientific concepts in all content areas: habitats, sun & moon, plants & animals, force & motion.
- Communicate scientific observations.

Ways you can help...

- Help your child find things in your home that a magnet will or will not attract.
- Go on a neighborhood walk and find ten living and nonliving things. Discuss their similarities and differences.
- Visit a zoo and discuss ways that animals are alike and different.
- Observe the moon phases together and look for patterns.
- Encourage play with toy cars, yo-yos, springs and marble track toys. Discuss the motion of the toys and the forces that cause the motion.
- Encourage your child to pose questions and allow them to answer those questions through experimentation.

Health and Fitness

Students will...

 Demonstrate rules to live safely, reduce health risks, and make informed decisions.

Ways you can help...

- Practice ball skills by rolling at a target, bouncing, and catching.
- ◆ Shop at the grocery store, and have your child pick out one healthful food in each group.
- Identify healthy food choices and fitness activities.
- Encourage active outdoor play, involving balance and strength.
- Schedule activity times for the family.

Social Studies

Students will...



- ◆ Recognize similarities and differences among people and cultures
- ◆ Understand individual rights and responsibilities within a community.
- Develop an understanding of geography.

Ways you can help...

- Use simple maps together.
- Visit libraries and museums, and talk to older adults to learn about historical events.
- Discuss the reasons for rules in the family and why rules are necessary.
- Increase your child's awareness of family and cultural traditions.

Art & Music

Students will...

• Communicate ideas using art.

Ways you can help...

- Encourage your child to create things at home by providing crayons, paints, pencils, and paper.
- Have your child draw a landscape with a definite sky and land.
- Play music and dance with the beat
- Sing with your child. Discover high and low sounds.
- Play musical and rhythmic games together.
- Use everyday household items as musical instruments.
- Attend a school music performance.



First Grade

Curriculum Overview

Parents and other family members play a vital role in a child's success in school. A strong partnership between home and school is a key to this success.

This pamphlet gives you an outline of the content and skills taught in first grade, and some ways to help your child achieve them. A detailed description of the first grade standards and expectations are available from your child's teacher.

Communication and cooperation between home and school is essential for a successful educational experience.

We look forward to working with you!



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Reading

Students will...

- Decode words using a variety of strategies.
- Read accurately and fluently at grade level.
- Read with comprehension.



Ways you can help...

- Read to your child every day fiction and non fiction.
- Leave notes around the house, in your child's lunch box or under your child's pillow.
- Spend time talking about characters, settings and major events in a story, and retelling them together.
- Make a cozy place to read at home.
- Enjoy audio books from your local library. Listen to them at bedtime or in the car.
- Ask your child to predict what will happen next as you read along in a story.
- Ask your child if the events in a story could happen in real life.
- Make library visits a part of your regular real life.
- Let your child see you and other members of the family enjoying reading..

Writing, Language, Listening and Speaking

Students will...

- Write clearly and effectively.
- Write complete sentences with correct punctuation and capitalization.
- Spell familiar words using spelling rules, word families and high frequency words in all work
- Use correct letter formation, line orientation and spacing.

Ways you can help...

- Provide writing materials of all kinds, colors, textures, and sizes and encourage your child to use the materials on a daily basis.
- ◆ Create a photo album or scrapbook representing "A Year in the Life of..."
- Help your child write a postcard to a friend or relative and mail it together. Have a friend or relative write back to your child through the mail.
- Write a story together then decide how to change it to make it better, add more details, etc.
- Proudly post your child's writing and artwork around the house.
- Provide opportunities for your child to participate in family projects and problem solving.



Math

Students will...

- Apply strategies to represent and solve word problems.
- Understand the relationship between addition and subtraction.
- Add numbers within 20.
- Subtract numbers within 20.
- Understand properties of equations.
- Extend the counting sequence to 120.
- Understand place value to 99.
- Use place value understanding to add and subtract.
- Measure, compare, and order by length.
- Tell and write time in hours and half-hours.
- Represent and interpret data.
- Reason with shapes and their attributes.
- Partition shapes into equal parts.
- Clearly communicate mathematical thinking

Ways you can help...

- ◆ Listen to your child explain how he/she would go about solving a problem and ask questions like: "What do you have to figure out? How will you get started? What do you already know?"
- Connect math learning to everyday life. Talk with your child about how you use math when you follow a recipe, make purchases, or check the temperature.
- Help your child to read numbers that you see on cars, signs and in books.
- Play games involving math concepts to develop number sense.
- Build shapes and structures using blocks, straws or other materials.
- Utilize online math resources.

