

First Grade Reading/Language Arts Curriculum

First grade reading/language arts instruction integrates listening, speaking, reading and writing experiences through a variety of activities using many resources available. This is a "Balanced Literacy" approach to teaching reading/language arts. The Wonders Reading Program is used as a basal to instruct reading, writing, grammar, handwriting and some spelling and phonics. This series is aligned to the Common Core Standards. Some components of the first grade "Balanced Literacy" program are:

- *Reading texts: 6 units
- *Leveled Books for "Guided Reading"
 - Benson's media center houses a "Book Room" with multiple copies of fiction and non-fiction books and tapes to be used by teachers and students during "Guided Reading" instruction.
- *Decodable Readers
- *Big Books
- *Classroom Libraries
- *Phonics Express Software
- *Practice Books, Worksheets
- *Assessments
- *Homework Assignments/Parent Help
- *Centers
- *Journals
- *Phonemic Awareness Practice
- *Word Walls - High Frequency and Sight Words

First Grade Spelling Words

Unit 1

Wk 1: man, can, nap, tap, cat, hat, not, does

Wk 2: pin, win, hit, sit, miss, kiss, nap, can, out, up

Wk 3: clip, flip, slip, flag, black, plan, win, sit, be, pull

Wk 4: hop, top, log, hog, hot, lot, flip, black, they, too

Wk 5: spill, spin, grab, grass, drop, drip, hop, lot, two, more

Unit 2

Wk 1: leg, beg, men, hen, head, bread, grass, spin, there, again

Wk 2: run, fun, nut, cut, bug, rug, men, head, could, one

Wk 3: lend, send, fast, past, sink, wink, run, bug, of, who

Wk 4: fish, shop, ship, with, thing, sang, fast, wink, want, call

Wk 5: whip, whale, catch, match, chin, graph, shop, with, many, around

Unit 3

Wk 1: make, take, came, game, gate, late, chin, graph, some, today

Wk 2: like, spike, ride, hide, bike, mine, make, came, water, should

Wk 3: rice, nice, page, age, wedge, ledge, like, ride, from, once

Wk 4: hope, nose, note, rope, cute, cube, nice, ledge, ago, people

Wk 5: book, look, cook, took, hood, wood, nose, cute, buy, done

Unit 4

Wk 1: mail, rain, chain, way, play, day, took, our, hood, carry

Wk 2: me, we, feed, beak, keep, seat, play, rain, because, other

Wk 3: low, tow, boat, no, row, oat, we, keep, over, more

Wk 4: find, night, by, kind, right, pie, boat, no, caught, listen

Wk 5: key, bumpy, puppy, funny, penny, sandy, my, night, wash, would

Unit 5

Wk 1: cart, barn, arm, art, yarn, harm, happy, key, four, more

Wk 2: her, bird, fur, fern, dirt, work, barn, arm, climb, through

Wk 3: born, corn, core, more, roar, soar, her, dirt, learn, sure

Wk 4: cow, town, mouse, how, out, mouth, born, roar, nothing,
early

Wk 5: spoil, coin, join, joy, toy, boy, town, mouse, build, fall

Unit 6

Wk 1: moon, tune, flew, blue, fruit, soup, toy, coin, enough, door

Wk 2: haul, cause, saw, claw, paw, dawn, moon, soup, love, friend

Wk 3: gnat, gnu, know, knife, been, write, wrong, cause, dawn,
their

Wk 4: strike, spray, splash, split, scrape, three, know, write, your,
heard

Wk 5: fair, pair, bear, wear, spare, share, three, splash, favorite,
surprise

First Grade Handwriting Curriculum

We will be using the Zaner-Bloser Handwriting series. The students have a practice book that they will be using throughout the year. See the following ABC chart for correct letter and number formation.

Zaner-Bloser Alphabet

A B C D E F G H I

J K L M N O P Q R

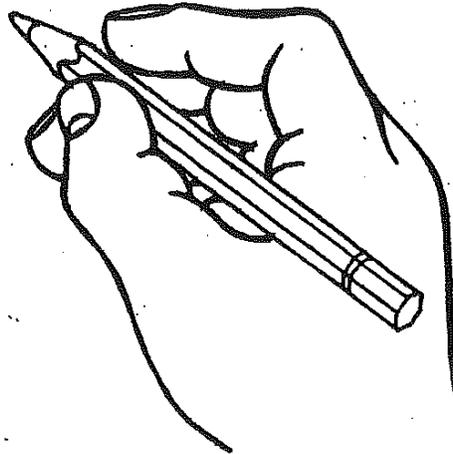
S T U V W X Y Z

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

Proper Pencil Grip



It is very important that a child holds their pencil in the correct way.

The pencil should be held in the 'tripod' grip between the thumb and first two fingers.

If a child's hold starts incorrectly, it is very difficult to correct later on.

First Grade Math Curriculum

Math Concepts: The following skills are taught and applied in first grade. We are using the enVisionMath series. This series is aligned to the Common Core Standards. During teacher-guided lessons, students use lots of hands-on materials, consumable text, practice pages, and exploration/enrichment activities to gain math skills.

- Topic 1: Understanding Addition
- Topic 2: Understanding Subtraction
- Topic 3: Five and Ten Relationships
- Topic 4: Addition and Subtraction Facts to 12
- Topic 5: Addition Facts to 20
- Topic 6: Subtraction Facts to 20
- Topic 7: Counting and Number Patterns to 120
- Topic 8: Tens and Ones
- Topic 9: Comparing and Ordering Numbers to 100
- Topic 10: Adding with Tens and Ones
- Topic 11: Subtracting with Tens and Ones
- Topic 12: Length
- Topic 13: Time
- Topic 14: Using Data to Answer Questions
- Topic 15: Geometry
- Topic 16: Fractions of Shapes

First Grade Health, Social Studies and Science Curriculum

Health: (The Great Body Shop Newsletters from Children's Health Network)

- Q-1 "Look Out"
"Happy, Sad and In Between"
- Q-2 "Why Do We Eat?"
"All About Medicine"
- Q-3 "Head To Toe"
"Get Well Soon"
- Q-4 "How I Breathe"
"Run, Jump and Skip"

Social Studies:(MacMillan/McGraw-Hill Big Books, Texts and Hands-On Kits)

- Q-1 "Families and Neighbors"
"All About Earth"
Map Skills
- Q-2 "Our Government"
"Life Long Ago"
Thanksgiving/Pilgrims
"Holidays Around the World"
- Q-3 "Americans Celebrate"
Lincoln and Washington
- Q-4 "All About Work"

Science: (McGraw-Hill Big Books, Texts and Hands-On Kits)

- Q-1 Weather
- Q-2 Solids and Liquids
- Q-3 Organisms: Plants
- Q-4 Organisms: Animals and Animal Families

First Grade Homework Information:

First graders are required to complete some homework each week. This helps students to gradually learn an important part of being a good student. Many homework assignments for first graders are dependent on support from someone at home. Most first graders are not yet capable of completing homework on their own and need some assistance with directions and implementation of the assignments. This models the homework process for the student so that he/she can build on it in subsequent years. The information given below will help you know what type of homework expectations the first grade team has for students and parents:

Reading and Language Arts:

1. Practice reading word lists that come home before your child is tested individually on the words.
2. Help your child complete reading homework that correlates to the stories he/she is reading in class.
3. Help your child read all "Guided Reading Books."

YOU CAN SEE THAT READING IS A HIGH PRIORITY IN FIRST GRADE! !

Math:

1. Monitor your child's completion of worksheets and home activities.
2. Help your child practice for timed addition and subtraction fact tests later in the year.
3. Use addition and subtraction fact cards to help your child increase memorization of addition and subtraction facts.
4. Talk about money and making change whenever possible.
5. Practice using clocks and time at home to give real-life experiences with telling time.

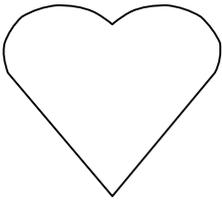
Spelling:

1. A spelling worksheet will come home each week on the first school day of the week. Each week students are given handwriting instruction on their spelling words. During the week, work with your child to spell and write these words using appropriate handwriting. Spelling tests will be given on the last day of the week (usually Friday).

Science, Social Studies, Health:

1. Occasional assignments will come home to compliment a topic we are studying in science, social studies or health. Some of the assignments are mandatory and some are optional. If optional, they are labeled as such and will count toward a plus (+) on the report card under the subject heading.
2. Participation in the "Kids Teach Too" program is an extension for science, social studies or health (depends on project topic).

We appreciate any help you can give your child with homework. Occasionally a child will be reluctant to complete homework easily. If there is a problem with your child not wanting or not able to complete homework assignments, please contact your child's teacher for ideas about how to ease the frustration or modify the assignments. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP! !



The First Grade Team



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Talented and Gifted (TAG)

- Identification of TAG students does not begin until 3rd Grade.
- Our philosophy at Benson Primary School is to meet children where they are at and enhance their educational needs from that point.
- Teachers create and offer extension activities.
- Extensions are ongoing and connected to the wide variety of classroom curricular areas.
- Heightened expectations for those children who have shown the ability to extend classroom activities occur on a regular basis.