



# First-Grade Core Curriculum Highlights

*In a nurturing, learner-centered environment that encourages active student engagement, risk-taking, and independence, first graders will concentrate on these and other skills:*

## LANGUAGE ARTS AND SOCIAL STUDIES

- Reading through a balanced approach to literacy, which includes differentiated word work, sight word recognition, shared reading, independent reading, and read-alouds from a range of rich literature across genres
- Engaging in daily, rich literary discussions as a community of readers, where other's opinions are respected
- Practicing fluency and comprehension strategies through independent and partner reading from self-selected and leveled texts
- Focusing on specific reading comprehension strategies to delve deeper into texts
- Recognizing literacy elements (genre, plot, character, setting, problem, theme)
- Setting goals, reflecting, and working throughout the year to develop writing voice and craft
- Writing authentic pieces across genres, including narrative, informative, and opinion writing
- Cycling through all stages of the writing process
- Engaging in a holistic approach to grammar instruction focused on capitalization and punctuation rules, parts of speech, and editing skills
- Understanding and applying word patterns that center on both phonics generalizations and high-frequency words taught in a differentiated small-group setting
- Integrating social studies concepts

## MATH

- Understanding place value to read and write numbers
- Using place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract
- Representing and solving problems involving addition and subtraction
- Adding and subtracting within 20
- Working with equal groups of objects to gain foundations for multiplication
- Using place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract
- Measuring and estimating lengths in standard units
- Relating addition and subtraction to length
- Working with time and money
- Representing and interpreting data

- Reasoning with shapes and understanding their attributes
- Making sense of problems and persevering in solving them
- Reasoning abstractly and quantitatively
- Constructing viable arguments and critiquing the reasoning of others

## STEAM

- Asking questions and defining problems; planning and conducting investigations; collecting and recording data; and engaging in critical conversations
- Planning and carrying out investigations to answer scientific questions
- Developing and using models
- Using mathematics, information, computer technology, and computational thinking
- Constructing explanations and designing solutions
- Engaging in arguments from evidence
- Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information
- Practicing the engineering design process:
  - Defining the problem
  - Identifying possible solutions
  - Designing a solution
  - Creating a prototype and optimizing its design
- Gathering and comparing data from observations and fair tests

## TECHNOLOGY

- Familiarizing students with the keyboard using Learning.com's online technology curriculum
- Conducting Internet research and integrating word processing and presentation skills
- Laying the foundation for an understanding of digital citizenship
- Exploring software, websites, and apps that support core curriculum concepts and differentiated instruction
- Beginning explorations of word processing
- Practicing logical thinking through basic programming
- Expressing creativity and problem solving