



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO FIRST GRADE

*Curriculum Department
Lee's Summit R-7 School District*



First Graders will...

Literacy

- Manipulate sounds within words
- Use phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to decode words
- Read high frequency words
- Read grade level text accurately
- Read independently for sustained periods of time
- Use background knowledge to understand texts
- Determine what is important when reading
- Use sensory images to comprehend texts
- Write narrative stories that include a beginning, middle, and end along with details related to the story.
- Write informative texts that name a topic and supply facts and provides a sense of closure
- Write opinion pieces that name a topic, opinion, reasons for the opinion, and provides a sense of closure
- Apply conventions of standard English grammar and usage in writing
- Speak and listen effectively in multiple settings

Ways to Help at Home

- *Read with and to your child every day, listen to audio books.*
- *Recite nursery rhymes and sing together.*
- *Play word games.*
- *Point out interesting and unusual words.*
- *Encourage your child to retell stories.*
- *Ask questions when reading with your child to support their understanding.*
- *Visit the library and check out books regularly.*
- *Encourage your child to draw and write by allowing access to pencils, crayons, markers, chalk and a variety of paper.*
- *Write stories, letters, cards and poems with your child.*
- *Enjoy conversation with your child, talk to them about school, books, friends, interests, sports.*

Mathematics

- Read and write numbers to 120
- Understand the place value of 2-digit numbers
- Use greater than $>$, less than $<$, and equal $=$ symbols to compare two-digit numbers
- Fluently add and subtract within 10 (know addition and subtraction facts)
- Add 2-digit numbers
- Solve word problems by adding or subtracting numbers 1 to 20
- Measure lengths in non-standard units (paper clips, blocks, etc.)
- Ask and answer questions about data in graphs and charts
- Tell and write time in hours and half hours
- Reason with shapes and their attributes (Draw a shape that has 4 equal sides and 4 angles.)
- Create new shapes by combining other shapes
- Identify and know the value of a penny, nickel, dime, and quarter

Ways to Help at Home

- *Play games and create simple addition and subtraction problems for your child using life situations. (There are 16 cookies in the jar. We just ate 4 cookies. How many cookies are left in the jar?)*
- *Cook with your child.*
- *Build things with blocks or other materials. As you build, have your child count the pieces by tens, add or subtract pieces, and name the different shapes you use.*
- *Encourage you child to sort common objects (coins, buttons, cereal) by attributes such as size, color and shape.*

First Graders will...

Science

- Define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool
- Illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.
- Design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs
- Make observations that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly like, their parents
- Provide evidence that vibrating materials can make sound, and that sound can make materials vibrate
- Make observations that objects in darkness can be seen only when illuminated
- Determine the effect of placing objects made with different materials in the path of a beam of light
- Use light or sound to solve the problem of communicating over a distance
- Describe the presence of the Sun, Moon, and stars in the sky over time

Ways to Help at Home

- *Have your child draw inventions to solve common problems.*
- *Talk to your child about similarities between siblings and differences.*
- *Make string and cup telephones.*
- *Play a game where you only communicate through light.*
- *Go outside to observe plants and animals and talk to them about how they survive.*
- *Use sidewalk chalk to mark your child's shadow at different times of day.*
- *When the moon is half lit ask your child if they can guess where the sun might be.*
- *Have your child draw the moon every night for a month (moon journal).*
- *Read an age appropriate book with them about space.*

Social Studies

- Engage in the study of themselves, their families, and their schools
- Learn how to participate and use effective citizenship skills
- Explore their families, their classrooms, and their schools through an interdisciplinary approach including history, civics, economics, and geography
- Generate and research compelling questions such as:
 - How do my school and community influence each other?
 - Why are symbols important for our community and country?
 - How can you use maps and globes to help you find things?
 - How do we get things we need or want in our school and community?

Ways to Help at Home

- *Share stories about your family and encourage your child to share stories about their lives with others.*
- *Talk about current events in family, community, and country.*
- *Look for opportunities to have your child consider how things in the community and nation impact their lives.*
- *When traveling, give your child a map of where you live and where you are going. Have your child consider different ways to get there.*
- *Talk to your child about how you get the goods and services your family needs.*
- *Point out and have discussions about important symbols in our community and country.*
- *Encourage your child to ask questions and find answers to their questions.*

Helping Your Child Learn

- Provide a quiet place for your child to study.
- Show interest in your child's school activities.
- Make school a first priority for your child.
- Read with your child.
- Children learn from example. Let your child see you reading and figuring out real life problems.
- Help your child with assignments.
- Encourage your child to engage in challenging tasks and persevere in completing them.
- Talk with your child. Ask your child what they like and dislike about school. Find out if your child is excited or disappointed about their day.
- Talk with your child's teacher about your child's academic and social/emotional progress.
- Limit the amount of time your child spends on video games, the internet, and television.

