



## Grade-Level Benchmarks First Grade

### CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

#### **Learning Habits**

- participates actively and appropriately
- shows initiative and is a self-directed learner
- demonstrates self-confidence
- willingly takes on challenges
- remains focused, attentive, and engaged in lessons
- sets and reflects upon goals

#### **Work Habits**

- demonstrates neatness, thoughtfulness, and pride in work
- works independently and uses time wisely
- works cooperatively with others
- completes and turns in assignments on time
- organizes space and returns materials
- produces original work

#### **Responsibility as a Community Member**

- manages emotions and accepts responsibility for own actions
- manages transitions and adapts to changes in routine
- demonstrates courtesy, cooperation, and respect toward peers and adults
- listens and follows directions
- seeks positive solutions to problems and conflicts
- follows classroom rules and routines
- displays kindness and concern for others
- raises hand before sharing in class discussions
- uses classroom materials with purpose and respect

## LITERACY: READING

### Comprehension

- listens to and discusses stories, poems, nonfiction texts, fables, legends,
- makes text-to-self connections
- explores the point of view
- discusses the messages in fables
- discusses the characters' feelings and the story's message
- makes, draws, writes, and shares text-to-self and text-to-world connections
- reads independently and self-monitors their reading
- explores a stories illustrations
- retells a story
- picks "just-right" books for independent reading
- draws and writes about a part of a story and the story's events
- sequences story events and uses sequence words to retell events
- discusses two similar stories
- identifies sensory details in texts and draws, writes about, and shares mental images
- visualizes a story
- discusses alliteration, onomatopoeias,
- writes, discusses, and shares wonders and makes predictions about the text
- refers to the text to support their thinking
- identifies and discusses patterns in a story
- explores a common theme across texts
- identifies, discusses, and writes about information learned from a text
- compares and contrasts two nonfiction texts and writes about the topic
- use text features and discuss information learned from nonfiction books
- writes about text features used
- generates a question about a familiar topic
- explores a website and uses and discusses text features
- discusses, writes, and draws pictures of information learned from online research
- participates in 1:1 reading conferences with the teacher demonstrating use of taught comprehension strategies

### Accuracy/Fluency

- echo read stories
- learns, sings, and chorally reads songs, poems, fables, or parts of a story
- acts out parts of a story
- chorally reads with an attention to punctuation
- explores typography and punctuation

## **Expanding Vocabulary**

- voraciously reads
- tunes into interesting words and uses new vocabulary when speaking and writing
- discusses synonyms and antonyms
- draws and writes about vocabulary words
- discusses the suffixes *-er, -y, -or*
- discusses the prefixes *re-, in-, un-, re-*,
- discusses the inflectional ending *-ing, -s, -ed, -es*,
- discusses shades of meaning
- discusses words with multiple meanings
- uses context to determine word meanings
- writes words and sentences

## **LITERACY: WRITING**

### **The Writing Community**

- contributes to building a writing community
- gets ideas from read-alouds
- practices basic conventions of writing (writing left to right and putting spaces between words)

### **Getting Ideas**

- generates ideas for writing from their own life
- talks with others to develop ideas
- uses a word wall to spell high-frequency words
- approximates spelling using letter-sound relationships

### **Telling More**

- rereads and adds details to tell more
- writes on assigned and self-selected topics
- explores sentence punctuation and capitalization

### **Writing Stories About Me**

- Explores personal narratives by writing autobiographical stories
- writes stories with a beginning middle, and end
- informally revises to tell more
- publishes a story

## **Writing Nonfiction**

- explores expository and functional nonfiction
- gather information for nonfiction writing through interviews and examination of objects
- writes opening and closing sentences
- explores writing questions
- rereads writing for clarity

## **Exploring Words Through Poetry**

- generates lists of interesting movement words and sound words
- explores figurative language
- writes poems about things that make noise, the weather, and objects in the classroom

## **Opinion Writing**

- hears and discusses examples of opinion writing
- explores clearly stating an opinion and supporting it with reasons
- writes closing sentences
- publishes an opinion piece

## **Conventions**

- capitalizes the beginning of a sentence, names, titles, and the pronoun “I”
- punctuates the ending of a sentence
- uses common spelling patterns to spell words correctly
- spells unfamiliar words phonetically
- applies high-frequency words consistently when writing

## **LITERACY: PHONICS & WORD STUDY**

### **Phonological Awareness**

- identifies and discusses rhyming words
- plays rhyming games
- replaces rhyming words in a story
- claps and counts syllables to help hear and identify units of sound and identifies patterns in a story
- sorts by the number of syllables

**\*\*Additional activities are included in small group lessons.**

### **High-Frequency Words**

- reads and spells high-frequency words consistently

### **Spelling Patterns and Word Structure**

- understands every word has a CVC pattern
- breaks words into syllables
- recognizes and uses plurals
- uses endings to support subject-verb agreement
- uses the correct endings for present and past tenses
- recognizes and understands contractions

[\*\\*\\*see small group instruction for specifics\*](#)

### **Word-Solving Actions**

- uses other known words and parts to help read new spelling words
- changes the onset or rhyme to make a new word (bring/thing)

## **LISTENING AND SPEAKING**

- comprehends while listening
- expresses one's self purposefully and clearly
- participates effectively in discussions

## MATHEMATICS

### Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- solves number stories by adding and subtracting
- models parts-and-total, change and comparison situations
- models and solves number stories involving the addition of three addends
- applies properties of operations to add or subtract
- relates counting to addition and subtraction
- recognizes and decomposes quantities up to 20 using visual patterns
- adds and subtracts within 10 fluently
- adds doubles automatically
- adds combinations of 10 automatically
- adds and subtracts within 20 using strategies
- finds the unknown in addition and subtraction equations

### Number and Operations in Base Ten

- counts on from any number
- reads and writes numbers
- counts and represents collections of objects with numerals
- compares and orders numbers
- mentally finds 10 more or 10 less than a two-digit number
- compares and orders numbers
- records comparisons using  $>$ ,  $=$  or  $<$
- understands adding two-digit numbers and one-digit numbers
- understands adding two-digit numbers and multiples of 10
- understands adding two-digit numbers
- mentally finds 10 more or 10 less than a two-digit number
- subtracts multiples of 10 from multiples of 10

### Geometry

- distinguishes between defining and non-defining attributes
- builds and draws shapes to possess defining attributes
- builds composite shapes
- partitions shapes into equal shares
- describes equal shares using fraction words
- describes the whole as a number of shares
- understands that more equal shares mean smaller equal shares

### Measurement and Data

- orders objects by length
- compares the lengths of objects indirectly

- measures length using same-size units with no gaps or overlaps
- expresses length as a whole number of units
- organizes and represents data
- answers questions about data

### **Problem Solving and Perseverance**

- makes sense of the problem
- checks whether the answers make sense

### **Model with Mathematics**

- models real-world situations using graphs, drawings, tables, symbols, numbers, diagrams, and other representations
- uses mathematical models to solve problems and answer questions

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

- explains the necessity for the rules at home and school
- names the School, city, state, country, and continent
- recognizes that maps and globes are representations of the Earth's surface
- develops awareness of time (past, present, and future)
- describes ways in which language, stories, music, and artistic creations serve as an expressive means to influence the behaviors of particular groups of people
- identifies generalizations about different deserts by comparing and contrasting their home environment with different habitats
- identifies cultural aspects of a story
- compares and contrasts urban and rural lifestyles in that country
- describes the impact that exploration had on the indigenous peoples and the environment
- describes how the physical environment affects animal and human survival, and discusses the impacts of human interaction with the environment

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **Creativity and Innovation**

- demonstrates creative thinking and constructs knowledge

### **Communication and Collaboration**

- communicates information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats

### **Digital Citizenship**

- demonstrates good manners when working beside and with fellow students
- demonstrates knowledge of who is a trusted adult
- understands to go to a trusted adult when feeling uncomfortable due to any internet content
- exhibits a positive attitude toward using technology that supports collaboration, learning, and productivity

### **Technology Operations and Concepts**

- demonstrates proper care and safe handling of computer equipment and media
- demonstrates proper use of a keyboard, including locating and using letters, numbers, and special keys such as space bar, shift, return and command keys
- demonstrates proper use of basic shortcut commands, such as quit and save
- demonstrates proper use of a local network, including how to log in and log out of a school network using a password
- demonstrates proper use of local network files, including finding own student folder and retrieving a saved document within own student folder
- demonstrates proper navigation of the computer desktop, including how to find a certain program, and how to open and close a program
- uses a variety of multimedia resources and software for directed and independent learning activities
- demonstrates word-processing skills, such as typing name and sight words
- demonstrates proper use of multimedia equipment, including using headphones and recording sound with a microphone