

FAMILY LEARNING GUIDE



DAVENPORT
Community Schools
GROWING EXCELLENCE



A Parent's Guide to First Grade

BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, WE EXPECT THAT A FIRST GRADE STUDENT CAN:

LEARNING ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY

LANGUAGE ARTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read common words such as the, of, you, are, she, and my Ask and answer questions about a story the teacher reads Participate in class discussions by listening and taking turns speaking Express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly Take part in shared reading, writing, and research projects Compare/contrast the experiences of different characters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the reasons an author gives to support their point Explain the difference between fiction and nonfiction texts Identify characters, settings, and major events in a story Read stories and show they understand the lesson or moral 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child to make predictions when reading Discuss new words to build your child's vocabulary Model good listening and speaking skills Re-read your child's favorite stories often Point out printed words in your home and other places Ask your child to retell a story in their own words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit a Davenport Public Library branch Practice writing upper and lowercase letters in a variety of ways (e.g., on paper, with sidewalk chalk, with their fingers in the air or in sand) Read with your child each day tracking print from left to right. Stop to ask about pictures and about what is happening in the story. Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, and informational texts
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use strategies to add and subtract within 20. Count forward and backward starting with any number within 0-120 Read and write numbers within 120 Compare two two-digit numbers using $>$, $<$, and $=$ Know that the numbers of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones Add numbers within 100 using strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given a two-digit number, find 10 more or 10 less Order objects by length Measure the length of an object by layering multiple copies of a shorter object 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice adding objects by starting with a number and adding some more Practice counting from 0-120, forwards and backwards starting from any number, by 1s, 10s, and 5s Compare two groups of objects. For example, open two packages of fruit snacks. Count how many are in each pack. Tell which one is greater, less than, or if they are equal Discuss ways to break apart a number. For 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> example, you can make 6 with 1 and 5, 3 and 3, 2 and 4. Use objects, like small toys, to help you by breaking the total number into two groups. Use sheets of paper, hands, shoes, Lego pieces, etc. to tell how many it takes to describe the width of a table, a couch, a car, etc. Join a math summer camp at places like the Putnam Museum, area colleges, and the Family Museum
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate how the human body systems work Make objects vibrate, understand that vibrating objects make sound, and describe the effects of lights on objects Observe, describe and predict the patterns of movement for the sun and moon, including the seasonal patterns of sunrise and sunset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build a device that uses light or sound to communicate over a distance Explain how the behavior of parents and the external parts of animals and plants help them grow and survive Understand that young plants and animals are alike, but not exactly like, their parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make cup phones with different types of cups and strings—what materials work best? Play flashlight tag/send light messages across the backyard or a dark room Observe the pattern of how the sun appears to move across the sky every day Observe the pattern of the moon as it changes phase through the month Discuss how many minutes of sunlight we gain/lose each day through the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the garden/backyard/community, observe various plants and discuss the differences between seedlings and adult plants. Talk about how parents (both plant and animal) help their young survive Visit the Putnam Museum and Science Center to explore the many exhibits and artifacts
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the culture of their own communities. Examine leadership in their community Understand the role goods and services play in a community Study the history of diverse cultures over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Farmer's Market and discuss what goods and services people offer in our local community Talk about what people do when they need something they cannot find locally Talk about trading and how this connects people around the world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw maps for how someone or something has traveled Talk about the similarities and differences among people of different cultures Create a timeline of your family events Talk about family traditions and how different places in the world have different traditions 	

First graders experience a broad range of instruction that supports and enriches academic learning and understanding.

Arts Education

- Line, shape, form, color, texture, pattern, movement, balance
- Drawing, painting, sculpting, assembling
- Talk about works of art
- Share portfolio with family (end of year)

Music Education

- Sing a variety of simple songs
- Respond to music through movement

Successful Learner

- Communicate with others
- Recognize different roles and expectations in the classroom
- Show Leadership
- Show responsibility
- Develop independence
- Stay on task
- Accept responsibility

Health/Physical Education

- Develop locomotor and nonlocomotor skills such as galloping and catching.
- Develop manipulative skills such as dribbling with hands or feet, throwing, and catching
- Be exposed to fitness concepts and be introduced to fitness assessment.
- Practice interpersonal skills and communication skills through participation in small and large group activities
- Visit our parks for family fun and exercise, or join the YMCA for family fitness

Social Emotional Learning

Self-Awareness

- Identifying emotions
- Accurate self-perception
- Self-confidence

Self-Management

- Impulse control
- Stress management
- Self-discipline and self-motivation
- Goal setting
- Organizational skills

Social Awareness

- Perspective taking and empathy
- Appreciating diversity and respect for others
- Civic engagement

Relationship Skills

- Communication
- Social engagement
- Relationship building
- Teamwork

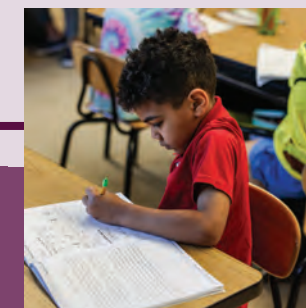
Responsible Decision-Making

- Identifying problems
- Analyzing situations and solving problems
- Evaluating and reflecting
- Ethical responsibility

TALK WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Academic targets provide a great opportunity for you to talk with teachers about what your child is learning in school and how you can support that learning at home. Be sure to ask about:

- Learning targets
- Your child's progress
- Ways you can support learning



Useful links can be found at davenportschools.org



For more information, please contact your child's school or call the Learning and Results Department at 563-336-7460.

This series of resource guides is designed to provide additional information and resources to assist parents and community members in their work with elementary-aged students from Kindergarten through 5th Grade.

The Davenport Community School District mission celebrates the role of parents and community partners in supporting and extending learning beyond the school day. Our district goals align with the statewide efforts of the Iowa Core, dedicated to improving teaching and learning for each and every student.



<https://iowacore.gov/>