

# Concord Public Schools



## Curriculum Overview Grade 1

### CPS Mission

To educate all students as lifelong learners, caring citizens, and responsible contributors in our increasingly diverse global society.

### CPS Vision

Students of Concord actively seek varied pathways through which they achieve their potential and find joy in learning. They will possess a strong sense of self and embrace their responsibilities as members of our ever-changing local and global communities.

### CPS Values

- Belonging • Excellence • Engagement
- Inclusion • Innovation

## English Language Arts

The Grade 1 literacy curriculum focuses on early foundational skills and promoting independence in reading, writing, listening and speaking. The following key elements are taught explicitly in reading instruction:

- Phonemic and phonological awareness (**Heggerty**)
- Phonics (**Fundations**)
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension

Students participate in daily readers' and writers' workshops that include a focus lesson, small group time, and independent practice allowing for differentiated instruction. Students are immersed in literacy throughout their day through interactive read aloud, shared reading, shared writing, poetry, and songs.

### Grade 1 Content Standards

#### Reading

- Apply grade 1 phonics and word analysis skills
- Engage with grade-level texts fluently with purpose and understanding
- Retell a story key details including characters, setting, and major events in sequence

#### Writing

- Follow the writing process to compose narrative, opinion, and informative pieces

#### Speaking & Listening

- Ask and answer questions to seek help, get information, or deepen understanding
- Clearly express thoughts, feelings, and ideas

#### Language Conventions

- Spell high frequency and phonetic words correctly and approximate the spelling of unfamiliar words in writing
- Demonstrate a basic command of capitalization and punctuation when writing

## Math

Through the Everyday Math 4 curriculum, students engage in a daily math block with emphasis on the use of concrete, real-life examples of key mathematical concepts, use of hands on manipulatives, collaborative games, and exposure and practice with multiple problem-solving strategies. Everyday Math is a spiral curriculum; essential content is revisited repeatedly over months and across grades. Content is differentiated to meet student needs to provide a balanced combination of procedure and understanding.

**K - 5 Mathematical Practice Standards:** Makes sense of problems and persevere in solving them; constructs viable arguments and critiques the reasoning of others; models with mathematics; attends to precision

### Grade 1 Content Standards

#### Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction
- Understand/apply properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction
- Add and subtract within 20
- Work with addition and subtraction equations

#### Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Extend the counting sequence
- Understand place value
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract

#### Measurement and Data

- Measure lengths indirectly and by iterating length units
- Tell and write time
- Represent and interpret data
- Work with money

#### Geometry

- Reason with shapes and their attributes

## Social Studies

Students explore their place on the map and examine map types, features, and functions. Through the Ghana unit, students look to find commonalities between their culture and others, as well as to study concepts related to geography, civics and economics. Also, they learn about historical figures, symbols and holidays related to the United States of America and why they are important to Americans.

## Science

The elementary science program is designed with inquiry-based experiences that promote the development of science and engineering practices including making observations, asking questions, developing and using models, and engaging in arguments from evidence. Science content is focused on:

**Life Science:** Life Cycles (butterflies) and Adaptations

**Earth Science:** Weather, Seasonal Changes/Patterns

**Physical Science:** Solids and Liquids

**Technology/Engineering:** Visits to the district STEAM Lab are collaborative, problem-solving experiences that teach the steps of the Engineering Design Process.

## Specialist Subjects

### Art

Students work with a variety of art materials to explore drawing, painting, collage, printmaking and sculpture. All art lessons are sufficiently open ended to encourage individual problem solving at the appropriate developmental level. While the design of the art lessons directs students toward a specific concept or lesson objective, one of the unique aspects of the art curriculum is that there is never a "right answer". Instead, problem solving belongs to each individual student. At all levels, the lessons aim to encourage students to consider the questions: *What is my idea? How can I use what I know about this material to communicate my idea? What visual strategies do I know and what are some new ones I can discover? What can I learn from my classmates during this process?*

### Library

Students will develop an appreciation of a wide range of genres. They will differentiate between fiction and nonfiction. Students will learn to locate books meeting their reading interests and properly care for books. Students will explore digital citizenship topics such as online safety and digital etiquette.

### Music

Students are introduced to the tonal concepts (i.e. solfege pitches) so, mi, and la. Students learn the rhythms Ta (quarter note), Ta-di (beamed eighth note) and quarter rest. Movable do solfege is used to label tonal concepts, and the Takadimi system is used to label rhythmic concepts. Students learn through active participation and exploration in singing, listening, playing classroom rhythmic instruments (ie. rhythm sticks, drums, shakers), moving and playing musical games. In addition, students experience a district-wide "Musician of the Month."

### Physical Education

The physical education program focuses on refining movement skills (skipping, galloping, single foot hopping and jumping) ball handling, and fitness through engaging in simple games, cooperative exercises, gymnastics, and dance. These experiences foster positive attitudes toward physical activity, enhance skills, strength, coordination, self-assurance, and self-perception. Social and emotional growth is nurtured by emphasizing cooperation, problem-solving, team dynamics, fair play, and respect for diversity.

### Spanish

Students receive Spanish instruction with lessons centered on these essential questions: *Who am I? Which childhood traditions are part of Hispanic folklore? What fruit do I like to eat?* Students learn the Spanish language and Hispanic

### Spanish (continued)

cultures through direct instruction, stories, songs, videos, games, and varied activities. The topics covered in first grade include colors, animals, feelings, fruit, and important events for first graders such as losing a tooth.

## Social Emotional Learning

SEL is an integral part of education and human development. It sets the foundation for learning as students learn the concepts and skills that allow them to be self-reliant, work collaboratively, and be positive, respectful members of their school/classroom communities. Through the Responsive Classroom approach, Concord students learn and practice these SEL competencies:

- Self-Management
- Self-Awareness
- Responsible Decision Making
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills

