

2025-2026 ELA 1st Grade Pacing Guide

AT-A-GLANCE

1st Grade Benchmark Checklist

Unit Strategies and Skills with Benchmarks (Spotlight)	Unit Essential Question
Quarter 1: August 11- October 10, 2025	
Review and establish Routines in Benchmark mini-lessons	
Unit 1 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.2.2 Identify the topic and relevant detail R.3.2 Retell: Use topic and relevant details R.1.1 Identify and describe main story elements R2.1 Use text features C.1.3 Write Opinions C.3.1 Common and proper nouns C.3.1 Form and use simple past, present, and future tense verbs V.1.3 Use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 1: Plants and Animals Grow and Change <i>Why do living things change?</i>
Unit 2 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.1.1 Identify and describe main story elements R.3.2 Retell: Use main story elements C.1.2 Write narratives C.3.1 Use subject-verb agreement in simple sentence C.3.1 Use apostrophes to form contractions V.1.3 Identify and explain descriptive words in a text	Unit 2: Many Kinds of Characters <i>How do we learn about characters?</i>
Quarter 2: October 15- December 19, 2025	
Unit 3 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.2.1 Use text features to demonstrate understanding R.2.2 Identify the topic of and relevant details in a text C.1.4 Write expository essays C.3.1 Appropriately use pronouns C.3.1 Form simple sentences C.3.1 Use subject-verb agreement in simple sentences V.1.3 Use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 3: Being a Good Community Member <i>Why do people get involved in their communities?</i>
Unit 4 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.1.3 Explain who is telling the story using context clues R.1.1 Identify and describe main sotry elements C.1.3 Write opinion text C.3.1 Form plurals -y to -ies C.3.1 Use subject-verb agreement with intervening clauses and phrases C.3.1 Use command in a series V.1.3 Use context clues to develop meaning	Unit 4: Stories Have a Narrator? <i>How do people create stories?</i>
Quarter 3: January 5 - March 13, 2026	

Unit 6 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.1.1 Identify and describe main story elements R.1.2 Identify and explain the moral of a story C.1.3 Write opinion essays C.3.1 Capitalize proper nouns C.3.1 Form simple sentences V.1.3 Identify and use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 6: Stories Teach Many Lessons <i>What can we learn from a mistake?</i>
Unit 7 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.2.2 Identify the topic of and relevant details in a text R.2.1 Use text features to demonstrate meaning R.2.1 Explain similarities and differences between information in visuals and text C.1.4 Write expository text C.3.1 Use possessives C.3.1 Use subject-verb agreement in simple sentences V.1.3 Identify and use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 7: Past, Present, and Future <i>Why is the past important?</i>
Unit 8 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.1.1 Identify and describe main story elements R.2.3 Explain similarities and differences between information provided in visuals and text R.3.3 Compare and contrast accounts on the same topic R.2.1 Identify the topic of and relevant details in a text R.2.2 Use text features to demonstrate understanding C.1.3 Write an opinion text C.3.1 Appropriately use pronouns C.3.1 Form and use past tense of frequently occurring irregular verbs V.1.3 Use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 8: Observing the Sky <i>Why do the sun and moon capture our imagination?</i>
Quarter 4: March 23- May 29, 2026	
Unit 10 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.1.1 Identifying and describe main story elements R.2.1 Use text features to demonstrate understanding R.3.1 Identify and explain descriptive words and phrases C.1.2 Write poetry C.3.1 Form and use regular and frequently occurring irregular plural nouns C.3.1 Conjugate regular and irregular verb tenses V.1.3 Identify and use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 10: Exploring Sound, Light, and Heat <i>How would our lives be different without sound, light, and heat?</i>
Unit 9 F.1.2 Demonstrate phonological awareness F.1.3 Use knowledge of grade-appropriate phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words accurately R.3.2 Retell: Use topic and relevant details R.2.3 Explain an author's opinion toward a topic R.1.2 Identify and explain the moral of a story R.3.2 Retell: Use main story elements C.1.4 Write a research report C.3.1 Form plural possessives C.3.1 Use commas in a series V.1.3 Use context clues to determine meaning	Unit 9: We Use Goods and Services <i>Why do people trade with each other?</i>