



GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

FIRST GRADE

The Brewster Central School District grade-level expectations for First grade outline what students should know and be able to do at the end of the academic year to help them succeed in school and beyond. These expectations are based on the New York State Learning Standards and the Brewster Central School District's Profile of a Graduate skills. The skills should be viewed holistically and are not used to determine promotion or retention. A student may be on track towards proficiency without showing mastery of every skill. Teachers provide interventions as needed to support skill development.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Print Concepts

- Recognize sentence basics (first word, capitals, punctuation).

Phonics/Fluency

- Know common letter blends and digraphs (sh, th, ch)
- Decode long vowel sounds in one-syllable words.
- Decode one- and two-syllable words with basic patterns.
- Identify root words and simple suffixes (-ed, -s).
- Read high-frequency words by sight.
- Use context for word recognition and self-correction.
- Read with accuracy, rate, and expression.

Vocabulary

- Sort and define words by category and attributes.
- Distinguish shades of meaning in verbs and adjectives.
- Use context and affixes for word meaning.

Comprehension

- Retell stories and shares key details.
- Identify literary and informational texts.
- Find information to support ideas in texts.
- Make connections between self, text, and the world.

Speaking & Listening

- Participate in collaborative conversations.
- Follow discussion rules (listening, turns, staying on topic).
- Build on others' comments.

Writing

- Form legible uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Use end punctuation (periods, question marks).
- Spell words with patterns and irregular words.
- Write for different purposes (narrative, informational, opinion).



MATHEMATICS

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Solve word problems using addition and subtraction (within 20).
- Understand how addition and subtraction are related.
- Learn different ways to add and subtract (like counting on or making 10).
- Understand what the equal sign means.

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Count to 120.
- Understand that numbers have tens and ones.
- Add and subtract numbers within 100 (including adding a two-digit number to a one-digit number).
- Compare two-digit numbers to see which is greater, less, or equal.

Geometry

- Identify and describe shapes (like triangles, squares, and rectangles).
- Divide shapes into halves and fourths.
- Work with 2D and 3D shapes.

Measurement and Data

- Measure the length of objects.
- Tell time to the hour and half-hour.
- Use simple graphs to organize and understand information.



SCIENCE

Life Science

- Understand what living things need to survive.
- Learn about the life cycles of plants and animals.
- Understand that children resemble their parents.



SCIENCE CONTINUED

Earth and Space Science

- Observe and describe different types of weather.
- Understand why we have day and night.
- Observe and describe what they see in the sky, including the sun, moon, and stars.

Physical Science

- Understand what objects are made of.
- Begin to understand how objects move.



ART

Creating

- Use different art materials and ways of making art.
- Create artwork based on what they see and imagine.
- Express their ideas and feelings through art.

Responding

- Talk about and share their thoughts about artwork.
- Begin to understand that art can tell stories.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Civic and Cultural Ideas

- Understand what a community is.
- Learn about different kinds of families and their traditions.
- Understand rules and responsibilities.
- Learn what it means to be a good citizen.

Geography

- Use maps and globes to find places.
- Learn about basic geography (like land and water).
- Start to understand how people use the environment.

History

- Understand that families change over time.
- Learn about important people and events in their community.



MUSIC

Performing

- Sing simple songs with the correct notes and rhythm.
- Play simple musical instruments.
- Participate in musical games.

Responding

- Listen to and identify different parts of music (like rhythm and melody).
- Begin to learn musical words.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Movement Skills

- Develop basic movement skills (like running, jumping, throwing, and catching). (Demonstrates emerging forms of locomotor, non-locomotor and manipulative skills).
- Recognizes and follows directions in physical activity settings (i.e., taking turns and sharing).
- Explains the effects of physical activity on the heart and lungs.

Personal and Social Responsibility

- Follow rules and show good sportsmanship.
- Work well with others.
- Understand how to stay safe during physical activities.



LITERACY AND MATH SCREENING ASSESSMENTS

First grade students are screened three times per year on their literacy and math skills using the STAR assessments to ensure they are on track towards proficiency.

Diagnostic assessments are used by teachers to determine students' literacy and mathematical skill level as well as determine if additional support is needed in these areas.



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