

North Cobb Christian School

FIRST GRADE

1st CURRICULUM

BIBLE

The Bible comes to life through well-known stories from God's Word including Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and David. Students learn about Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection in unit studies and as the life of Christ is woven into each lesson. First graders not only learn more about God's Word but also how to apply it to their lives. Children hide God's Word in their hearts through weekly scripture memorization.

MATH

Illustrative Mathematics for 1st grade is a curriculum designed to teach foundational math concepts through engaging and interactive activities. It focuses on developing students' understanding of numbers, operations, geometry, measurement, and data analysis. Here is an overview of what you might find in an Illustrative Mathematics curriculum for 1st grade:

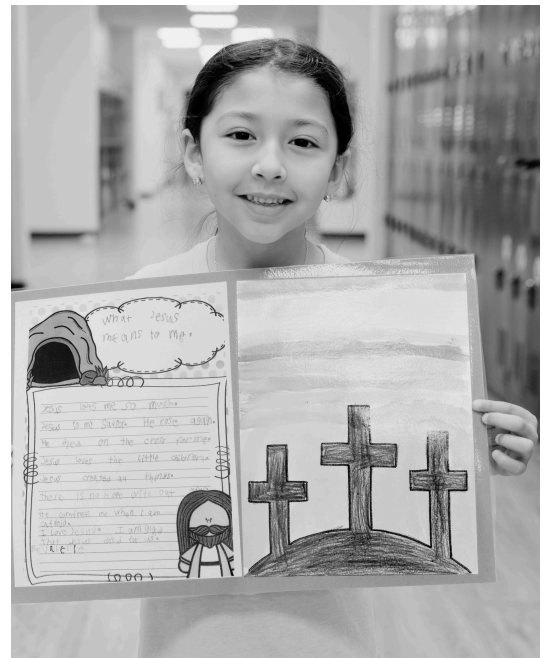
Number Sense: Students learn to count, read, and write numbers up to 100. They also work on understanding the relationship between numbers, such as greater than, less than, and equal to. Activities may include number charts, number lines, and comparing quantities.

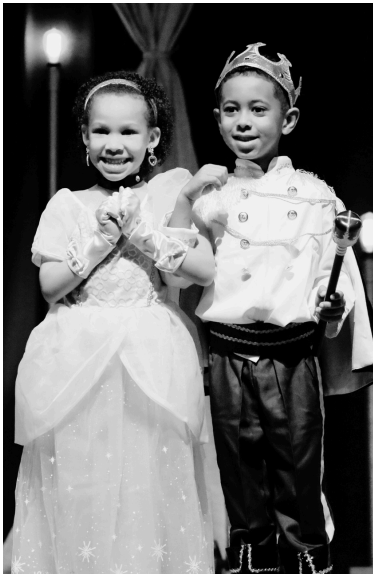
Operations: Basic addition and subtraction skills are introduced using manipulatives, number bonds, and pictorial representations. Students learn strategies for adding and subtracting within 20, such as using doubles, making tens, and counting on or back.

Geometry: Students explore two-dimensional shapes (like squares, circles, triangles, and rectangles) and three-dimensional shapes (like cubes, spheres, cones, and cylinders). They learn to describe and compare shapes based on their attributes, such as sides, corners, and faces.

Measurement: Measurement concepts include length, weight, capacity, time, and money. Students use non-standard units (like cubes or paper clips) and standard units (like inches, pounds, cups, minutes, and coins) to measure and compare objects.

Data Analysis: Basic data analysis involves sorting, classifying, and organizing objects or information. Students may create simple graphs and charts to represent data and interpret the results.





Problem-Solving: Problem-solving tasks are integrated throughout the curriculum to help students apply their math skills in real-world situations. They learn to identify problems, use strategies to solve them, and communicate their solutions clearly.

Mathematical Practices: Throughout the curriculum, students engage in mathematical practices such as reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, constructing viable arguments, critiquing the reasoning of others, modeling with mathematics, and persevering in problem-solving.

Illustrative Mathematics emphasizes a deep understanding of mathematical concepts rather than rote memorization of procedures. It encourages students to explore, make connections, and develop critical thinking skills while building a strong foundation in math.

PHONICS & READING

Students begin the school year learning about literary genres through teacher read-alouds of quality literature. Students master reading through phonics instruction. Once ready, students begin the next Foundations & Frameworks comprehension skill, sequence of events, and use the Early Childhood SPECS Log to create visual tools through guided practice. Students also learn other comprehension skills such as questioning, story structure and characterization. SPECS Logs provide developmentally appropriate space for vocabulary words, illustrations, definitions and sentences. Additionally, first grade utilizes the Orton-Gillingham approach for phonics instruction. This method systematically breaks down reading and spelling into smaller, sequential skills focusing on letters and sounds, with instruction being explicit, direct, sequential, and multi-sensory.

WRITING & GRAMMAR

Students explore writing and apply grammar through a variety of genres, including narrative stories, informational paragraphs, how-to explanations, and opinion paragraphs. Grammar skills such as capitalization, punctuation, and parts of speech are interwoven into writing units. Recognition of correct grammar usage is emphasized through the student's original writing.

SCIENCE

First-grade students explore God's marvelous creation through the study of weather and the basic needs of plants and animals. During units on magnets, sound, and light, students investigate how things work in the world around them. With this engaging, hands-on, instructional program, students develop skills of questioning, observing, hypothesizing and experimenting. STEAM projects are also regularly integrated, inspiring students through critical thinking and collaboration.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In first grade, students continue to build a foundation of the social studies strands of history, geography, government and economics from a biblical worldview. This focus helps students understand their community, our country, and our world. By looking at early settlements and historical figures, students see the beginnings of how our country was established and how individuals helped to shape and influence their time period. Students also examine their rights and responsibilities through government and economic aspects of life and compare them to those of people long ago. Through map skills, students learn to read a map key, use cardinal directions, and identify continents and oceans.



1ST GRADE SPECIALS

ART | WEEKLY

1st grade students develop creative, critical and problem-solving skills by creating artworks to express individual ideas and experiences, as well as common subjects and themes. The curriculum introduces and reviews the elements of art and encourages students to identify them in works of art and in God's creation. Students develop an understanding of color mixing and color families (including primary, secondary, warm, and cool). Building upon skills from kindergarten, students apply various media, techniques and processes of two- and three-dimensional works of art, including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. Students continue to learn to use an artist's tools in a safe and appropriate manner.

MUSIC | WEEKLY

By the end of first grade, students are able to identify the difference between steady beat and rhythm. They are also able to play and speak rhythms with quarter notes, eighth notes, and quarter rests. The students are able to demonstrate an understanding that each of these notes is equal to one steady beat. They work to develop an understanding of a simple melody representation (i.e. following dots moving high and low). Students work on identifying basic classroom instruments by name, while continuing to develop singing and performance skills through Grandparents Day, Christmas Program, and the Spring Program. Students learn that music is a gift that they can use to worship God.

P.E. | WEEKLY

Physical Education in first grade emphasizes continued motor and movement skill development, and the development of an appreciation for participation in physical activity while fostering habits of lifetime wellness and inclusive social skills. Through individual, dual and group participation in physical activities, students increase their understanding of the interrelationship of physical, spiritual, emotional and social well-being. Students also work to set and achieve goals in personal, cooperative and competitive activities. Students are guided to be leaders in encouraging positive attitudes and promoting peaceful conflict resolution.

SPANISH | WEEKLY

Students participate actively in classroom experiences through purposeful games and songs that impart Spanish language and culture. Units build upon existing knowledge, and students demonstrate comprehension through physical response to spoken directions in Spanish, as well as memorizing simple Bible verses and songs.

TECHNOLOGY + STEAM | WEEKLY

Students expand upon digital citizenship, foundational coding, basic keyboarding, vocabulary, 3D design, robotics, and web searches. They engage in computer exercises that strengthen cognitive reasoning skills while exploring graphic arts, word processing, spreadsheets and slideshows in Google Workspace for Education. STEAM projects and collaborations are regularly integrated into Technology class. We celebrate each student's unique personality and gifts through Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math that stretch them artistically, academically, and cognitively.

READING ROOM | WEEKLY

Students experience an interactive read-aloud of a children's book that supports chapel themes, seasonal topics, or learning objectives. They also have the opportunity to select and check out a book to take home with them for the week.

