

WELCOME

to

Ms. Shade's First Grade Class



Parent Handbook
Sunrise Elementary
2025-2026

Welcome to the First Grade!

My name is Kelsey Shade, and I'm extremely excited to be your teacher. In my spare time, you can find me spending time with family and friends, working out, hiking, shopping, traveling, coaching/playing softball, attending sports games, and finding new eats.

I graduated from Northern Arizona University, with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary and Special Education, and also earned an endorsement in Structured English Immersion. I began my teaching career in 2012. This is my thirteenth year in education.

As a teacher, I recognize my responsibility to my classroom. I will focus not only on the curriculum but give my students the skills it takes to succeed in life. I want to relate to my students, teach them in a way they understand, and I will create a family-like environment. I accept my role as a teacher and also pledge my dedication to my students.

In this handbook, you will find all the information you need about our classroom, but please keep in mind if you have any questions, I am always here to help. You can contact me by calling the school 602-467-5900, by sending an email to Kelsey.shade@dvusd.org, or you can send me a message on ClassDojo.

Welcome to 1st grade at Sunrise Elementary School, let's work together to make this the best year ever!

Sincerely,
Ms. Shade ☺

1st Grade Class Schedule

8:00-8:15	Breakfast
8:15-9:15	Reading
9:15-9:45	Reading Groups
9:45-10:10	Reading Centers
10:10-10:45	Writing
10:45-11:00	Social Studies
11:00-11:20	Recess
11:20-11:45	Lunch
11:45-12:45	Math
12:45-1:30	Specials (PE, Music, Art)
1:30-1:40	Recess
1:40-2:00	Math Centers
2:00-2:20	Social Studies
2:20-2:55	Science
2:55-3:00	Dismiss Walkers Dismiss Car Riders

Friday Early Release Schedule

8:00-8:15	Breakfast
8:15- 8:45	EABS (Emotional & Behavior Support)
8:45-9:45	Reading
9:45-10:15	Reading Groups
10:15-10:45	Writing
10:45-11:00	Math
11:00-11:20	Recess
11:20-11:45	Lunch
11:45-12:30	Math
12:30-1:00	Specials (PE, Music, Art)
1:00-1:25	Social Studies/ Science
1:25 1:30	Dismiss Walkers Dismiss Car Riders

SOME TOPICS YOUR CHILD WILL BE STUDYING THIS YEAR:

Reading:

- character & setting
- sight words
- reading fluency
- main idea & details
- plot & theme
- cause & effect
- author's purpose
- compare & contrast
- story sequencing
- story summary

Writing:

- handwriting
- sentence writing
- narrative writing
- research writing
- opinion writing

Math:

- add & subtract fluently to 20
- introduce place value (tens and ones)
- compare length measurements
- identify & divide shapes
- introduce money & time
- introduce addition & subtraction to 100

Science and Social Studies:

- light and sound
- balance and motion
- animal habitats & life cycles
- plants & rocks
- rights & responsibilities
- national symbols & presidents
- ancient civilizations
- famous inventors

Homework

In order for your child to be the most successful this year, the learning should not stop when he or she comes home. For homework, please have an adult or older sibling read with your child at least 20 minutes each night. This could be library books, books at home, or copies of decodable books I send home. Every time your child reads a book, add the book and minutes read to the reading log in your student's homework folder.

The reading log must be filled out by an adult in order for your child to earn points in class. Please keep reading logs in your student's homework folder so they can be checked each day. The reading log will be collected each month and replaced for the new month.

Reading practice is the most important activity you can do with your child at this age, so please take the time to read with your child every day!

As the year progresses, there may be changes to the homework policy. Information will be sent out and shared with you when changes are made. If you have any questions about the first grade homework policy, please let me know. I am happy to help!

Thank you so much for your support at home! It truly makes the difference!

The First Grade Team

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads
20 minutes
each day
3600 minutes in
a school year

1,800,000 words



90th percentile

Student "B" reads
5 minutes
each day
900 minutes in
a school year

282,000 words



50th percentile

Student "C" reads **1**
minute
each day
180 minutes
in a school
year

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade, Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

¿Por Qué No Puedo Saltar Mis 20 Minutos de Lectura Diaria?

Alumno “A” lee
20 minutos
cada día

3600 minutos en
un año escolar

1,800,000 palabras



90 percentil

Alumno “B” lee **5 minutos**
cada día

900 minutos en un
año escolar

282,000 palabras



50 percentil

Alumno “C” lee
1 minuto
cada día

180 minutos en un
año escolar

8,000 palabras



10 percentil

Para el final del 6° grado, el Alumno “A” habrá leído el equivalente de 60 días completos de clases. El alumno “B” habrá leído únicamente 12 días de clases. ¿Cuál alumno crees que tendrá un mejor vocabulario? ¿Cuál alumno crees que tendrá más logros en la escuela...y en la vida?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)



Academic Integrity Statement

To be college-, career-, and community-ready, students in the Deer Valley Unified School District are expected to demonstrate academic integrity. Academic integrity is all about being honest and fair in your schoolwork. It means doing work that is entirely your own and giving credit to others (including generative Artificial Intelligence tools) through proper citation when you use their ideas or words.

If you have questions about the guidelines for academic integrity, you should discuss them with your teacher.

Academic Dishonesty Statement

Academic dishonesty refers to any action that compromises the integrity of academic work or evaluation processes. This includes but is not limited to:


- Copying or stealing another person's work or data (plagiarism);
- Allowing another person to copy one's work;
- Doing another person's classwork;
- Creating more than one copy of one's work for distribution;
- Providing another person with the answers on tests or quizzes;
- Noncompliance with teachers' test-taking procedures;
- Unauthorized copying or development of software; and
- Unauthorized use of generative Artificial Intelligence.

Consequences for instances of academic dishonesty range from a conference and loss of credit (student will be given another opportunity to show mastery of learning) up to a 5-day suspension and loss of credit.

Artificial Intelligence

In the Deer Valley Unified School District, we are committed to providing our students with the best possible education while ensuring their safety, privacy, and well-being. As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance learning experiences, teachers may incorporate generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the classroom for students.

Students must adhere to the specific guidelines provided in the assignment details. If no guidance around the use of generative AI is provided, students should follow the “restrictive” level (see chart). Teachers should direct students to contact their teacher before submitting classwork if the student is unsure if the tool or website they are using is permitted on a specific assignment.

AI Use Traffic Light	Level	Description	Example Instruction
	Restrictive No!	AI tools are prohibited for the assignment, and all work must be the student's original creation.	"Do not use AI tools for this assignment. All content must be original, and any use of AI will be treated as plagiarism."
	Moderate Whoa!	Students can use teacher-approved AI tools from the district list for specific parts of their assignments, such as brainstorming or initial research, but the core content and conclusions should be original. Proper citation is required for any AI-generated content.	"You can employ AI tools to assist brainstorming or initial research, however, the main content, arguments, and conclusions should be your own."
	Permissive Go!	Students can utilize district-approved AI tools to assist in their assignments, such as generating ideas, proofreading, or organizing content. Proper citation is required for any AI-generated content.	"You may use AI tools as you see fit to enhance your assignment and demonstrate your understanding of the topic."

Grade Scales

1st-2nd Grade Grade Scale

Students in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades will receive marks for their proficiency toward the grade level standards using the following scale.

- 4 = Applies grade level skills with greater depth or complexity
- 3 = Demonstrates grade level proficiency
- 2 = Approaches grade level proficiency
- 1 = Displays a significant lack of grade level proficiency

Students in 1st and 2nd grades will receive marks for their overall performance in each course of study using the following letter grade scale.

E = Excellent)

S = Satisfactory

N = Needs Improvement

U = Underperforming

Late Work

An assignment is considered late work when the assignment is not submitted by the due date that was established but is submitted within the parameters listed below.

For **Late Work** to be accepted, students must meet the following parameters:

- Assignment is not due within the class period
- Assignment is not a timed activity (such as a Quick-Write Essay)
- Assignment is not a Long-Term assignment (over multiple weeks)
- Assignment is turned in within the following time frame

K-2 Grades: By the end of the marking period

Reassessment

Retakes are allowed for assessments for full credit, if reperformance opportunities (another assessment on the same learning target later in the marking period as part of the instructional cycle) will not be available during the marking period or in addition to reperformance opportunities during the marking period.

To earn a retake opportunity, a student must complete all of the following:

- Complete all formative coursework related to the content/skill assessed
- Consult with the teacher
- *Submit a reassessment plan or application, if required by the teacher*

A reassessment plan must be scheduled within the following time frames:

- **K-2nd Grades: Until the week before the end of the marking period**