

First Grade Syllabus-Outline First Semester

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to First Grade at Lake Dallas Elementary! This syllabus outlines what your child will learn this semester, and how you can support their success. As required by Texas law (Senate Bill 12), this document serves as the instructional plan and is available for your review. We are excited to partner with you for a great semester!

What Your Child Will Learn

This semester, we'll focus on building skills in the following subjects, based on Texas state standards (TEKS). This is the instructional plan for your child's class:

1. Reading & Language Arts

- Unit 1: Fables & Stories
 - Learning objectives: Students are introduced to fables and stories that have delighted people for generations, including Aesop's fables, the Anansi the Spider folktale, and Beatrix Potter's The Tale of Peter Rabbit. Students increase their vocabulary and reading comprehension skills, learn valuable lessons about virtues and behavior, and become familiar with the key elements of a story.
- Unit 2: The Human Body
 - Learning objectives: Using an interactive approach, the first half of this domain will introduce students to the vital network of body systems known as organs. Through rhymes within the Read-Aloud, students will learn the fundamental parts and functions of five body systems: skeletal, muscular, digestive, circulatory, and nervous. The second half of this domain focuses on care and maintenance of the human body, including the five keys to good health: a well-balanced diet, exercise, sleep, keeping clean, and getting regular checkups.
- Unit 3: Different Lands, Similar Stories
 - Learning objectives: This domain will introduce students to three common themes in fairy tales and folktales from varying countries and lands that have been told to children for generations. By listening to these stories, students will increase their vocabulary and reading comprehension skills, gain exposure to different places and cultures from around the world, and learn valuable, universal lessons. Reading these folktales and fairy tales will help students develop a strong foundation for their understanding and enjoyment of similar stories from different lands.
- Unit 4: Early American Civilizations
 - Learning objectives: Students will examine the fundamental features of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations, including farming, the establishment of cities and government, and religion. By comparing and contrasting these societies,

students will build a foundational understanding of the value and importance of each civilization's achievements and contributions. Additionally, students will learn that much of what we know about the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations is due to the skill and perseverance of archaeologists.

- Unit 5: Astronomy: Space Exploration
 - Learning objectives: In this introduction to the solar system, students will expand their understanding of the universe and learn that Earth is just one of many different celestial bodies within the solar system. Students will learn how the sun, stars, moon, and other planets relate to the earth, how the earth orbits the sun, how the sun is a source of light, heat, and energy, and how the earth's own rotation on its axis leads to the phenomenon of day and night. In the second half of this domain, students will study the history of space exploration and the missions to the moon, NASA, the Space Race, the Apollo missions, and what it takes to be an astronaut.
- Unit 6: The History of the Earth
 - Learning objectives: In this introduction to the basics of geology and paleontology, students learn about the geographical features and characteristics of the layers of the earth: the crust, the mantle, and the core. Students will learn how occurrences such as volcanoes and geysers provide information about the layers of the earth, and how rocks, minerals and fossils document the history of living things on our planet.

2. Math

- Module 1: Sums and Differences to 10
 - Learning objectives: This module bundles student expectations that address composing and decomposing numbers and representing and solving addition and subtraction situations by applying basic fact strategies and properties of operations.
- Module 2: Introduction to Place Value Through Addition and Subtraction Within 20
 - Learning objectives: This module bundles student expectations that address laying the foundation for the role of place value units in addition and subtraction by connecting composing and decomposing ten to addition and subtraction within 20. three-dimensional objects.
- Module 3: Ordering and Comparing Length Measurements as Numbers
 - Learning objectives: This module bundles student expectations that address linear measurement and data analysis.

3. Science

- Unit 1: Investigating Properties of Objects
 - Learning objectives: Students will classify objects based on observable physical properties (shape, color, and texture) and attributes based on relative size and weight. Students will also demonstrate that a whole object can be made up of parts that can be taken apart and reassembled.
- Unit 2: Investigating Pushes and Pulls
 - Learning objectives: Students will explain how pushes and pulls affect the motion of an object. Then, they can plan and conduct their own investigation about the effects of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object.
- Unit 3: Investigating Heating and Cooling
 - Learning objectives: The student expectations ask students to explain and predict changes in materials caused by heating and cooling and identify if the changes are reversible or not. They will investigate and describe everyday applications of heat

- Unit 4: Investigating Weather and Seasons
 - Learning objectives: Data about weather will be recorded and organized using pictures, numbers, and words. Seasons of the year have repeating patterns and can be identified by their characteristics.

4. Social Studies

- Unit 1: Creating Order
 - Learning objectives: This unit bundles student expectations that relate to community rules, laws, and authority figures. In the contexts of home, school and communities, students expand their understanding of rules making a connection to how laws provide order and stability to communities. This understanding is important for developing students' later mastery of the idea that governments are established to promote, order, security, and stability. Students also expand on their understanding of authority figures to include an understanding of the role of public officials.
- Unit 2: Exemplifying Good Citizenship
 - Learning objectives: This unit bundles student expectations that introduce students to the concept of citizenship. Examining the characteristics of good citizenship provides students with a foundational understanding of the role of responsible and engage citizens in the United States.
- Unit 3: Exploring Places
 - Learning objectives: This unit bundles student expectations that relate to geography of places. It is important for students to create and interpret maps to develop spatial reasoning and to begin constructing a mental map of the world. Students expand their knowledge of spatial terms with the introduction of cardinal directions in this unit. An examination of the physical geographic characteristics of places is an important step to understand how physical and human processes shape the patterns of the Earth's surface and the lives of humans.

Thank you for partnering with us to make this semester successful for your child! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Starkey, Mrs. Medeiros, Mrs. Montgomery, & Mrs. Bassham