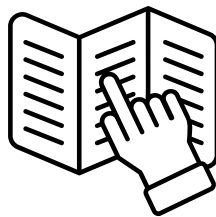


Parents' Guide to Success in First Grade



Purpose of Parent Guides

Parent Guides are designed to help you understand the skills and concepts your child will focus on each nine weeks in every content area. Use these guides to start conversations with your child and support their learning at home.

Why are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear road-map for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Clearly defined goals help families and teachers work together to ensure students succeed. They also will help children develop critical thinking skills to prepare them for college and career.

Help Your Child Learn at Home

You can support your child by reading together, talking about what they are learning at school, asking them to explain their thinking, and celebrating their effort and progress. Small daily actions make a big difference in their learning.

Parents' Guide to Success in First Grade for Quarter 1

First grade students will focus on these key concepts and are expected to be able to:

Reading

- Learn to listen to and read stories and discuss what the text is mostly about.
- Learn how texts are organized, such as titles, headings.
- Write simple stories that make sense and stay on topic.
- Use nouns, adjectives, and complete sentences when speaking and writing.

Math

- Add or subtract within 10 from memory (like $8-5$, or $2+7$, etc.).
- Count to 120 by 1s, 5s, or 10s
- Count to 30 by 2s.
- Count down to zero from any number up to 30.
- Sort objects into groups based on their characteristics (by color, shape, size, etc.).
- Recognize and work with repeating patterns.

Science

- Talk with your child about how the Sun affects daily activities, such as warming the ground or drying puddles.
- Notice how the Sun's position in the sky changes from morning to afternoon.
- Talk about how the weather affects clothing choices, plants growing, or animals' behaviors.

Social Studies

- How to do the right thing, including being honest, fair, and respectful.
- Being a good citizen at school and in the community.
- American symbols, such as the flag.
- Being good neighbors and helping others.
- How people work together to make their community better.

Parents' Guide to Success in First Grade for Quarter 2

First grade students will focus on these key concepts and are expected to be able to:

Reading

- Make predictions, notice story details, and explain what a story is really about.
- Use text features like headings and pictures.
- Use dictionaries and pictures to find meanings of words.
- Write and tell stories with a beginning, middle, and end.
- Use sentences, verbs, and punctuation when writing.

Math

- Add or subtract numbers within 20 using various strategies.
- Read and understand a calendar.
- Use objects or pictures to show that two math expressions are equal

Science

- Encourage your child to notice how toys, doors, fans, or instruments move and make sounds.
- Talk about why certain materials are used for different objects, like metal for pots or plastic for containers.
- Help your child compare objects that are clear, see-through, or block light.

Social Studies

- Difference between long ago and today.
- How life has changed over time.
- People, places, and events from the past.
- Virginia and what makes it special.
- History helps us learn about where we live now.

Parents' Guide to Success in First Grade for Quarter 3

First grade students will focus on these key concepts and are expected to be able to:

Reading

- Ask questions and share what they learned about a topic.
- Write to explain ideas and describe people, places, and things using details.
- Understand poems, story structure, and how characters and events connect.
- Learn prefixes and suffixes to make writing more clear.

Math

- Count a mix of pennies, nickels, and dimes up to 100 cents.
- Read, write, and compare numbers up to 120.
- Tell how many 10s and 1s in a two-digit number.
- Measure and compare two objects to determine heavier/lighter, longer/shorter, more/less, or the same as.

Science

- Talk with your child about where water, food, and energy come from and why we should not waste them.
- Discuss how saving water, using less electricity, and reducing waste help protect resources.
- Practice recycling and reusing items as a family.

Social Studies

- Natural resources and how people use them.
- Money and why it is used.
- Difference between spending and saving.
- Making choices and understanding consequences.
- People must make smart decisions with what they have.

Parents' Guide to Success in First Grade for Quarter 4

First grade students will focus on these key concepts and are expected to be able to:

Reading

- Read biographies and learn about important people and their lives.
- Compare stories and nonfiction texts to see how ideas are alike or different.
- Write to explain what they learned about a person or topic.
- Use adjectives, verbs, and sentence structure when writing.

Math

- Describe, represent, and explain halves and fourths as equal parts of a whole.
- Know, draw, and describe circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles and their parts.
- Describe, represent, and explain halves and fourths as equal parts of the whole.

Science

- Talk with your child about how plants at home or outdoors get what they need.
- Ask, "What job does this part help the plant or animal do?"
- Sort pictures or name animals and plants into groups based on common traits.

Social Studies

- Virginia long ago, including early life in the state.
- Important Virginians, such as George Washington.
- How people lived and worked in early Virginia.
- Connecting past events to life in Virginia today.
- Students review and show what they have learned through projects and activities.