

Course Title:	Grade 1 Library Special
Grade(s):	1

Course Description
Students in Grade 1 spend 50 minutes a week in Library. The focus of Library is to deepen student exposure to different types of books to help them develop their tastes and interests. First graders participate in author studies throughout the year, exploring writing styles, illustrations, and the range of genres. Students learn the layout of the library and how to find books independently. They discuss the concepts of digital citizenship and the importance of responsible use of information. Students participate in several elections throughout the year, such as the Caldecott picture awards, the March Madness Tournament of Books, and the Nutmeg award for Connecticut students. Students borrow a library book of their choice each week. They can participate in frequent bonus days to borrow a second book, in alignment with a CKLA knowledge lesson, as an incentive to try a featured genre, or to encourage extra reading during a vacation. Students use non-fiction books to study text features and practice finding valuable information in print form. By the end of the year, they are introduced to the concepts of print information and digital resources as elements of media literacy. Library units support the National School Library Standards: Inquire, Include, Collaborate, Curate, Explore, and Engage.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Building a Community of Readers	Students discuss the concept of reader identity based on their likes and dislikes. They can choose their own books each week to follow their interests. Students explore the idea of communicating about their reading and how building a community of readers enriches their classes, their school, and their town.	August - June

Unit 2: Library Orientation	Students are introduced to the layout of the library, including how types of books are organized. Students become familiar with the sections of the library and are comfortable searching for their own books and following their interests.	August - October
Unit 3: Fiction and Non-Fiction Text Features	Students review their knowledge of fiction and non-fiction by comparing text features. They study the power of pictures in storytelling in preparation for voting for the Caldecott medal. Students study the range of styles of illustrations through author studies. Students compare non-fiction books with realistic fiction to determine what can be learned from both types of sources.	November - January
Unit 4: Digital Citizenship	Students are introduced to the concepts of digital citizenship including media balance, information privacy, and digital footprint, as well as how the definition of digital citizenship applies to their daily lives. Students participate in the National Day of Unplugging in March to support media balance.	February - April
Unit 5: Information Literacy	Students are introduced to fact finding, searching for information, and elements of source evaluation. They begin to use their chromebooks to manage their library accounts by the end of the year.	May - June