

# ***First Grade Curriculum***

## **Reading/Language Arts/Writing**

Components of a balanced language arts program emphasize development of skills that allow students to comprehend, interpret, and convey meaning. Macmillan McGraw-Hill Reading and Language Arts are the textbooks used for first grade. Literature in the basic series is composed of:

- Poetry
- Nonfiction
- Folk tales
- Realistic fiction
- Riddles
- Fantasies
- Plays
- Big Books

First Grade students will be able to:

- Use phonetic skills to sound out unfamiliar words with long and short vowels
- Recognize high frequency words
- Develop their vocabulary through the use of age appropriate reading material
- Develop their comprehension through the use of main idea, sequencing, comparison, and predicting outcomes

The publisher offers information and extended activities on their website at: [www.mhschool.com](http://www.mhschool.com)

In addition, first grade students will use writing to convey meaning. Students will:

- Communicate through words and pictures
- Illustrate and write a story or experience
- Apply appropriate capitalization and punctuation for simple sentences

## **Handwriting**

Penmanship will be developed through the use of D'Nealian handwriting materials.

## **Speaking**

Students will use language and express opinions. They will become more fluent and extend their vocabulary. Students will:

- Read and re-tell stories fluently
- Participate in discussions
- Use listening etiquette
- Speak in complete sentences during classroom discussions and the retelling of stories

## **Listening**

First Grade students listen for understanding. They will:

- Follow directions
- Respond to the speaker
- Participate in discussions

## **Math**

The Scott Foresman enVision Math series provides a solid mathematics foundation. First grade students will be able to

- Recognize number patterns involving odd or even numbers and skip counting
- Solve word problems using objects and pictures
- Measure objects using nonstandard units of measurement
- Identify name and value of penny, nickel, dime, and quarter
- Identify and name basic geometry shapes

## **Science**

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand:

- Life cycles
- Properties of matter and magnets
- The 5 senses
- Personal hygiene
- School and home safety

## **Social Studies**

Students will be introduced to:

- The roles of mayor, governor and president
- The significance of holidays and diverse ways to celebrate them
- The importance of civic leaders in our community and country
- The concept that people use money as a medium of exchange and to provide goods and services
- An awareness of community helpers

## **Physical Education**

- Demonstrate control when performing fundamental locomotor, non-locomotor and manipulative skills
- Understand spatial awareness and relationships to objects and people
- Follow directions and class procedures while participating in physical activities
- Identify and apply rules and safety procedures in physical activities
- Participate in rhythm activities and creative movement through dance
- Accept responsibility for one's own actions in group physical activities

## **Art**

- Identify artistic elements of line, shape, space, color, and texture; the principles of repetition and pattern; and the expressive qualities of mood, emotion and pictorial representation
- Identify similarities in and among the arts (e.g., pattern, sequence and mood)
- Identify media and tools and how to use them in a safe and responsible manner when painting, drawing and constructing
- Identify how the arts contribute to communication, celebrations, occupations, and recreation

## **Music**

First grade students will:

- Learn fundamental musical skills and knowledge through singing, moving, listening, creating and playing instruments
- Identify different organizational principles of sound and patterns in music
- Identify, notate and interpret basic rhythm symbols
- Demonstrate understanding of appropriate audience behavior
- Recognize celebrations which include the fine arts