

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING

In first grade language arts, your child will learn:

LISTENING/SPEAKING. Students:

- listen to gather information, solve problems, and enjoy and appreciate literature;
- present dramatic interpretations of experiences, stories, poems, and plays;
- participate in group discussions; and
- make announcements, give directions, and make introductions appropriately.

READING. Students:

- recognize the conventions of print (e.g., understand that print moves left to right, involves upper and lower case letters, and represents spoken language);
- manipulate sounds in spoken words (phonemic awareness) and understand that letters represent sounds (phonics);
- read and comprehend first-grade level text fluently;
- use graphs, charts, signs, and captions to acquire information;
- find and connect ideas and themes in different books and other printed resources;
- draw conclusions from information gathered; and
- self-select books and stories by drawing on personal interest, relying on knowledge of authors or types of texts.

WRITING. Students:

- write their own name and each letter of the alphabet;
- gain increasing control of penmanship and punctuation;
- compose questions, ideas, and stories;
- write for different purposes, such as composing lists, letters, stories, and poems;
- engage in the writing process by generating ideas before writing and developing and polishing drafts; and
- record or dictate questions for investigations.

NOTE: Students of limited English proficiency (LEP) enrolled in Spanish Language Arts and/or in English as a Second Language will be expected to learn these same knowledge and skills for this grade level; however, students in Spanish Language Arts will learn these skills through their native language, and students in English as a Second Language will apply these skills at their proficiency level in English.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In first grade social studies, your child will learn:

HISTORY. Students:

- identify contributions of people, such as Sam Houston and Thomas Edison;
- describe the origins of holidays, such as Veterans Day;
- identify anthems and mottoes of the state and nation; and
- distinguish among past, present, and future.

GEOGRAPHY. Students:

- locate places using cardinal directions;
- create and use simple maps;
- locate community, state, and nation on maps and globes;
- describe physical and human characteristics of places; and
- identify natural resources and how they are used.

ECONOMICS. Students:

- identify examples of goods and services, ways people exchange them, and the role of markets in the exchange;
- identify reasons for making economic choices; and
- describe how specialized jobs contribute to production of goods and services.

GOVERNMENT. Students:

- explain the need for and give examples of rules and laws; and
- identify and describe the roles of leaders in the community, state, and nation.

CITIZENSHIP. Students:

- identify characteristics of good citizenship and identify historic figures and ordinary people who exemplify good citizenship;
- explain patriotic symbols, such as the Liberty Bell; and
- recite and explain the Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the Texas Flag.

CULTURE. Students:

- describe ways that families meet basic human needs; and
- retell stories from folktales and legends.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY. Students:

- describe how technology has changed how families live and how people work.

SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS. Students:

- sequence and categorize information;
- identify main ideas;
- express ideas orally and visually; and
- use problem-solving and decision-making processes.

MATHEMATICS

In first grade mathematics, your child will learn:

NUMBER, OPERATION, AND QUANTITATIVE REASONING. Students:

- compare and order whole numbers up to 99;
- create sets of tens and ones using concrete objects;
- describe values of coins and their relationships;
- read and write numbers to 99;
- separate a whole into parts and describe the parts of a set;
- describe the parts of a set of objects;
- model and write addition and subtraction sentences; and
- learn and apply addition facts.

PATTERNS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND ALGEBRAIC THINKING. Students:

- find patterns such as odd and even;
- use place value to compare and order whole numbers;
- identify fact families for addition and subtraction;
- identify, describe, and extend patterns to solve problems; and
- skip count by twos, fives, and tens.

GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL REASONING. Students:

- sort objects by attributes using informal language;
- identify shapes and solids; and
- combine shapes to make a new shape.

MEASUREMENT. Students:

- estimate and measure using nonstandard units;
- relate the unit to size of object;
- recognize reasonable temperatures;
- describe time on a clock (hours, half hours); and
- order events by length of time.

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS. Students:

- collect and sort data;
- construct graphs (real, picture, and bar);
- draw conclusions from graphs; and
- identify events as certain or impossible.

PROBLEM SOLVING. Students:

- identify mathematics in everyday situations;
- use a problem-solving model, with guidance as needed;
- select or develop an appropriate problem-solving strategy;
- use tools to solve problems;
- explain and record observations using objects, words, pictures, numbers, and technology;
- relate informal language to mathematical language and symbols; and
- reason and support their thinking using objects, words, pictures, numbers, and technology.

SCIENCE

In first grade science, your child will learn:

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS. Students:

- demonstrate safe practices during classroom and field investigations; and
- learn how to use and conserve resources.

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY AND CRITICAL THINKING. Students:

- ask questions about organisms, objects, and events;
- construct reasonable explanations using information;
- explain a problem in their own words and propose a solution; and
- use tools, including hand lenses, clocks, computers, thermometers, and balances.

PROPERTIES, PATTERNS, AND SYSTEMS. Students:

- identify, predict, and create patterns, including those in charts, graphs, and numbers;
- know that systems have parts and are composed of organisms and objects;
- observe and describe the parts of plants and animals; and
- manipulate objects so that the parts are separated from the whole, which may result in the part or the whole not working.

CHANGE. Students:

- measure changes in size, mass, color, position, quantity, sound, and movement;
- observe and record weather changes from day to day and over seasons; and
- observe stages in the life cycle of organisms in their natural environment.

LIVING ORGANISMS AND NON-LIVING OBJECTS. Students:

- group and compare living organisms and non-living objects.

BASIC NEEDS OF ORGANISMS. Students:

- identify characteristics of organisms that allow their basic needs to be met; and
- compare the ways living organisms depend on each other.

PROCESSES OF THE NATURAL WORLD. Students:

- describe natural sources of water, including streams, lakes, and oceans;
- observe and describe differences in rocks and soil samples; and
- identify how rocks, soil, and water are used and how they can be recycled.