

First Grade

Warren Township Schools Warren, New Jersey Grade Level Expectations

Reading/Language Arts

Through the balanced literacy approach, the reading/language arts program focuses on reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The reading program includes shared reading, guided reading, independent reading, and teacher read-aloud. The writing component consists of independent and shared writing experiences. By using phonics, comprehension strategies, and vocabulary development, the students will be able to construct meaning from text.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Decode words by recognizing chunks, i.e. beginning, middle, ending, and vowel sounds.
- Recognize rhyme and word patterns.
- Demonstrate knowledge of grade level sight vocabulary both in and out of context.
- Develop and apply word study skills in their daily writing.
- Begin to recognize and use capitalization and punctuation appropriately in sentences.
- Understand that sentences are complete thoughts.
- Develop clear and legible manuscript writing.
- Use context clues for decoding unfamiliar reading words.
- Apply decoding skills to problem solve in reading texts.
- Demonstrate and continue to strengthen fluency in reading according to their independent reading level.
- Make predictions about their reading.
- Begin to draw conclusions and make inferences from texts.

- Use summarizing to identify and retell a story using beginning, middle, and end.
- Recall story details and elements such as characters, setting, problem, and solution.
- Distinguish between fantasy and realism.

Mathematics

The goal in First Grade is for students to develop basic skills, conceptual understanding, and problem solving strategies.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Solve addition and subtraction facts to 18 by using various methods.
- Recognize, describe, and construct original patterns.
- Recognize, identify the value of, and count coins to \$1.00.
- Tell time to the hour and half hour using digital and standard clocks.
- Demonstrate the ability to skip count by 2's, 5's, and 10's.
- Demonstrate an understanding of measurement using both standard and non-standard units of measurement.
- Explore place value by identifying groups of hundreds, tens, and ones.
- Identify, compare, order, and write numbers from 0 to 100.
- Use a variety of strategies to problem solve.
- Explore fractions by identifying equal parts.
- Demonstrate an understanding of and describe both two and three-dimensional shapes.
- Interpret and create simple graphs and charts.

Science

By using hands on experiences, First Grade students will explore concepts in Air and Weather and Solids and Liquids. Students will be active observers in the scientific process.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Observe daily weather and use appropriate terminology to describe it.
- Use a thermometer to read the air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.
- Be familiar with the use of an anemometer.
- Use a modified wind scale to describe wind speed.
- Identify several types of clouds.
- Be familiar with the use of a rain gauge.
- Measure rain accumulations.
- Recall the properties of air.
- Explain that air occupies space.
- Demonstrate an exposure to the concepts of pressure and compression.
- Make a variety of wind catchers and observe their actions in moving air.
- Observe, sort, and compare properties of solid materials.
- Observe and describe properties of various liquids.
- Compare and contrast the appearance and behavior of different liquids.
- Describe the results of mixing solids with water.
- Describe the results of mixing liquids with water.

Social Studies

In First Grade, students develop an awareness and appreciation of other cultures and countries by learning about holidays and traditions. Additionally, students develop an awareness of how individuals and families are similar and different.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Understand that there are similarities and differences in families.
- Recognize that families celebrate special times in different ways.
- Describe similarities and differences in ways families meet the basic human need for shelter.
- Recognize the importance of rules and apply them in various situations.
- Compare the types of transportation used in the past and present.
- Demonstrate an understanding of certain special Americans in the past and present and their contributions to our nation.
- Identify and explain various national holidays and their origins.
- Identify symbols of our country and what they represent.
- Locate and identify places of significance on maps.
- Understand how to use map symbols and read a map key.
- Be familiar with the spatial relationship between a state, country, and a continent.
- Describe examples of natural resources and the importance of conservation.
- Describe the responsibilities and characteristics of good workers in a variety of occupations.

Special Areas of Study

Art

The art program continues to focus on developing skills with an emphasis on the elements of art: line, shape, color, texture, value, and space.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Develop an understanding of line character, repetition, movement, rhythm, texture, and pattern.
- Review primary color mixing and develop an understanding of producing secondary colors.
- Identify types of simple printing.
- Continue to develop cutting and gluing with an awareness of size, proportion, balance, and sequence.
- Recognize the difference between 2-D and 3-D forms.

Computer Science

The focus of the program is to enhance each child's ability to use a computer correctly and independently while learning basic skills with its technology.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Create, save, and print a document.
- Identify and demonstrate functions of a cursor.
- Locate the shift and delete keys.
- Use the mouse to access menu bar options.
- Insert clip art into a document.

Music

The music curriculum enables students to express themselves creatively and develop critical thinking skills through language and pattern organization. This can be accomplished through singing, movement, playing instruments, and composing. Listening to and understanding music provides students with a broad cultural and historical perspective.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Sing expressively a variety of repertoire.
- Demonstrate simple pattern recognition.
- Identify beat notation.
- Play rhythm patterns on instruments.

Physical Education

The physical education program is designed for the purpose of enhancing psychomotor, cognitive, and affective development of individuals through means of body movement. In addition, our P.E. curriculum offers opportunities that encourage independence, goal-setting, developing leadership, and respect of cultural diversity.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Perform locomotive skills such as skipping and galloping. Perform non-locomotive skills such as bending and turning.
- Perform manipulative skills such as throwing and kicking.
- Demonstrate social skills such as sharing and teamwork.

Library

The mission of the library media program is to ensure that students are effective users of ideas and information and that they develop a lifelong love of reading. As the children grow throughout the years, so will their skills.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Know the difference between fiction and nonfiction.
- Understand that story books and nonfiction books are separated on the shelves.
- Be aware of various parts of a book.
- Appreciate good literature.
- Recognize and appreciate Caldecott-winning books.
- Understand and adhere to district Acceptable Use Policy.
- Begin to understand the Internet and Internet safety.

World Languages

The goal of the first grade program is to transition the verbal knowledge of the students to the written recognition of vocabulary.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Identify color and animal vocabulary presented in the context of a story.
- Identify basic body parts.
- Identify the written numerals 1-20 in and out of order.
- Describe the Mexican Holiday of the Day of the Dead and Cinco de Mayo.
- Recite traditional English and Spanish rhymes.

Health

First grade students participate in learning activities to promote responsible health behaviors in disease prevention, personal protection strategies, healthy food habits and family life.

By the end of First Grade, your child should be able to:

- Identify behaviors that contribute to good health including hygiene, exercise, and sleep.
- Students will be able to identify healthy food choices vs. unhealthy food choices.
- Understand how the digestive, respiratory, and circulatory systems keep us alive.
- Understand decision-making and refusal skills in situations affecting health and safety, including stranger safety and good touch - bad touch.
- Understand that everyone experiences good and bad feelings and how to deal with them in appropriate ways.
- Recognize safe and unsafe substances including poison label identification. Know Poison Control contact number.
- Understand the interaction of family members and that all family members have rights, privileges, and responsibilities.

Warren Township Schools - District Mission Statement

The Mission of the Warren Township School District, in partnership with the family and community, is to create an environment in which each child is valued and experiences the challenge and excitement of learning.

District Website: <http://www.warrentboe.org>

