First Grade Curriculum Overview

First Grade forms the framework for students to develop a love of reading and writing, to apply mathematical concepts to real-life problems, and to expand their awareness of places and cultures, past and present. Classrooms bustle with group and independent differentiated activities, one-on-one teacher time, and most importantly, children excited about learning.

The first grade performance, "A Book is a Magic Carpet," captures first graders' enthusiasm for reading. Delighted in their blossoming decoding, fluency and comprehension skills, children eagerly set *Accelerated Reading* goals and make significant strides as independent readers. The Language Arts curriculum also teaches students how to follow written directions, a necessary skill as they begin nightly homework assignments and test taking. The mathematics program expands on number sense to include the hundreds place value and measurement using standard units. Teachers employ varied strategies, including manipulatives, to help students master their basic addition and subtraction facts and problem solve. First graders are problems solvers in the science lab as well, where they practice the scientific method to inquire and predict. A field study at Macarthur State Beach allows students to practice their scientific observations in a local ecosystem.

Handwriting emphasis continues with the "Fundations" program, which assists first graders as they write well-written sentences that are grammatically correct and focused on one idea. Students leave first grade prepared to write a paragraph. They take to second grade a sense of accomplishment in all academic arenas.

	Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies

1st	• Encode and Decode Words
	• Read Sight Words
	• Follow Written Directions
	• Sound-Letter Recognition
	• Word Knowledge
	• Read a Variety of Genres:
	  ○ Text Connections
	  ○ Re-reading
	  ○ Summarization
	  ○ Sequencing
	  ○ Predictions
	  ○ Questioning
	• Nouns, Verbs, and Pronouns
	• Types of Sentences
	• Punctuation
		• Patterning
		• Number Sense to 100
		• Graphs and Data
		• Estimation
		• Approximation
		• Measure with Non-Standard Units and Standard Units
		• Addition and Subtraction
		• Geometric Reasoning
		• Fractions
		• Regroup Two-Digit Algorithms
		• Calendar
		• Time
		• Bills and Coins
			• Plants
			• Animal Groupings
			• Herbivores and Carnivores
			• Habitats
			• Earth and Other Planets
			• Rocks and Minerals
			• Weathering and Erosion
			• Conservation of Natural Resources
			• Weather Tools
			• Water Cycle
			• Changes in Matter
			• Simple Machines
			• Energy
				• Citizenship
				• Past and Present
				• Historical People
				• Community Jobs
				• Geography
				• American Traditions and Symbols
				• Independence Day
				• State Leaders
				• Laws
				• Chinese Culture
				• Map Skills

	Writer's Workshop	Spanish	Additional Offerings

1st	• Brainstorming Techniques
	• Write in Response to a Prompt
	• Generate Detail
	• Write Related Sentences
	• Declarative, Interrogative, Imperative, and Exclamatory Sentences.
	• Pronouns
	• Possessives
	• Present and Past Tense
	• Start Sentences with Capital Letters
	• End Sentences with Punctuation
		• Culture
		• Sentence Formation
		• Dialogue
		• Vocabulary
		  ○ Greetings
		  ○ Likes and Dislikes
		  ○ Numbers 1-100
		  ○ Colors
		  ○ School Subjects
		  ○ Parts of a House
		  ○ Parts of a School
		  ○ Foods
		  ○ Instruments
		  ○ Weather
		  ○ Seasons
			• Christian Education
			• Art
			• Physical Education
			• Music
			• Computer Lab
			• Science Lab
			• Library
			• Character Education