

FIRST GRADE BENCHMARKS

First grade students are eager to continue building upon the basic foundational skills taught in kindergarten. First graders work towards becoming fluent readers, problem solvers, and effective communicators. First graders enjoy the structural, academic and social aspects of school as they broaden their experiences to satisfy their growing interest in the world.

RELIGION

CREED

Students will:

- recognize that God is the creator of all things, Jesus is the Son of God and the Holy Spirit is a gift of Jesus sent to be with them always
- identify and honor Mary as the Mother of Jesus
- define the Blessed Trinity as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- recognize that they belong to God's family, the Church, through Baptism

SCRIPTURE

Students will:

- demonstrate reverence for the Bible as the Word of God
- demonstrate knowledge that the readings at Mass come from the Bible
- explain that the Bible teaches them about God's love for them
- retell the stories of Christmas and Easter

PRAYER/WORSHIP

Students will:

- tell that Baptism makes them children of God and welcomes them into the Christian family as followers of Jesus
- identify water as the primary symbol of Baptism
- describe prayer as listening and talking to God
- talk about their experience of participation in the Liturgy with the community

CHRISTIAN LIVING

Students will:

- recognize that Jesus teaches them and shows them how to love God and to love their neighbor
- recognize that their own behavior affects others
- demonstrate the importance of sharing
- describe ways to serve others in imitation of Jesus

MATH

Students will:

- identify and write numbers to 100
- count by 2, 5, 10, 100
- order whole numbers
- identify ordinal position
- master addition and subtraction facts to 18
- solve double digit addition and subtraction facts without regrouping
- identify fractions as equal parts
- identify and counts coins
- use a calendar
- tell and show time to the hour and half hour
- compare, order and measure objects by length
- write addition and subtraction number sentences
- uses problem solving strategies to solve addition and subtraction word problems

LANGUAGE ARTS

READING

Word Analysis, Spelling, Fluency, and Systemic Vocabulary Development

Students will:

- identify and isolate the initial, medial, and final sound of a spoken word
- blend sounds to read and write grade level appropriate words
- generate the sounds from all letters and letter patterns, including consonant blends
- identify and apply long and short vowel patterns when reading and writing
- read and write introduced high frequency sight words
- apply knowledge of vowels, diagraphs, and r-controlled letter-sound associations to read and write words
- read with fluency to meet target oral reading level expectations
- read and identify multisyllabic words
- comprehend and apply grade level appropriate vocabulary

Comprehension, Literary Response and Literary Analysis

Students will:

- use appropriate grade level literary terms
- confirm predictions about what will happen in a text
- respond to who, what, when and how questions
- follow written instructions
- use context to resolve ambiguities about word and sentence meanings
- relate prior knowledge to textual information
- retell the central ideas of simple expository or narrative passages
- identify and describe the elements of plot, setting, and character(s) in a story, as well as the story's beginning, middle, and ending

GRAMMAR

Students will:

- understand and apply sentence concepts (word order, complete or incomplete sentence)
- identify nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs in sentences
- write complete sentences
- distinguish between statement, question and exclamatory sentences
- recognize and use the correct punctuation for various sentence types
- spell 3 and 4 letter short vowel and introduced long vowel words as well as introduced high frequency sight words correctly

WRITING

Students will:

- use proper D'Nealian printing formation
- use grade level vocabulary and spelling in their writing
- write complete sentences following the conventions of correct grammar, capitalization and punctuation
- write a four sentence paragraph, including a topic sentence, two example sentences and a summary sentence
- use transition words to connect logical example sentences to the topic

SCIENCE

Students will:

- describe how plants and animals are alike and different
- explain how plants and animals adapt to their habitats
- describe the part of a plant and what each part does for the plant
- explain how the shape of an animal's teeth is related to what it eats
- classify animals according to what they eat
- observe and describe weather
- explain how the Sun affects weather conditions
- understand the water cycle
- describe common tools used to measure weather
- describe how the weather, plants, and animals change and adapt to the seasons
- describe the properties of matter

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will:

- identify the people that make up a family
- understand the importance of rules both at home and school
- use a map to find home addresses
- understand what a custom is and how customs are celebrated
- describe what makes up a neighborhood
- be familiar with what an interview is and how to conduct an interview
- describe what a Native American is and be familiar with how they lived long ago
- understand the terms settler, pilgrim, president, slavery and freedom
- understand why our government worked to make laws
- identify some of the characteristics of a good citizen
- be familiar with some of the common symbols of our country

ART

ARTISTIC PERCEPTION

Student will:

- describe and replicate repeated patterns in nature, in the environment, and in works of art
- distinguish among various media when looking at works of art (e.g., clay, paints, drawing materials)
- identify the elements of art in objects in nature, in the environment, and in works of art
- emphasizing line, color, shape/form, and texture

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Students will:

- use texture in two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art
- draw or paint a still life, using secondary colors
- create artwork based on observations of actual objects and everyday scenes

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

Students will:

- identify and describe various subject matter in art (e.g., landscapes, seascapes, portraits, still life)

AESTHETIC VALUING

Students will:

- discuss works of art created in the classroom, focusing on selected elements of art (e.g., shape/form, texture, line, color)
- identify and describe various reasons for making art
- describe how and why they made a selected work of art, focusing on the media and technique
- select something they like about their work of art and something they would change

CONNECTION, RELATIONSHIPS, AND APPLICATIONS

Students will:

- identify and sort pictures into categories according to the elements of art emphasized in the works (e.g., color, line, shape/form, texture)

MUSIC

Students will:

- move to music
- identify simple rhythm and melodic patterns by listening to music
- sing songs from memory with increasing accuracy from a varied selection of songs and from different cultures and genres
- create movements to express pitch, tempo and dynamics. (high/low, fast/slow, and loud/soft)
- improvise simple melodies using their voice
- distinguish between different cultural styles of music
- study and talk about how music evokes images, mood and feelings
- read basic treble clef music notation

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

MOVEMENT SKILLS AND PATTERNS

Students will:

- land on both feet after taking off on one foot and on both feet
- jump a swinging rope held by others
- demonstrate the underhand and overhand movement (throw) and two-handed overhead pattern
- catch, showing proper form, a gently thrown ball
- catch a self-tossed ball and self bounce ball
- kick a rolled ball from a stationary and running position
- dribble a ball continuously with one hand
- create or imitate movement in response to rhythms and music

PHYSICAL FITNESS AND HEALTH

Students will:

- participate in physical activities that are enjoyable and challenging
- participate in moderate to vigorous physical activities that increase breathing and heart rate

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Students will:

- identify and demonstrate acceptable responses to challenges, successes, and failures in physical activity
- demonstrate the characteristics of sharing and cooperation in physical activity
- identify and demonstrate the attributes of an effective partner in physical activity
- identify and demonstrate effective practices for working with a group

COMPUTER

Students will:

- learn to use word processing software
- learn to type capital letters using the shift key
- continue building their skills in critical thinking and digital media creation
- learn to type simple sentences and print them out
- learn to save their work on the desktop
- enhance their language arts and math skills using specific software