

Understanding What Your Child Will Learn

Your child will learn many new concepts and skills over the course of the school year. In Louisiana, all public schools use the *Louisiana Student Standards* as the basis for what they teach students. These are provided for Grade 1 in the following content areas:

- English Language Arts & Reading
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

Below are a few of the standards that your child will learn along with strategies you can use to support your child's learning at home.



English Language Arts

First grade students will develop and sustain foundational language skills: fluently read 39 words per minute, sound out and spell one- and two-syllable words, write in complete sentences, and retell stories.

What does it mean?

Fluency: reading without struggle, quick and smooth

Spelling: decoding and blending words with familiar sound/spellings

Writing: writing in complete sentences, restating questions, attending to spacing, capitalization, and punctuation

Retelling: being able to listen to or read a story and retell about the characters, setting, and events in the story

How can you support your child?

- Provide a wide variety of reading material
- Show your child that you enjoy reading by reading near him/her
- Read to your child every day
- Listen to your child read to you and ask questions about the story
- Model writing for your child



Physical Education

The primary focus for this age group is the learning and acquisition of locomotor, non-locomotor and manipulative skills.

What does it mean?

These are the foundational skills for all movement patterns that gradually become more complex as movement becomes more specific.

How can you support your child?

- Keep children active.
- Maintain a well-balanced diet for your child.
- Encourage outdoor play and team-building games/sports.





Mathematics

First grade students are expected to make ten and understand tens and ones, recognize numbers to 120, add and subtract within 20, and tell time to the hour and half hour.

Analog clock



What does it mean?

Make ten: work with numbers that pair to make ten (Ex. 1+9 or 4+6)

Number to 120: understand that number 11-19 are composed of 1 ten and some ones and that numbers above 19 are composed of some tens and some ones

Add and subtract: use images, visuals, physical objects, or act out scenarios that require putting together, taking away, finding a difference, or breaking apart

Tell time: being able to use both an analog and a digital clock, knowing the function of the hour and minute hands on an analog clock

How can you support your child?

- Allow your child to help you solve math problems that arise in everyday life.
- Have conversations with your child about the changes that occur when you put things together (addition) and take things apart (subtraction).
- Have your child use analog and digital clocks.



Science

First grade students will be expected to make observations and conduct experiments on various topics.

What does it mean?

A first grade student should be able to ask questions about animals, plants, objects, and events (weather, seasons, etc.).

How can you support your child?

- Model asking questions for your child and encourage your child to ask questions.
- Explore reading materials about the topics they are discovering and studying in science.



Social Studies

First grade students are introduced to the world beyond their family and home. Students will build upon experiences with their families, schools, communities and parishes as they continue their study of the most fundamental principles and ideas of each social studies' core discipline: history, civics, economics and geography.

What does it mean?

- **Louisiana:** overview of Louisiana holidays, traditions, and customs and how they relate to historical concepts; locating Louisiana, industries in Louisiana, Louisiana's leaders and first inhabitants, notable parts of Louisiana history
- **Maps:** read and create maps with cardinal directions, map keys, and scales while understanding where in the world they live
- **Rules and Laws:** can state the purpose of having rules and law and have a basic understanding of how these are set up and maintained in Louisiana government,
- **Needs and Wants:** basic understanding of the difference between needs and wants and how choices we make impact our wellbeing

How can you support your child?

- Celebrate and recognize Louisiana traditions, customs, and holidays
- Access and talk about the use of maps and GPS systems when traveling
- Recognize and discuss rules that exist in different places
- Help your child budget their money and differentiate between needs and wants

