



# Grade 1

## Curriculum Overview

### ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

We focus on the Five Pillars of Literacy:

1. **Phonemic Awareness** - the oral manipulation of sounds, syllables, rhymes, words, and sentences.
2. **Phonics and Concepts about Print** - phonics is the sound/symbol relationships of letters and the combination of letters to make particular sounds. Concepts of print deals with “book knowledge”. They need to know directionality; print contains the message, and where to begin on a page.
3. **Fluency** - the ability to read with the proper phrasing and expression.
4. **Vocabulary** - Important in being able to understand the words that have been decoded or sounded out. They need to understand the meanings of words they have read.
5. **Comprehension** - the ability to understand the story or text read. Also, students must be able to make connections, infer, predict and analyze what they read.

*ELA Text: Superkids Reading Program*

### MATH

#### Number and operation

Counting; reading, writing, and modeling whole numbers; investigating whole number place value; exploring fractions; using ordinal numbers – all up to 120. Learning addition and subtraction facts and exploring fact families; beginning informal work with properties of numbers and operations.

#### Data and Graphs

Collecting, organizing and displaying data using tally charts, tables, line plots, and graphs; exploring concepts of chance.

#### Measurement

Using tools to measure length and weight; using clocks, calendars, timelines, and thermometers; exploring the values of coin combinations.

#### Geometry

Exploring 2- and 3-dimensional shapes.

#### Algebra

Exploring attributes, patterns, sequences, relations, and functions; finding missing numbers.

*Math Text: Envision, Pearson*

## **RELIGION**

Children are introduced to the beliefs of the Catholic Church, the stories of the Bible, the lives of the Saints and other people of faith, and the church celebrations of the liturgical year. Children learn traditional prayers as well as informal prayer. Children will participate in Mass two times a month and will prepare Mass once a year.

*Religion Text: We Believe, by Sadlier*

## **SCIENCE**

The first-grade science curriculum will continue to foster curiosity. Students will engage in hands-on science learning activities including the investigation of **Air and Weather, Earth Science, and Life Science.**

**Air and Weather:** introduces concepts in earth science. The investigations provide opportunities for young students to explore the natural world by using simple tools to observe and monitor change.

**Earth Science:** investigates earth materials including solids, rocks, sand soil and water. The investigations provide experiences that heighten students' awareness of rocks as earth materials and natural resources.

**Life Science:** investigates living things, plants and animals, and shows that they require different components in order to survive. We will study how they undergo a series of changes during their life cycle.

*Science Text: A Closer Look, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill*

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Students learn basic concepts and skills related to the four Social Studies disciplines of **Citizenship and Government, Economics, Geography, and History.**

**Citizenship and Government:** They expand their understanding of America's civic identity, determine characteristics of effective rules and demonstrate ways for citizens to participate in civic life. Their exploration of the federal government begins with the elected office of president.

**Economics:** Students acquire a basic understanding of the economic concepts of scarcity and trade, and weigh the costs and benefits of simple alternative choices.

**Geography:** Fundamental geography skills are introduced including making sketch maps of places and comparing their physical and human characteristics and identifying locations.

**History:** Students practice basic historical inquiry skills by asking questions, constructing a timeline, and examining simple records and artifacts. They build their knowledge of the past by comparing family life, buildings and other technologies from earlier times to today.

*Social Studies Text: My World Interactive, Pearson*