

Saint Jude Catholic School First Grade Syllabus

This is a general listing of the essential concepts which your child will cover this year in First Grade. The rate at which these skills are mastered will vary depending upon individual development and learning styles. These areas are not taught in isolation, but are integrated throughout the curriculum. Many concepts and skills are reinforced and expanded from one grade level to the next.

Religion

- God made the world
- God made a promise to always love us
- The Catholic Faith
- The Bible
- The Saints
- The Story of Jesus-Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter
- Jesus is God's Son, our friend, and teacher
- The Holy Spirit
- Prayers
- The Sacraments
- Love, Kindness, and Forgiveness
- Conflict Resolution and Peace
- The Catholic Calendar Year

Language Arts

Reading- will be an integral part of First Grade. We will read five literature-based readers with stories written by some famous children's authors. These will correspond with two practice workbooks that will be used in class and for homework as well. The practice workbooks reinforce Phonics and comprehension.

Phonics- will be integrated into Reading and the students will have an additional Phonics Workbook that includes:

- Short and long vowels- A E I O U and sometimes Y; Y can sound like 'i' when it ends a word with no other vowels (cry), or Y can sound like 'E' when it ends words with more than one syllable (happy)
- Diphthongs- two vowel sounds pronounced as one syllable, one vowel is sometimes silent
- R-Controlled Vowels- ar, er, ir, or, ur
- Vowel Exceptions- vowels followed by 'ld' (old); 'l' is often long when followed by nd, gh, ld (find, light, child); 'A' sounds like 'aw' when

followed by l, ll, w, u (walk, fall, draw, because; A silent 'e' at the end usually makes a vowel long (rake, pine); ow is sometimes long o (snow) or cow; ou: ouch, oo: good, oo: moon, oy: toy, oi: point

- Consonant Blends- two consonants that both make their sound: gr, pl...
- Consonant Digraphs- two or three consonants that make a new sound: sh, wh, th, qu, ch, tch
- Sight Words- Some words have irregular spellings and pronunciation. These must be learned by sight because the regular phonic sounds do not apply.
- Word families: at- cat, bat, sat, mat...

Vocabulary/Spelling- There will usually be a weekly Vocabulary and Spelling List taken from the sight words and reading stories. Students will usually have a test on the Spelling words each Friday.

Writing

Creative Writing- students will learn:

- To pre-write by brainstorming and graphic organizers
- Use of details to support the main idea
- All stories should have a beginning, middle, and end
- Stories should follow a sequence: First, Next, Then, Last
- Story components- Plot, setting, characters, conflict, solution
- Punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure
- Different genres: fables, fiction, non-fiction, folktales, tall tales, legends, biographies, fairytales...
- Journal writing in their own personal journal

Handwriting- correct posture and position; Strokes, letter formation, neatness, and spacing

Mathematics

Many concepts are experienced with math counters and hands-on classroom lessons. These are reinforced with corresponding pages in the Math Workbook.

- Ordinal Number Review: sorting, patterns, one to one correspondence, more/less, number patterns: odd/even, skip counting, number words, number line
- Graphing
- Shapes
- Sets
- Addition/Subtraction Facts through twelve
- Problem-solving strategies
- Money
- Time

- Place Value
- Introduction of Two-digit Addition/Subtraction
- Introduction to Measurement

Science

Students will learn different types of scientific studies- Biology, Entomology, etc. They will understand Scientific Methods of Experimentation through the following units of study:

Growing and Changing- human and animal growth, metamorphosis, digestion

Weather- causes, types, storms, meteorologists and their tools

Light and Sound- properties of each, parts and functions of the eye and ear

Plants- the stages of seed growth, different plant types and habitats, How plants are used: food, clean air, homes, etc.

Social Studies

History

- Compare life now with life in the past
- Identify celebrations and national holidays as a way of remembering and honoring the heroism and achievements of the people, events, and our nation's heritage
- Identify people from the past who have shown character ideals and principles including honesty, courage, and responsibility
- Calendars, holidays, and historic timelines
- American Symbols
- Important American landmarks and places

Geography

- Map Skills
- Different physical environments and habitats
- Regions- streets, neighborhoods, towns, cities, states, countries...
- Locate student's local community: Florida, Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Keys, Everglades, Lake Okeechobee

Civics

- Characteristics of responsible citizens
- Rules and laws
- Safety officials
- Age appropriate current events

Economics

- Supply and demand
- Ways people have exchanged goods and services
- Opportunity costs

Grading System

Primary grades K-2 are based on an individual's developmental assessment. There will be two (Fall and Spring) parent/teacher conferences. Samples of the student's work and progress will be discussed. The students will receive a report card in January and on the last day of school. The report card items are evaluated by the following:

- Student is able to do the skill now
- Student needs more time
- The skill has not been covered to date
- Student has a special interest in the skill