

District and Other

How Will Children Learn?

In first grade, students will be engaged in teacher directed learning experiences in many different ways. The classrooms are set up with a variety of learning centers. Here children can move about and learn from their peers. Group instruction and one to one learning situations occur daily. Our computer volunteers work with the children to reinforce and enrich our grade one curriculum. Parent volunteers are an important part of our learning environment.

A great deal of time is spent in building confidence, making friendships and developing good work habits.

Unified Arts

The Unified Arts program will provide a variety of educational experiences that will help the child excel in their studies as well as discover new and exciting abilities and strengths within themselves.

Art

Broad Goal: To provide an atmosphere where students feel free to create, imagine, and express themselves in their lifelong journey of discovery.

- Introduction to art elements and principles including color, form, shape, line, space, texture, value, balance, contrast, emphasis, proportion, rhythm, pattern, unity, and variety
- Experimenting and gaining knowledge of different art media and techniques
- Integration of art activities with core subjects
- Art History
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Library

Broad Goals: To develop information literacy and a love of reading through exposure to quality literature and learning skills for gathering and analyzing information in various formats.

- Self-selected reading: choosing a just-right book, genres, using the library catalog, book care
- Gathering and analyzing information: online databases (PebbleGo), basic bibliographies, parts of a book
- Ethical use of information: copyright
- Exposure to a variety of literature: NH Ladybug Book Award, visiting author, Scholastic Book Fairs, Read Across America

Music

Broad Goal: To provide students with the skills needed to appreciate music in its myriad of forms. Through various musical activities, reading, mathematics, and problem-solving skills are developed.

- Music Appreciation: Classical and world music, musical problem-solving skills, musical movement games, storytelling
- Music Theory: Reading and writing of basic music notation
- Music Performance: Winter concert, lyrics memorization and reading, instrumental experimentation and classroom performing on world instruments

Physical Education

Broad Goal: To provide students with a fun, movement rich experience to promote a healthy, active lifestyle.

- Safety and listening skills
- Locomotor skills
- Manipulative and non manipulative skills
- Gymnastics
- Dance
- Life-long activities

Windham School District



Golden Brook School

First Grade Curriculum

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9/9/10

English Language Arts: First Grade

Broad goals for English Language Arts education in the Windham School District address acquiring the interactive skills and processes of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing; and include the study of literature and application of language arts.

The First Grade English L.A. curriculum includes instruction, which utilizes the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Storytown program. The curriculum enables students to:

- Develop oral language skills and listening skills.
- Identify letters and corresponding sounds to include vowels, blends, and digraphs.
- Correctly form upper and lower case letters by using the Zaner Bloser writing program.
- Develop a high frequency sight-word vocabulary.
- Develop phonemic awareness through Project Read.
- Develop comprehension strategies through small group and whole class instruction.
- Retell a story using story elements including setting, problem, resolution, etc.
- Become more expressive and fluent readers.
- Become life long readers.
- Develop a love of reading through Read Alouds and Shared Reading.
- Develop writing skills which include describing, sharing feelings and thoughts, and creating a story. Writing will be assessed by periodic writing prompts.
- Learn specific language arts skills such as possessives, contractions, spelling rules, etc.

Mathematics: First Grade

Broad Goals for Mathematics include:

Problem solving: Begin to develop skills for problem solving and apply strategies to solve problems.

Reasoning: Use mathematical reasoning to sort by color, size, shape and attributes, interpret and read data in various representations.

Communications: Be able to talk and write clearly about math.

Connection and Representation: Solve Problems: i.e., by sequencing events.

The First Grade Mathematics curriculum includes instruction, which utilizes the Everyday Mathematics program. The curriculum enables students to:

Numbers and Number Theory

- Count past 100, use number grids, scrolls and number lines.
- Understand negative numbers.
- Understand the relation of numbers using + and -; >, <, and = signs.
- Understand place value.

- Understand the concept of skip counting.

Operations

- Identify, count, and understand the basic value of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters.
- Understand the strategies used in addition and subtraction such as tally marks, number grids, part-part whole, etc
- Understand number sentences and basic facts using fact triangles, games, dominoes, etc.

Geometry and Measurement

- Compare and explore weights using scales and balances.
- Use nonstandard and basic standard of measurement to estimate and measure length.
- Develop an understanding of equal and unequal parts.
- Explore symmetry.
- Understand and identify geometric shapes; including one, two and three dimensional figures and their attributes
- Use metric and US Customary system of measurement.

Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability

- Collect, organize, and record data.
- Understand how to read bar graphs, tables, thermometers, and line plots.
- Use estimation skills to make predictions.
- Use games and activities to understand predicitions and probability.

Patterns and Functions

- Develop patterning skills to include odd and even number patterns.
- Develop awareness of number sequence.
- Explore telling time by the hour, half hour and quarter hour.
- Understand fractional parts and whole.
- Understand number functions through “what’s my rule?” game and activities.

Social Studies: First Grade

Broad goals for Social Studies education in New Hampshire address acquiring the knowledge, concepts, skills, and processes of civics and government, economics, geography and history.

The First Grade Social Studies curriculum enables students to:

Civics and Government

- Develop a sense of community and respect.
- Develop an awareness of the symbols and patriotic and cultural holidays of our nation.
- Understand that rules are made to govern and protect people.
- Scholastic News Weekly Reader

- Develop interpersonal skills such as; working and playing together cooperatively, being responsible for ones’ own actions, showing patience, tolerance, and respectfulness for others as well as oneself.

Economics

- Develop an understanding of the differences between needs and wants.
- Develop an understanding that basic economic decisions have consequences.
- Junior Achievement Program

Geography

- Develop an awareness of the location of town of Windham, the United States and the World on maps.
- Develop an awareness of map symbols.
- Scholastic News Weekly Reader

History

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways.
- Develop an understanding of famous Americans and how they relate to specific events and holidays.

Science: First Grade

Broad goals for Science education in the Windham School District address acquiring the knowledge, concepts, skills, and processes of the life, earth and space, and physical sciences.

The First Grade Science curriculum enables students to:

Life Science:

Human Identity

- Understand how we adapt to a new situation.
- Understand how we are alike and different.
- Understand how we keep each other safe and healthy.

Animals

- Understand the difference between living and nonliving things.
- Understand what animals need to survive.

Physical Science:

Magnets

- Enables students to understand that magnets attract and repel objects.

Conservation

- Understand how we can help the environment.

Sun and Moon

- Understand how the sun moves in a pattern and changes with the seasons.
- Understand how the moon moves in a pattern and changes during the month.