

WCS First Grade Curriculum Guide

“Train up a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6



BIBLE –First graders will learn that all we have comes from God and that the ultimate gift that God gave us is His Son, Jesus Christ. This study will focus on the many gifts of love provided for us by God. Emphasis will be on aspects of creation, our families, friends, possessions, Jesus Christ and God’s care for us. Stories from everyday life are used to encourage the development of inner character traits. Text used is Positive Action for Christ – Enjoying God’s gifts.

CHAPEL - This is a special time each day where teachers and students alike join in prayer, singing, and praising God for loving us. Students are used extensively to lead chapel activities. This leadership training develops personal awareness and self-confidence. One day each week chapel time is extended to include special awards, recitations of class memory work and a brief Bible lesson.

MATHEMATICS - A first grade student develops an understanding of addition and subtraction number concepts using concrete objects. Basic foundations of math concepts are built by using patterns, sorting, counting, making math connections, and problem solving. A student creates and uses representations to organize, record, and communicate emerging math ideas. Text used is Saxon.

SCIENCE - A first grade student continues using simple investigations to develop the skills of asking questions and gathering information. The student also makes measurements, constructs explanations, and draws conclusions using non-standard units and tools to extend the five senses. The student identifies and investigates components of the natural world including rocks, soil, natural resources, heat, needs of living things, interdependence, and living versus non-living things. Text used is Scott Foresman.

SOCIAL STUDIES - A first grade student continues to build upon early social studies concepts through literature, discussions, hands-on exploration, and simulations. The student develops patriotic identity through the study of historic figures, national anthems, state anthems, and mottoes. Students develop cultural appreciation by describing the importance of family customs and traditions. A first grader creates and uses simple maps to draw conclusions about physical characteristics of places and their impact on daily life. Concepts of time and chronology are developed by distinguishing between past, present, and future events. Text used is Scott Foresman.

LANGUAGE ARTS/READING - A first grade student continues to develop oral language and communication skills and moves to become a more independent reader and writer. Each child participates in a variety of instructional settings such as guided reading and writing, as well as readers’ and writers’ workshop, to meet individual needs at the appropriate level. Daily reading of a variety of texts and writing for a variety of audiences increase your child’s fluency and comprehension in the literacy process. Texts used are Scholastic Literacy Place Series, Volumes 1-6 and Words I Use When I Write, The Shurley Method

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Students receive instruction twice a week using the CATCH (Coordinated Approach To Child Health) Curriculum. As part of this developmentally appropriate curriculum, students participate in activities that: improve both their fine and gross motor skills, teach the importance of being physically fit, as well as sportsmanship and how to interact with their peers.

MUSIC – Musical games & movement, fun songs, steady beat, and rhythm stick activities are a part of our music program. Students will develop listening skills as they learn to accompany songs with simple instruments. At least once a year students will participate in a music night program as well as special events such as Grandparent’s breakfast.

SPANISH – Children are introduced to Spanish vocabulary through interactive games & songs.

COMPUTER LAB – Students visit the computer lab weekly to enhance their classroom instruction and build their computer skills. Students begin using programs like Microsoft Word, learning to write and experiment with changing fonts.

LIBRARY - Students have one instructional class time each week where library skills are taught plus additional check-in/check-out times available as needed. Students are encouraged to participate in the 2 X 2 reading program. A store is offered each 6 weeks to supporting the Accelerated Reader (AR) program where students may “buy” items with AR points.

FIELD TRIPS – Age appropriate field trips to locations such as children’s theatres, museums, and farms are carefully chosen to teach each student about their community and their world. These trips are taken in connection with and to enhance classroom studies.

IN-SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS – Throughout the school year, special presentations, performances, and visitors enrich the student’s school experiences.

LEARNING CENTERS - Learning centers are areas of the classroom that are designed to allow children the freedom to explore games, writing activities, art, drama, and building manipulatives.

RECESS – Gross motor activities, free play, and time to socialize are crucial to a young child’s development. A daily playtime is provided on the outside playground.

HOMEWORK – Students are assigned math homework three days a week and phonics readers are assigned two days a week. Some time at home may also include study for spelling tests and Bible memory work.