

**A Parent's Guide To**

# **GRADE 1 CURRICULUM**



**Reading + Writing + Mathematics + Science + Social Studies**

## Introduction

Research shows that children are more likely to succeed in learning when families actively support them. When you and other family members read with your children, help them with homework, talk with their teachers, and participate in school or other learning activities, you give your children a tremendous advantage. Other than helping your children grow up healthy and happy, the most important thing that you can do for them is help them develop their reading skills. It is no exaggeration to say that how well children learn to read directly affects not only how successful they are in school but how well they will do throughout their lives. When children learn to read, they have the key that opens the door to all of the knowledge of the world.

As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Our goal in this guide is to give you greater visibility into the *Forward* instructional program. We believe that the gains your child experiences in this program will establish the building blocks for his or her love of learning in the months and years to come.

## Grade 1 Integrated Curriculum

The **Elementary Integrated Curriculum** blends reading, writing, and mathematics instruction with lessons in science and social studies in a way that spurs creativity and critical thinking skills. Students will receive robust instruction across all subjects in the early grades. The curriculum is built around developing students' critical and creative thinking skills as well as essential academic success skills, which lead to college and career readiness.

In the *Grade 1 Integrated Curriculum*, critical and creative thinking skills as well as academic success skills are identified and paced into four parts that are each nine weeks in duration. These skills are explicitly taught using concepts and topics identified by part in each content area and provide a focus for integration across content areas. This document provides an outline of these skills and the curriculum concepts and topics that are the focus of instruction for Grade 1 students.

## K–5 Instructional Program Goals

### Reading

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to becoming literate, thoughtful communicators, who are capable of controlling language effectively, in the following ways:

- ✓ Strategically reading literary and informational instructional-leveled texts with fluency, purpose, and comprehension
- ✓ Using skills and strategies widely as tools for learning and reflection
- ✓ Understanding and appreciating language and literature as catalysts for deep thought and emotion

### Writing

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to becoming literate, thoughtful communicators, who are capable of controlling language effectively, in the following ways:

- ✓ Composing narrative, informative/explanatory, and opinion texts as tools for learning and reflection
- ✓ Conducting research and writing projects for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences
- ✓ Evaluating relevant information from print and digital sources and using a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing

### Mathematics

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to achieving mathematical proficiency in the following ways:

- ✓ Developing both conceptual understanding and procedural fluency
- ✓ Thinking and reasoning mathematically
- ✓ Using mathematics to solve problems in authentic contexts

### Science

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to becoming literate in science and technology in the following ways:

- ✓ Thinking critically, solving problems, and communicating effectively
- ✓ Tackling increasingly challenging issues
- ✓ Seeking understanding to support solutions

### Social Studies

Students will develop the knowledge and skills essential to developing a balanced and integrated understanding of systems of culture, economics, geography, and politics and the history of their development in the following ways:

- ✓ Applying concepts and knowledge of the past to problem solving real-world issues of the present
- ✓ Critically examining human interactions and evaluating their role as an effective citizen
- ✓ Communicating social studies concepts clearly in multiple formats and putting theory into practice as a citizen

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	<b>COLLABORATION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Identify and describe attributes.</li> <li>✓ Compare by identifying similarities and differences.</li> <li>✓ Sort and classify into categories.</li> <li>✓ Identify and describe patterns and relationships within patterns.</li> <li>✓ Identify relationships among parts of a whole.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Demonstrate active listening and empathy in communicating with group members.</li> <li>✓ Solicit and respect multiple and diverse perspectives to broaden and deepen understanding.</li> <li>✓ Demonstrate teamwork by working productively with others.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of literacy text: stories—predicting; key details; fix-up strategies; retelling; sensory words</p> <p>Comprehension of informational/explanatory text: text features; key details; digital resources; monitoring comprehension</p> <p>Collaborative conversations</p> <p>Vocabulary</p> <p>Handwriting</p> <p>Phonics</p>	<p>Writing workshop: narratives</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: details; topic sentences; conventions; facts; imaginary ideas; answering interpretive questions; supplying supporting reasons</p> <p>Word choice: high-frequency words; time-order signal words; sensory words</p> <p>Conventions: capitalization; familiar word patterns; editing; revision; publishing</p>	<p>Counting: ones and tens to 120</p> <p>Place value: tens and ones</p> <p>Comparison: 2-digit numbers</p> <p>Part-whole concepts</p> <p>Addition and subtraction (counting on; counting back; putting together; taking apart; adding to; taking from; comparing)</p> <p>Data: bar graphs; picture graphs</p>	<p>Attributes of living and nonliving things</p> <p>Basic needs and attributes of plants and animals for survival</p> <p>Life cycle stages for different kinds of animals and plants and how they change as they grow</p> <p>Physical attributes that make living things and their young alike and different</p>	<p>Rules and responsibilities in the home, classroom, and community</p> <p>Choices: clean, safe home and environment</p> <p>Working together and solving problems</p> <p>Leadership and authority</p> <p>Contributions of people important to the U.S. political system</p> <p>Symbols and practices associated with the United States.</p>

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>FLUENCY</b>	<b>INTELLECTUAL RISK TAKING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Generate ideas using multiple strategies.</li> <li>✓ Ask questions in a variety of ways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Adapt and make adjustments to meet challenges when seeking solutions.</li> <li>✓ Demonstrate willingness to accept uncertainty by sharing ideas, asking questions, or attempting novel tasks.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of literary text: stories— understand key details; identify the central message</p> <p>Comprehension of informational/explanatory text: main topic; retell key details; ask clarifying questions</p> <p>Vocabulary: word attributes; word sorts; real-life connections</p> <p>Phonics</p> <p>Handwriting</p>	<p>Writing workshop: informational/explanatory text</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: organization; sentences; facts; topic; shared research; gather ideas; develop points</p> <p>Word choice: opinion language</p> <p>Conventions: spelling; presentation; revise; use voice; produce and publish</p>	<p>Place value and representation: decomposing and composing</p> <p>Addition and subtraction situations: representing and recording</p> <p>Problem-solving strategies: 1- and 2-digit addition and subtraction; adding three numbers in sums to 20</p>	<p>Observe and describe objects by their characteristics and composition</p> <p>Identify and measure solid objects</p> <p>Observe how liquids take the shape of their containers and gases fill their containers</p> <p>Tell how matter can change in state, color, size and shape</p> <p>Identify ways objects can move (magnet attracts; gravity pulls objects toward Earth)</p> <p>Impact of heat and light on objects; sounds</p>	<p>Similarities and differences between cultures: customs, traditions, and celebrations</p> <p>Working together</p> <p>Solving problems</p> <p>Leadership</p> <p>Using social skills and resolving conflict</p> <p>Borrowing customs from other cultures</p> <p>Sharing culture: food; customs; traditions; greetings; music; celebrations</p> <p>Stories from the past; folktales</p> <p>Technology and inventions</p>

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>SYNTHESIS</b>	<b>EFFORT/MOTIVATION/PERSISTENCE</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Organize parts to form a new or unique whole.</li> <li>✓ Integrate ideas, information, and theories to invent or devise a solution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Demonstrate strategies to achieve a goal or solve a problem.</li> <li>✓ Self-assess effectiveness of strategies and redirect efforts to achieve a goal or obtain a solution to a problem.</li> <li>✓ Identify an achievable, yet challenging goal.</li> <li>✓ Identify and describe the outcome of a goal.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of informational/explanatory text: ask and answer questions; compare and contrast two texts; distinguish information in illustrations from verbal; identify main topic; retell key details; connections between events</p> <p>Comprehension of literacy text: poetry; rhythm; rhyme; sensory words</p> <p>Handwriting</p> <p>Phonics</p>	<p>Writing workshop: informational/explanatory text; poetry</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: organization; conventions; narrow a topic; shared research; revising; peer editing; presentation</p> <p>Conventions: sentence fluency; voice; digital tool to publish</p>	<p>Measurement process: length units</p> <p>Relationships and properties: addition and subtraction (2-digit numbers to multiples of 10)</p> <p>Fact families (sums through 10)</p>	<p>Describe the land, water, and living things found on Earth</p> <p>Identify both fast and slow ways Earth changes</p> <p>Describe how people use natural resources and energy</p> <p>Explain what causes day and night; the impact of the sun; how water changes form</p> <p>Describe weather patterns and weather safety</p>	<p>Use geographic tools and directions to locate and describe a place</p> <p>Map a neighborhood and find places on a map</p> <p>Identify land forms and bodies of water</p> <p>Understand the human impact on the environment</p> <p>Define and protect natural resources</p> <p>Observe weather and identify how people adapt to their environment</p>

CRITICAL THINKING SKILL	ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILL
<b>ORIGINALITY</b>	<b>METACOGNITION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Create a new idea, process, or product using multiple and varied formats.</li> <li>✓ Plan and formulate a new, unique, or alternative solution to a problem or situation.</li> <li>✓ Transform an idea, process, or product into a new form.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Examine one’s own thoughts and ideas to identify background knowledge.</li> <li>✓ Explain thinking processes.</li> <li>✓ Self-monitor strategies to assess progress and apply new thinking.</li> <li>✓ Seek clarification and adapt strategies to attain learning task/ outcome.</li> </ul>

Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
<p>Comprehension of literary text: stories; poetry; illustrations; key details; reading strategies; ask and answer clarifying questions</p> <p>Comprehension of informational text: text features; predict information; similarities and differences; connections</p> <p>Vocabulary: high-frequency words</p> <p>Speaking and listening for comprehension</p> <p>Handwriting</p> <p>Phonics</p>	<p>Writing workshop: poetry; procedural writing; opinions; letter</p> <p>Ideas &amp; development: using a graphic organizer; background knowledge; shared research; revision</p> <p>Conventions: sentence fluency; punctuation; capitalization; use a digital tool to publish</p>	<p>Addition and subtraction: 2-digit numbers to multiples of 10</p> <p>3-D and 2-D shapes: composing to create a unit and decomposing into equal parts (halves, fourths, quarters)</p> <p>Written methods, strategies, and reasoning</p> <p>Telling time on analog and digital clocks: hours; half hours</p>	<p>Use senses to develop science skills—observe; predict; classify; compare</p> <p>Define and practice scientific methods</p> <p>Identify ways to record and share data</p> <p>Identify and explain uses of technology</p> <p>Identify materials that are used to make objects</p> <p>Understand the difference between natural and human-made materials</p> <p>Design process: test; record; share observations</p>	<p>Describe how money and resources meet needs and wants</p> <p>Making effective choices for goods and services</p> <p>Spending; saving; borrowing</p> <p>Kinds of jobs</p> <p>Markets and how they operate</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Communication</p>