

St. Mary Parish School

Parents' Guide to First Grade

This school year, your child will

Traits Exhibited by Many Five to Seven Year Olds

All children develop differently but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Kindergarten, or First Grade.

- ◆ Has a strong attachment to their home and family
- ◆ Has a short interest span
- ◆ Has an awareness mainly of themselves and their own desires
- ◆ Has a preference for imaginative, make-believe play
- ◆ Has a sense of curiosity, a desire to explore their expanding world
- ◆ Typically sleeps about 11 hours daily
- ◆ Has a desire for repetition of enjoyable experiences
- ◆ Can be easily upset by changes in routine or environment
- ◆ Tatling is a pronounced characteristic
- ◆ Boys and girls play together readily
- ◆ Depends on adults to meet physical and emotional needs
- ◆ Has a need for patient understanding and close supervision

Grade 1 Teachers:

Barb Anderson
Karen Wilke

Technology: Becki Kram
Music: Ann Fowler
Phy Ed: Barb Moulton
Art: Homeroom teacher

Art

- Use materials purposefully and safely
- Understand color, shape and line as elements of art
- Express self through art media
- Reflect on works of art

Language Arts/Reading

- Use language to convey appropriate message
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Follow verbal directions
- Use story mapping to analyze text
- Read for information and enjoyment
- Begin to read with fluency, self-correct decoding errors using phonics and context
- Use picture clues, letter-sound relationships (phonics), high frequency words and prior knowledge to read and understand texts
- Make predictions about a variety of texts
- Write stories, personal thoughts
- Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
- Recognize and read approximately 180 high frequency/sight words
- Recognize that words may have different contextual meanings

Mathematics

- Use problem-solving strategies
- Understand and communicate mathematical concepts
- Recognize numbers and be able to count to 100
- Use manipulatives to add and write number sentences to 18
- Understand and use basic units and processes of measurement (rulers, thermometers, balances, clock, etc.)
- Recognize basic shapes
- Understand and use position words: inside, outside, between, above, below, behind, in front of
- Use manipulatives to show and understand patterns
- Understand and use graphs
- Count by 2's, 5's and 10's
- Work with money (pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters)
- Recognize two and three dimensional figures
- Add and subtract whole numbers up to 18
- Understand and use fractions (1/2, 1/3, 1/4)
- Use language to explain problems and solutions

Music

- Sing a variety of songs alone and with others
- Echo rhythm and melody patterns

- Demonstrate an understanding of sounds that are: high and low; loud and soft; fast and slow; and long and short, through the playing of classroom instruments, singing, and movement.
- Respond to music with appropriate movements
- Demonstrate ability to read pictorial representations of rhythm and pitch
- Listen respectfully to others' performances

Physical Education

- Use a variety of basic motor movements (walk, skip, hop, jump, leap, gallop, run)
- Use a variety of basic non-locomotor movements (bend, twist, turn)
- Use a variety of basic object control skills (throw, catch, kick, strike)
- Name and use parts of the body for directed movement activities
- Understand and display sportsmanship
- Use feedback to improve performance
- Understand the relationship between physical activity and good health
- Understand the purpose of rules in games
- Understand the social contributions of physical activity (respect, cooperation, teamwork)
- Engage in activities that increase respiration and heart rate
- Engage in activities that develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance
- Perform fitness activities including jumping jacks, push-ups, sit-ups, etc.
- Be able to do a two foot jump

Religion

- Recognize the Bible as the story of God's people
- Recognize God's love for us through the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Experiences various forms of prayer
- Learns the two great commandments
- Participates in the mass
- Will become familiar with various Bible stories
- Will be introduced to the church's liturgical seasons

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Science

- Understand where natural resources are located and how they are used
- Know that animals are living things and are classified by their characteristics

- Know that objects can be described and classified by their composition (wood, rocks, metal, etc.) and by their physical properties (color, size, shape, etc.)
- Know that everyone is constantly learning
- Use simple science equipment
- Conduct simple science experiments and communicate results
- Know that all organisms have life cycles
- Understand how technology is used in daily life and in people's careers
- Identify objects in the sky as the sun, moon, stars and planets
- Identify good health habits
- Know that different types of matter have different properties

Social Studies

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Learn about famous Americans in history
- Understand environment affects people's lives
- Understand how people can affect the environment
- Understand the US is a multi-cultural society
- Understand that we depend upon workers who produce goods or services
- Know ways that people solve common problems by cooperating and working in groups
- Know how various American holidays reflect the shared values, principals, and beliefs of the diverse American society
- Learn directions (north, south, east, west)
- Understand that there are other countries in the world
- Use maps and globes to locate settings of stories or discussions

Technology

- Using technology at home and at school
- Gathering, organizing, and displaying data
- Using word processing
- Exploring multimedia