



1ST GRADE

Curriculum Overview
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M The mission of Mattawan Early Elementary School is to develop eager and goal-driven learners who thrive through hands-on experiences, play, and dialogue. Data, connectivity, and collaboration will guide solution-focused work, supporting the social-emotional, behavioral, and academic success of everyone in the learning community.

EMPOWERING THE FUTURE — with Mattawan Pride

Reading

Reading is a process by which children learn that print is a way to send and receive messages. First grade instruction builds on stories and experiences from the child's pre-kindergarten years. Instruction focuses on a variety of strategies to help children create meaning from print, to value reading and to view reading as pleasurable.

First Grade students will work toward:

- consistently identifying letters and applying appropriate sounds
- using a variety of strategies to unlock meaning (e.g. pictures, context clues, sight words, phonics, re-reading)
- building a sight vocabulary
- applying knowledge of word families to unfamiliar words
- making reasonable predictions using content
- retelling using story elements (e.g. characters, setting, problem, events, solutions)
- reading fluently (smoothness, rate, expression)
- making personal and real world connections to the text
- making inferences

Book Exchange

First Grade students will learn:

- Zones of Regulation
- Story Elements
- Understanding/Comparing Fiction and Nonfiction
- Organization of the library
- How to take care of a book

- Introduction to the Dewey Decimal System/Call number
- Introduction to Destiny (card catalog)
- Introduction to the different genres

Writing

First Grade students will experience the process of writing in the genres of Narrative, Informational, and Opinion writing as aligned in the Common Core State Standards. The philosophy and principles of writer's workshop create a learning environment that does the following:

- Encourages independence
- Gives the long writer a high degree of choice within a framework
- Has procedures that are consistent for accessing materials and self-selecting a personal working space
- Structures the environment to encourage writers to take risks and learn their craft.
- Provides a scaffolding support system to all writers
- Gives students frequent response to their writing
- Has a regular and predictable time to write
- Gives students direct instruction in writing by different methods; whole class, small group, individual
- Uses literature to teach students the craft of writing

Math

Mathematics instruction is facilitated by a comprehensive curriculum that maintains a balance between the development of math concepts and basic skills. Students apply basic math skills while working on meaningful and challenging tasks. First grade children study traditional math curriculum as well as estimation, geometry, measurement patterns and relationships, algebra concepts, and statistics and probability at an appropriate first grade level.

First Grade students will work toward:

- knowing and applying basic math skills
- mastering basic addition facts
- understanding relationships between numbers including place value
- naming, recording and extending patterns
- using graphs, tables and charts to interpret data
- applying and understanding measurement strategies for length and time
- solving problems using many strategies including objects, pictures, words, and numerals
- effectively communicating solutions to problems and methods for solving them
- working alone, with partners, and in groups to solve problems
- reasoning with shapes and

		their attributes
<u>Science</u> Children in first grade learn by doing. The science curriculum is designed as a hands-on, minds-on approach to learning. Students will combine prior knowledge with new information by observing, comparing, investigating, manipulating, and questioning. Our science curriculum utilizes the Mystery Science units below which are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards. First Grade students will: Plant & Animal Superpowers (Life Science) - Develop the idea that, like a superhero has special powers, every animal and plant has special parts and behaviors that help them to grow and meet their needs. Spinning Sky (Earth & Space Science) - Develop the idea that the Sun, Moon, and stars change position in the sky in ways that are fun to watch and predict. Lights & Sounds (Physical Science) - Develop the idea that by exploring the properties of light and sound, human beings create fun and useful things.	<u>Social Studies</u> Children in first grade will focus on developing an understanding about family and school life. The roles of family members and different family patterns in our society are stressed. Safety at home and school is included. Children explore the concepts of geographic directions. First Grade students will: - understanding chronological thinking and past and present events using family, school, and national holidays - construct simple maps of the classroom and describe characteristics of different areas of the school - understand reasons for rules in, how decisions are made, and how conflicts might be resolved - understand responsibilities people have at home and school and identify situation in which people work as a good citizen - understand diversity of culture and family life - understand the difference between producers and consumers of goods, services, and the need for trade/identify public issues in the school community and participate in projects to help or inform others - Identify public issues in the school community and participate in projects to help inform others	<u>Technology</u> First Grade students will: - use a keyboard - learn to scroll - switch programs - learn basic word processing skills - learn basic Internet skills (bookmarks, changing websites, etc.) - begin using multimedia software (slide shows, etc) <u>Music</u> First Grade students will: - sing and clap simple rhythm patterns - understand the shape of a melody - sign with increasing accuracy - group rhythm instruments by sound families - identify phrases - identify a refrain; coda <u>Art</u> First Grade students will: - experiment with basic art elements (color, value, line, shape, form, texture, space) - learn about and use various art techniques and tools - demonstrate self expression through different media
<u>Fit For Life</u> The Fit for Life program includes: - instruction in a variety of motor skills that are designed to enhance the physical, mental, and social/emotional development of every child - fitness education to help children understand, improve, and/or maintain their physical well-being - development of cognitive concepts about motor skills and fitness - opportunities to improve their emerging social and cooperative skills and gain a multicultural perspective - promotion of regular amounts of appropriate physical activity now and throughout life	<u>Integrated Arts</u> 1st Grade children will: - develop creativity through the use of various art mediums - use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner - use elements and principles of art to communicate ideas - use various mediums to create art in many different ways, including paint, sculpture, drawing, assembling, and more. - sing and play instruments to understand and experience beat, rhythm, melody, harmony and form - identify and recognize the value of good physical and mental health through exercise and nutrition - Work on large motor development through throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling, and the movement of our body in space (stretches, calisthenics, dance, cardiovascular workout, etc.)	<u>Community Time</u> During this 20 minute daily meeting our students will: - Have conversations about life skills - Build Social Emotional Capacity - Problem solve classroom problems - Learn to problem solve and compromise - Practice communication skills - Build resilience - Practice zones of regulation  The Mattawan Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status, or any other legally protected characteristic in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. Please contact the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, 56720 Murray Street, Mattawan, MI 49071, 269-668-3361 with inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies.

