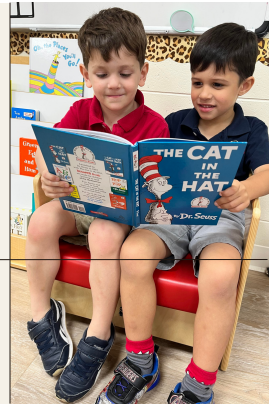


1ST GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE



WE CHALLENGE & INSPIRE

Bible

Using Summit Ministries' Building on the Rock curriculum, students examine their Christian worldview by learning Biblical truths. The Bible survey component focuses on Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph in the book of Genesis. Each week our K4-6th graders memorize Scripture or a Gospel Foundation (question/answer) and learn how to apply that truth to their lives. Since all students in the lower school have the same memory work, it allows our families to learn and grow together as they memorize.

Reading and Language Arts

Building phonics skills, comprehension, and reading fluency are vital skills for first grade. Since phonics is especially important, all teachers are certified and integrate the multi-sensory approach of the Orton-Gillingham method. The Open Court curriculum is used to develop these very important foundations. Students are taught using a variety of engaging methods including small groups, centers, games, and hands-on activities.

Writing

Students will be introduced to writing the three forms of writing including: narratives, opinions, and expository. Narrative writing will retell two or more sequenced events. Opinion writing will be supported with at least one reason from a second source. Expository writing will include a main idea with supporting details. Students will be proficient in presenting information both written and orally including basic writing and grammar skills within a paragraph. All K4-4th grade students write and present their own book during our Young Author's Day.

Math

Understanding numbers and learning how to operate them in various real-world settings are key skills learned in 1st grade. Students are expected to have addition facts fluency to 12 by the end of the year. Using the Big Ideas curriculum, which embeds literacy into every lesson, students develop a variety of strategies for solving problems and growing critical thinking skills. Technology, manipulatives, and small groups are used to differentiate instruction.

<i>Science</i>	Exploring, experimenting, and discovering how the world works through Carolina Biological units on light and sound waves, living and nonliving organisms, and space. Carolina Biological curriculum is used to allow students to develop curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills as they interact with meaningful hands-on investigations. They learn about and discuss God's divine purpose in the nature of science.
<i>Social Studies</i>	Social Studies is integrated into the Open Court reading curriculum. Learning about how people live and work together through studying community and its various parts are some of the important skills first grade addresses. Students participate in a project to learn about their family heritage.
<i>Technology</i>	As an Apple certified school, technology resources are used to enhance learning and equip students for use and management of electronic devices with regard to education and beyond. These skills are integrated into every subject. Promethean Board Technology, iPads, and the Apple Suite is used to enhance learning and increase student engagement.
<i>Fostering a Faith that Sticks</i>	Our students not only learn the Bible but apply it to their lives to be the hands and feet of Jesus, with the goal of equipping students to transform the world for Christ and His Kingdom. Children learn how to intentionally develop character through Circle Time meetings that include Bible story lessons as well as discussions on various classroom specific challenges. Social emotional skills are integrated into lessons that build vocabulary for a variety of feelings and strategies for managing emotions.
<i>We Lead</i>	The students learn responsibility and how to serve their fellow classmates through their classroom job each week. They also have the opportunity to participate in the Student Council.
THE HEARTBEAT OF 1ST GRADE	Students in first grade love participating in special events and field trips. GatorLand and Lukas Butterfly Garden are some favorite off-campus trips. They also have the opportunity to experience learning through on-campus experiences like Ancient Egypt Day and Pastor's Breakfast. Students are always eager to spend extra special time with family during Muffins for Moms and Donuts with Dad. Every year for a service project, first graders raise money for animals in a shelter by reading books, earning dollars, and then using their money to buy items for pets waiting for a home.

