

FIRST GRADE

Religion

Course Description

1st Grade Religion program presents the love of God, the miracle of Jesus, as well as the scripture and teachings of the Catholic Church. It is intended that the children will internalize and practice the Christian-Catholic faith at home and in their parish.

Course Objectives

Students Will Learn

- To recognize God as their creator and the creator of all good things
- To respond to God's love through the choices they make
- To give thanks for their lives and gifts
- To understand that God was fully human in the form of Jesus
- To observe Christian holidays and their meaning
- To define Baptism and begin to understand the sacraments
- To learn the value of prayer, both improvisational and memorized

Learning Activities

- All school mass
- Monthly mass
- Special prayer services
- Celebration of the feast days of Saints
- Daily prayer
- Seasonal Activities

Course Texts

Brown ROA Walking by Faith 1999

Supplemental Materials

- Children's Daily Prayer
- Bible
- Videos
- The Catholic Source Book

FIRST GRADE

Spelling

Course Description

The First Grade Spelling Program is a year process where students are required to spell words from a pre-determined list correctly. Each week, students will be responsible for fifteen words.

Course Objective

Students will learn to recognize predetermined spelling patterns.

Learning Activities:

The learning activities in First Grade Spelling include:

- Practicing rhythm and movement of words
- Playing games as a form of memorization practice
- Writing sentences and stories
- Taking weekly tests over each assigned word

Supplemental / Instructional Material

- Teacher created materials
- Word Cards

Course Texts

Spelling Mastery 2007

FIRST GRADE

Handwriting (D'Nealian)

Course Description

First Grade teaches students the D'Nealian style of handwriting. This style allows for a smoother transition from manuscript writing to cursive writing, as well as complete development of fine motor skills for students at all levels.

Course Objective

First Grade students will practice the continuous strokes (D'Nealian) method to communicate ideas through the written word. All students in the First Grade will use upper and lower case letters appropriately.

Learning Activities:

The learning activities in First Grade Handwriting include:

- Practicing individual letter strokes
- Connecting letters together to create words
- Writing words left to right with spaces between words
- Printing upper and lower case letters

Supplemental / Instructional Material

- D'Nealian Papers
- Pencil Grips
- Student Workbook

FIRST GRADE

Science

Course Description

First Grade Science is an inquiry based program where learning about the natural world allows for the beginning of experimentation and data collection. Intellectual inquiry is emphasized.

Course Objective

- First Grade Students will engage in active inquiries, investigations, and hands-on activities to develop conceptual understanding and basis research skills.
- First Grade students will be guided in developing an inquiring attitude toward the world to provide them with the tools to find answers to questions.
- All students in First Grade Science will understand that safety is the first rule of all science inquiry. Safety instruction will be integrated in all science activities.

Learning Activities:

The learning activities in First Grade Science include:

- Collecting recording, and comparing information
- Using scientific and everyday materials to investigate the world
- Observing, classifying, measuring, predicting, and experimentation
- Communicating results of investigation to others
- Expanding scientific vocabulary
- Investigating, sorting and comparing data
- Collecting and recording information
- Cooperating and contributing to group activities
- Asking questions, finding answers, and making comparisons through scientific investigations

Course Texts

Scott Foresman Science © 2006
ISBN # 0-328-10001-3

Supplemental / Instructional Material

- Teacher created materials
- Hand lens
- Microscopes
- Thermometers
- Guest Speakers
- Nature Walks
- Magnets
- Food

FIRST GRADE

Reading

Course Description

The First Grade Reading begins by reinforcing familiar concepts such as the alphabet, numbers, colors, and letters sounds to help in the development and growth of language skills.

Course Objective

Through exposure to a large variety of genres, the First Grade students will become familiar with print concepts that allow them to become effective readers, writers, and communicators. .

Learning Activities:

The learning activities in First Grade Reading include:

- Reading books with word patterns
- Retelling stories with beginning, middle, and end
- Writing recognizable short sentences
- Using phonetic spelling to write words independently
- Predicting and inferring words
- Creating books to read and share
- Writing personal letters
- Sequencing events
- Using beginning, middle, and ending sounds to create words
- Practicing use of capital letters and punctuation
- Comparing and contrasting words
- Role playing
- Recalling details in a story from memory
- Identifying the cause and effect of a story
- Working cooperatively in groups

Supplemental / Instructional Material

- Read Well 2009
- Classroom listening centers
- Word Games
- Daily Journals
- Books on tape
- The First Grade Classroom Library and SJS School Library
- "Meet the Author" Videos
- Puppets
- Big Books

FIRST GRADE

Mathematics

Course Description

First Grade Math takes a hands-on approach to Mathematics. The Math Program teaches students to use manipulatives and concrete objects to explore abstract concepts.

Course Objective

Repetition and written computation lead students to apply their knowledge to real world Mathematics. Development of mathematical language allows students to explain such concepts as: addition and subtraction of whole numbers; knowledge of the value of coins; knowledge of addition and subtraction facts; identity of two and three dimensional figures; and to gather, organize, and explain data.

Learning Activities:

The learning activities in First Grade Math include:

- Understand number patterns
- Compare and contrast objects
- Practice addition and subtraction facts to 20
- Count, write, and compare numbers to 100
- Introduction to place value of 1's, 10's, and 100's
- Solve addition and subtraction problems to 18
- Understand concepts of whole and half
- Create and interpret graphs
- Use standard and non-standard units of measurement
- Learn additional problem solving and reasoning
- Understand the ability to make connections between mathematics and the real world
- Sort, classify, and order objects
- Observe and record information
- Identify ordinal positions 1st - 20th
- Count to 100 by 1's, 5's, and 10's
- Recognize "+" "-" and "=" signs
- Use estimation strategies
- Draw basic two-dimensional shapes
- Count using pennies, nickels, and dimes

Supplemental / Instructional Material

- Scott Foresman Addison Wesley Mathematics 2008
- Rocket Math 2009
- Variety of math manipulatives (buttons, cubes, coins, beans, etc.)
- Cassette Tapes

FIRST GRADE

Social Studies

Course Description

The First Grade Social Studies Program focuses on the values of family, friends, and self. Gradually the curriculum moves from students learning about themselves to their place in the world. Student rights and responsibilities as citizens are practiced.

Course Objective

First Grade Students will participate in activities that further their knowledge of self, family, friends, heroes, saints, historical events, and geography to develop an understanding of the interrelationship all people have in the world, both past and present.

The Social Studies Program for First Grade will foster an understanding of the relationship people have with each other and the environment in which they live.

Learning Activities:

The learning activities in First Grade Social Studies include:

- Participation in the development of the classroom rules and expectations
- Simple to complex problem solving skills
- Recognition of the diversity among people, families, and cultures
- Understanding of social tradition and holidays
- Reading and discussing culture awareness and related cultural topics
- Creating simple graphs, charts, and maps

Supplemental / Instructional Material

- Teacher created materials
- Scholastic's Time for Kids
- Maps and Globe
- Artifacts presented in class
- Guest Speakers