

Belle Alexander School
Kewanee CUSD #229
1401 Lake Street
Kewanee, IL 61443

What First Graders Will Learn:

2022-2023 First Grade Reading Benchmarks

Phonics Program:

- The first 2 to 3 weeks are review of kindergarten phonics.
- Students will complete both sides of the worksheet at school.

Sight Words

- Sight words are words that the children cannot sound out. They must memorize them.
- They will need you to help them practice them at home.
- At the beginning of the first grade year, all students will be screened to make sure that they know all the kindergarten sight words.
- First grade students will have a list of sight words for each quarter to learn.

Fluency:

- The ability to read smoothly without sounding out words and with few errors.
- Good fluency helps students to easily understand what they are reading.
- Each quarter students read a Saxon Phonics fluency reader to test their fluency speed.
- At the end of the first grade year, students should be able to read at least 70 words per minute with no more than 4 mistakes.

Spelling:

- Students will have a spelling list each week.
- There will be a spelling list test weekly.
- There will be a spelling sentence test weekly.
- Students must have 85% correct to be meeting first grade benchmarks.



First Grade Math

Number Sense

- Counts, reads, writes, orders and compares numbers to 120.
- Understands that two digits represent tens and ones.
- Groups and counts objects by tens and ones.
- Memorizes addition and subtraction facts to 10.
- Solve word problems that call for addition of two or three whole numbers.

Algebra and Functions

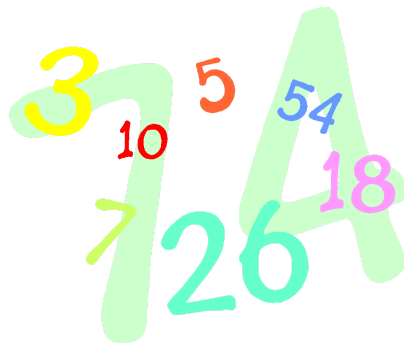
- Can solve addition and subtraction problems.
- Understands the meaning of the symbols $+$, $-$, $=$, $<$, $>$
- Writes number sentences to describe and solve addition and subtraction word problems.

Measurement/Data

- Compares length using nonstandard units.
- Tells time to the hour and half-hour.
- Collects, represents and compares data using graphs.

Geometry

- Identifies and describes two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes.
- Partition circles and rectangles into halves, fourths and quarters.



SEL

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) is taught in every classroom by the school counselor and classroom teacher. Each month, students will have a theme/skill that they will learn about and practice that correlates with the Illinois State SEL Standards. Such themes include: Self-Control, Kindness, Manners, Empathy, Responsibility, Communication, Problem-Solving, and Working as a Team.

All students will learn:

- How to identify and manage one's emotions and behaviors using self-control and appropriate communication and coping skills.
- How to develop positive relationships with peers and adults using empathy, verbal/nonverbal communication, and basic social skills.
- How to use appropriate problem-solving skills for real-life social problems when working with others and/or as an individual.
- Students will also be introduced to the concept of goal-setting and long-term goals through different personal/academic goals and career exploration.

How Can You Help at Home:

PLEASE:

- Review the sight words 5 to 10 minutes a day.
- Go over the phonics page each day.
- Please get your child to school on time unless he or she is ill.
- Read to your child each day.
- Call or meet with your child's teacher if you have worries about reading. The teachers are here each day from 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.
- Call or meet with your child's Title I funded teacher, who is here to help your child with extra language art teaching time.
- We also have a school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, and speech therapist to help.
- Make sure your child has had an eye exam.

How Will You Know How Your Child Is Doing?

PLEASE:

- Check your child's folder each day after school. The teachers will send the folder home in your child's book bag.
- You can always stay in touch with your child's teacher by writing a note in the folder.
- There are parent teacher conferences at the end of first quarter in October, and the end of third quarter in March.
- Call the teacher or make an appointment to meet with the teacher. The teachers are always willing to meet with you!
- The school has a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). If your child is not making good progress, you will be invited to a meeting here at school to discuss ways to help your child.
- The MTSS meetings are usually held every 6-8 weeks. If those dates do not work, we will meet at other times as well.