

First Grade Curriculum 2010

The general curriculum is navigated through the Student Learning Expectations:

- “Love and Serve God and Others” - become a spiritually grounded person
- “Love Learning” - become an academically responsible student
- “Love Yourself” - become a self-aware individual

RELIGION and FAMILY LIFE

The guidelines developed by the Oakland Diocese strive to pair Catholic doctrine with contemporary, experiential teaching methods, such as the use of art and song, play, meditation, gesture and movement. Faith First fulfills the special needs of first graders by focusing on them: their names, their special people, what they touch and hear and see - and helps them to recognize that even when it is hard, life is good. Please visit the web site: www.faithfirst.com

Growing in Love is the series for Christian catechesis in family life. The program is based on seven key themes of Catholic education in relationships, family life, and human sexuality. We will teach monthly lessons school-wide. Your family is expected to review materials and urged to implement suggestions made for each lesson.

- Christian Service: Senior Friends at the Mercy Retirement Center
- Holy Days and Holidays: prayer celebrations
- Davey and Goliath (CTN Broadcast Religion Program)
- Discipline With Purpose (Respect, Contribute, Follow procedures)
- Visits by Father Leo, pastor, when he returns from his sabbatical experience

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

The Houghton-Mifflin Program “Invitations to Literacy” introduces students to a wide variety of quality literature and “real-world” materials. The program will help students develop a range of strategies and skills that allow them to become independent, confident readers.

The program provides direct, systematic instruction in phonemic awareness and phonics which is meaningful and integrated with other word identification skills into an effective word-recognition strategy.

The language arts program uses listening, speaking, and writing as effective strategies for improving reading performance and for ensuring that children are interested and successful in reading. Writing will not always be error free or corrected, but it will begin the process of children expressing themselves - their ideas, reactions, and thoughts.

- Literature and Poetry, Trade Books, Public Library Card
- D’Nealian Handwriting
- Read-Aloud, Read-Together Reading Log
- Reading Rainbow, Between the Lions (PBS) www.pbskids.org/lion
- Starfall - phonics practice www.starfall.com
- Spanish - foreign language introduction

MATHEMATICS

Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley Mathematics and Investigations emphasize a hands-on discovery approach to skills learning. Components from supplementary and replacement units will complete the First Grade Math Curriculum.

- Family Math and March Measurement Madness
- Project AIMS (Activities Integrating Math and Science)

Concepts include:

- Readiness and Understanding Addition and Subtraction
- Strategies for Addition and Subtraction to 18
- Two-Digit Addition and Subtraction
- Place Value and Counting
- Money, Time, Measurement
- Place Value, Data and Graphing
- Geometry, Fractions, Probability
- Exploring Number Operations

SOCIAL STUDIES / SCIENCE - HEALTH, SAFETY

Social Studies standards are addressed in a program designed to develop social skills and responsibilities, expand the child's geographic and economic worlds, and develop an awareness of cultural diversity, now and long ago.

- Scholastic News (periodicals)
- Research Project (State Report)
- Flat Stanley (snail mail project)

FOSS (Full Option Science System), a research-based science curriculum, is designed to provide meaningful science education for students. The FOSS program engages students in appreciating the scientific enterprise, learning important scientific concepts, and developing the ability to think critically, and to actively construct ideas through their own inquiries, investigations, and analyses. First Grade units include Solids and Liquids, Air and Weather, New Plants.

- Coyote Point Environmental Museum, San Mateo
- Dairy Council Nutrition - Health Curriculum
- American Dental Association Dental Care
- PG&E and East Bay MUD resource materials - conservation and safety

ARTS EDUCATION

The students will embrace ways to develop a sense of self-confidence and self-esteem as creative beings. Demonstrating interest and a willingness to engage in projects help to reinforce this unfolding process.

- Junior Center of Art and Science (Cezanne, Van Gogh, Warhol)
- San Francisco Symphony - Davies Hall
- Live performances of local theater companies - educational and delightful
- Kinder Productions: "Twinkle the Christmas Star", "Irish Stew", "The Little Red Hen"