

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Mount Arlington School District is to ensure that our children succeed personally, academically, socially, and physically. Through our commitment and passion to promote excellence, we will continue to provide our students with a safe, challenging and inspiring learning environment so that each student may achieve his/her full potential. In partnership with the community, our students are provided with a sound foundation to support a life long journey of opportunity and success.



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Mount Arlington Public Schools



First Grade Learning Benchmarks

In First Grade, a student will...

Language Arts

- Begin to demonstrate fluency and expression in oral reading
- Use context clues (word patterns, story structure, illustrations) to aid comprehension
- Use phonics skills to decode unfamiliar words
- Develop a vocabulary of 300-500 high-frequency sight words
- Identify all vowel and consonant sounds
- Add, delete, or change letters to change words
- Use summarizing and sequencing to retell a story
- Identify story elements (characters, setting, problem, and solution)
- Compare personal experiences to elements of a story
- Demonstrate familiarity with different genres (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, newspapers)
- Use complete sentences to convey ideas
- Use a simple writer's checklist to improve writing
- Write about personal and classroom experiences
- Share/discuss a piece of writing with an audience
- Write all upper and lowercase letters from memory
- Develop awareness of conventional spelling
- Use basic punctuation and capitalization
- Produce a variety of writings
- Demonstrate appropriate pencil grip and posture
- Produce clear and legible manuscript writing
- Listen and respond appropriately to directions

Math

- Identify and print numbers 1-100
- Count by multiples of ones, twos, fives, and tens
- Compare whole numbers (more than, less than, about the same, between, close)
- Understand whole number place value
- Recognize odd and even numbers
- Add and subtract with facts to ten using various strategies
- Solve simple problems using manipulatives, pictures, and writing
- Combine coins to make various amounts of money
- Begin to show multiplication and division strategies using manipulatives and drawings
- Identify, describe, and draw 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes by their properties
- Identify the line of symmetry of a 2-dimensional shape

- Select and use standard and non-standard units of measure
- Tell time to the hour and half-hour
- Explore areas by covering a shape with square inches
- Recognize, describe, extend, and create patterns
- Create and interpret simple graphs and charts
- Orally communicate mathematical thinking

Science

- Investigate ideas by completing lab activities, both individually and in groups
- Connect science to other subject areas
- Understand the effects of weather changes on people, animals and plants
- Recognize that the sun supplies light and heat to the Earth
- Compare and contrast characteristics that distinguish living things from non-living things
- Identify plant parts and their purposes
- Use five senses to observe various states of matter
- Compare natural features of the Earth
- Gain an appreciation for our Earth

Social Studies

- Explain the need for rules, laws, and government
- Evaluate ways in which rules are followed and conflicts resolved
- Discriminate among types of families and their needs, responsibilities, and traditions
- Compare family life today with long ago
- Indicate ways people work together to improve their community
- Distinguish among community helpers and the goods and services they provide
- Continue to develop an awareness of holidays and traditions that commemorate special events or people
- Analyze ways current events impact family and community
- Describe the role of natural resources in everyday life
- Identify basic needs of people throughout the world (food, shelter, clothing)
- Demonstrate basic globe and map skills
- Identify physical characteristics on a map (continents, oceans, rivers, lakes)

Health and Physical Education

- Develop muscular and cardiovascular strength and fitness
- Perform various eye/hand and eye/foot coordination activities
- Participate in activities independently, with a partner, and in groups while demonstrating respect, sharing, and cooperation
- Gain a basic understanding of the importance of personal health and explore ways to promote good health
- Categorize feelings and appropriate ways to express them
- Determine ways to keep safe and prevent accidents
- Recognize community healthcare workers and the jobs they do
- Differentiate between harmful and helpful substances

Technology

- Recognize that a computer is a tool in our everyday lives
- Demonstrate increased knowledge of proper keyboarding skills
- Use a word processing program to create simple text
- Utilize critical thinking skills through the use of grade level appropriate software

Music

- Hear and identify selected components of music (direction, dynamics, tempo, and form)
- Identify and sing music of diverse cultures
- Coordinate movement with changes in tempo
- Identify familiar instruments from their recorded sounds

Art

- Become familiar with and use many art materials, tools, and techniques
- Use line, shape, color, form and space in a design
- Mix colors to create new colors
- Develop a working art vocabulary
- Discuss and define the elements of art

Media

- Demonstrate knowledge and use of media center facilities
- Exhibit responsibility for borrowing and returning materials
- Choose appropriate reading materials
- Discriminate between fiction and non-fiction
- Locate and identify the parts of a book