



School Reform Commission

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The School District of Philadelphia

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Acting Superintendent and Chief Executive Officer

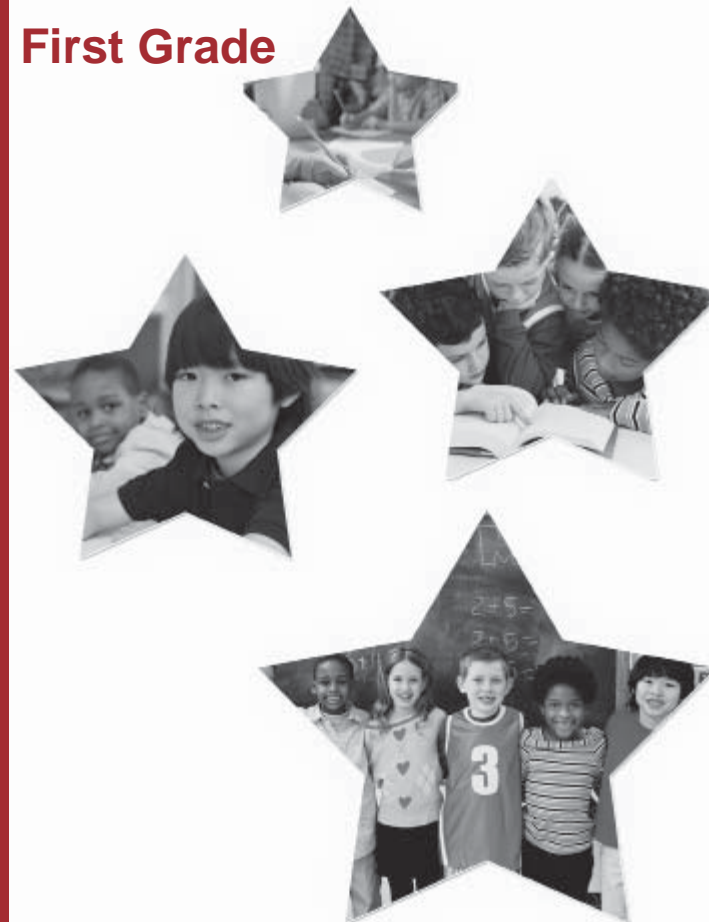
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School District of Philadelphia
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First Grade



For more information, call
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Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

The School District of Philadelphia is committed to ensuring that all children learn to read by the end of third grade. That's why we must begin to reach every child early, in the pre-school years if possible. Achieving this goal is of vital importance because a child's ability to read affects all aspects of future success in school and in life. This includes a student's access to college, better jobs, and a meaningful life. Knowing that we cannot achieve this all-important goal without your help and support, the Office of Schools and Academic Programs has prepared this booklet to give you an overview of what your child will study this year and suggestions on how you can help.

We encourage you to monitor your child's progress, attendance, test scores and grades through *Family Net* which you can access by clicking on the Parent Box on the School District website (www.philasd.org). Many parents and caregivers have already logged in and are using *Family Net* regularly. But if you are not familiar with the site, you can register any time using your child's name and student ID number to log in.

Proudly, we have made great strides in recent years. In 2011, for example, more than half of our students in grades 3, 4, 7 and 8 scored at the Proficient or Advanced level in reading according to the Pennsylvania System of State Assessments (PSSA). But more work lies ahead for us because we want to ensure that ALL students will be able to read by the end of grade 3.

By working together and acting now to achieve this goal, we will guarantee greater results for ALL. I thank you and wish you and your family a very happy and productive school year.

Sincerely

Leroy D. Nunery II, MBA, Ed.D.
Acting Superintendent and Chief Executive Officer

Reading / Writing

By the end of the school year, your first grader should be able to:

- Retell a story in the order that they heard or read that includes many important details
- Talk and write about what happened in the beginning, the middle and the end of a story that they heard or read
- Read at least 100 words that are found in many stories such as read, girl, sure, etc.
- Make predictions about what might happen next in a story
- Read aloud with good speed and expression
- Spell most frequently used words correctly
- Write sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation



Mathematics

By the end of the school year, your first grader should be able to:

- Understand how to divide equally into $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ parts
- Compare numbers (larger, smaller, more than, less than, same)
- Represent the same number in different ways; example $8+2$, $5+5$, ten
- Solve single and double-digit addition and subtraction problems
- Identify the value of and exchange coins (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters)
- Measure the length of various objects
- Tell time on digital and traditional clocks and determine how much time has gone by (elapsed time)
- Collect and record data such as daily weather
- Show an understanding of patterns by telling what comes next using numbers, shapes, or objects
- Use +, -, and = to create a number story
- Name, draw, describe and label two dimensional shapes, such as triangles, squares, and rectangles
- Count by 2's, 5's and 10's
- Understand that ten ones is one ten and ten-tens equal 100

Science

By the end of the school year, your first grader should be able to:

- Explain their discoveries by writing and drawing about their findings
- Group objects according to their different physical properties: texture, size, color etc.
- Describe the properties of the three states of matter: solid, liquid, and gas
- Explore how matter can change from one form to another, such as watching an ice cube change from a solid to a liquid
- Observe, describe, and sort earth materials, such as soil, based on different properties
- Describe and compare some characteristics of plants and animals
- Conduct hands-on investigations to discover and understand their world
- Record observations in science notebooks



Social Studies

By the end of the school year, your first grader should be able to:

- Explain how individuals, families, and groups are similar and different
- Understand and discuss facts about African American History
- Recognize and understand the concept of change in many different settings
- Explain different holidays and special days that are celebrated in their community and others
- Apply basic economic concepts to home, school, and the community
- Recognize how technology is used at home, school, and in the community



Health/Physical Education

By the end of the school year, your first grader should be able to:

- Understand the components of good character: trustworthiness, fairness, respect, citizenship
- Understand the difference between medicinal and non-medicinal drugs
- Know what to do for a safe and unsafe touch
- Complete a 30-minute Physical Education class without undo fatigue
- Participate in games involving throwing and catching

Art and Music

By the end of the school year, your first grader should be able to:

Art

- Use different art materials to make drawings, paintings and sculptures
- Find the central image in a work of art such as a person, house or flower
- Give their opinion about a work of art

Music

- Play simple rhythms to accompany a variety of chants, poems, and songs
- Sing nursery rhymes and folk songs