



## First Grade Curriculum

**Religion:** The CPH One in Christ curriculum is used to teach the faith to first graders. Bible stories provide God's story of love and salvation for His people in the Old and New Testaments and continuing on in our lives today. Students are taught key concepts of faith such as Law and Gospel, confession and repentance, forgiveness and grace. Students are also introduced to our Lutheran heritage. The importance of joyful worship and prayer is emphasized. Through a planned memory program, students learn 10 special Bible verses, hymns, and portions of the Catechism.

**Science:** The first grade science program enhances the appreciation of God's creation. The program offers life science units on plants and animals, earth science units on the Earth's water, weather and seasons, and physical science units on matter and forces.

**Social Studies:** The changing world of a first grader is nurtured through the following topics: School community, family, community, country, and the world. Map skills are developed as the children look at the world around them.

**Language Arts:** Our reading program covers many skills to move the child through emerging literacy and beginning reading. Word recognition is taught through multiple skills. Phonics, context, word structure and word meaning skills are developed together. Study skills taught will include practical instruction in using location aids, alphabetical order, book features and reference sources. Appreciation of literature is encouraged by teaching the children basic story structure and by exposing them to fiction and non-fiction. Skills are developed through listening and speaking, vocabulary activities, and writing.

Students will plan and write sentences using proper punctuation and capitalization. The students are also taught proper use of nouns and verbs. These skills are practiced in their journal writing and short stories.

Spelling lessons are based on sound patterns that coordinate with the vocabulary found in the reading series. Both phonetic skills and sight words are reinforced.

**Handwriting:** First graders are taught proper manuscript techniques using the Handwriting Without Tears Program. Basic strokes, size, shape and spacing are practiced and reviewed throughout the year.

**Math:** Through concept introduction, skill building, problem solving, and application, first graders are taught about numbers, addition and subtraction facts through 18, place value through 100, time, money, geometry, fractions, and measurement. Math facts and thinking skills are stressed as students learn math concepts.