

First Grade

Core Texts

Houghton Mifflin

Anthologies

1. Here We Go!
2. Let's Be Friends Practice Book 1.1 – 1.2
3. Surprises
4. Treasures Practice Book 1.3 – 1.5
5. Wonders

Phonics Library/Little Big Books/Theme Paperbacks
D'Nealian or Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Book

First Grade Packet

Writing Prompt Packet
Phonics Library Lessons
Read Aloud Packet
California Mathematics Test Prompt directions for student texts

Daily 6-Trait Writing Student Practice Book and Teacher's Edition

Houghton Mifflin California Summative Tests pkt.

California Mathematics MacMillan McGraw-Hill

Harcourt California Science

Social Studies Harcourt Reflections, Grade 1

Introduction

Houghton Mifflin has been selected to provide the reading and math materials for your first grader. Houghton Mifflin materials align with the California Content's Standards in every core subject. This publishing company covers content using a variety of methods to meet diverse student learning styles, always building sequentially on skills foundations. Harcourt textbooks have been chosen for Social Studies and Science. These materials, also aligned with California Content Standards, are interesting, very readable, are colorful and allow for flexibility in the order of presentation.

In First Grade, the development of literacy is of the utmost importance. Therefore, our recommended curriculum for Language Arts is designed to complement each component. It is important that students start at the beginning and are led through the program content in a sequential order. Math should be taught the same way. Harcourt Social Studies and Science are not chronological, which allows for flexibility.

If you follow the content laid out in the grid, you will have covered First Grade Content Standards recommended by the State of California. You can draw from your own resources as well to enhance, enrich, and reteach the contents covered on the grid.

Language Arts

Practice Book – An average of 15 pages per week devoted to spelling, phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, writing, phonemic awareness, and high frequency words.

Spelling: Each week there are several pages in the practice book devoted to spelling. There are word lists in the back of the book to use for spelling tests. You may also choose words your child is having trouble with from each lesson. The recommended sequence is pretest-workbook pages-final test.

Phonics: Several pages are devoted each week for phonics. Phonics is a critical building block for reading proficiency.

Comprehension: Each week the practice book focuses on the skill of comprehension. The practice book helps your child build comprehension by developing the skills of prediction, inference, and questioning.

Vocabulary: The weekly pages of vocabulary are necessary for building reading accuracy, comprehension, and fluency.

Writing: There are many opportunities and suggestions for writing within each week. Writing is the best evaluation of a student's language arts abilities. The daily writing prompts will be fun for your child and will build on writing skills throughout the year. Writing in a journal is an excellent way to use these prompts.

D'Nealian Handwriting Workbook: This book also helps build handwriting skills and its unique style makes the transition from manuscript to cursive easier.

Phonics Library: This is a series of ten books that correspond to each of the ten themes during the year. The high interest series will help your child build a high frequency word base, build a bank of decoding skills and decodable words. Use of the series will also help develop your child's reading fluency over time.

Daily 6-Trait Writing Student Practice Book: This writing book is designed to provide 25 weeks of mini-lessons in specific skill areas of writing. The focus of the writing lessons is to develop ideas, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, and voice. A teacher's edition accompanies the student book to assist you with planning and implementing the lessons.

Math

Our school-wide recommended curriculum for Math is MacMillan McGraw-Hill California Mathematics and is designed to provide students with a balanced approach to learning mathematics. The chapters in the grade level one book cover Patterns and Number Sense, Understanding Addition and Subtraction, Data and Graphs, Addition and Subtraction Strategies to Twenty, Time, Measurement, Money, Geometry, Place Value, Numbers to 100, and 2 Digit Addition and Subtraction.

Each lesson contains:

Main Idea-Restates the California standard in child-friendly and age-appropriate language.

Vocabulary-Both new vocabulary and review vocabulary help students understand terms being presented.

Talk About It-Provides opportunities for students to use math vocabulary and demonstrate their understanding of the lesson concept.

Hands-On Activities-Support concrete understanding and provide modeling opportunities.

Check-This section is to monitor student progress.

Problem Solving-Allows students to apply math skills and solve problems using visual thinking, logical reasoning, number sense, and algebra.

Multi-Step Word Problems-Teaches students to analyze exactly what the problem is and how to use the information given.

H.O.T.-Requires students to use Higher Order Thinking skills to solve problems.

Data Files-Presents math in real-world situations.

Spiral Review-Provides constant reinforcement of skills from previous lessons.

Problem Solving Strategies-Introduces students to multiple methods for solving problems.

Problem-Solving Investigations-Presents students with a variety of ways to solve word problems.

There are numerous ways and methods to assess your child's understanding and progress within each lesson. The text starts with a beginning of the year diagnostic and placement test. Each chapter contains Are You Ready assessments to identify student's prior knowledge, Mid-Chapter Check, Chapter Review and California Standards Practice. *Mastering the CA Mathematics Standards* book is available from your resource teacher if additional assessment is needed. This book also provides additional testing practice so that students may feel more comfortable with the state testing that they will be taking in their 2nd grade year.

Additional reusable Work Mats, manipulatives, leveled resources and intervention lessons are also included in the program. We hope you will take advantage of our extensive collection of math manipulatives and reteaching materials to help your child master the concepts introduced. Your resource teacher can provide these materials to you at your request.

Social Studies

In order to meet State Standards for Social Studies, we are using curriculum from Harcourt Publishing. We are excited about having this curriculum and hope you will be too. The Harcourt series is called Reflections and comes with a hardbound text book and a Homework and Practice Book workbook along with assessments.

Reflections: A Child's View: The textbook has introductions to vocabulary, study skills, literature tied to specific study areas, highlights of significant people in history, important events, critical thinking skills, projects and writing activities. Each unit is comprised of a preview of vocabulary for each lesson, 4 or 5 lessons, lesson review questions, unit review questions, chart and map skills, biography of an important person in our history, literature selection for the start and end of the unit, and additional special features. In addition there are activity pages within each unit where you may choose to do a project as a family or individually or a writing activity. The idea here is to choose to do one or the other. Some activities are written for a classroom environment but most can be modified to be done as a family. Your imagination can enrich any of these activities.

Homework and Practice Book: The Homework and Practice Book workbook purpose is to provide students with the concepts, knowledge, and skills they need to become informed and effective participants in the 21st Century. Each lesson comes with study guide questions to reinforce the lessons in the text, chart and graph skills, critical thinking skills and compare and contrast.

Plan ahead in using the activities you want to emphasize with your child, as well as the pace. Also, remember that our community is full of real-life examples of Social Studies, and it would be excellent if you could bring some of those resources and experiences into your child's learning of the concepts (e.g., go to the Veteran's Day Parade downtown when you are teaching your child about that holiday, or when you are learning about money, arrange a tour of a bank). Remember that there is a lot more to teaching Social Studies (and all subjects) than just completing a worksheet. The quality of the lessons is up to you!

Time Readers for Kids: For supplemental reading and activities we have added Time Readers for Kids. The readers are available for every unit in the text. These readers allow students opportunities to read more about topics related to unit content. The readers are categorized into three reading levels: Basic, Proficient and Advanced. There is a Teacher's edition that provides before-reading, during-reading, and after-reading activities to use with the readers. These readers can also be used for informal reading practice.

Also, please note that some of the pages listed are "supplemental." Feel free to pick and choose when it comes to these, as you will find them to be most useful.

Science

The first grade Harcourt California Science curriculum contains unit studies on why and how we use science and investigation tools, states of matter-solids, liquids and gases, plants and animals, weather, and health. This curriculum includes a hardbound text, a Science Content Support workbook, assessment packet, and an optional Lab Manual. Online support is available at (www.hspscience.com).

Science Content Support workbook: provides a variety of support for every lesson-including vocabulary exercises, a study guide for reviewing lesson content and writing models.

Lab Manual: The Lab Manual offers a handy guide and recording sheets for lesson and unit investigations found in the text. This helps teach students how to organize their thinking and introduces them to scientific processes. **These activities are also found in the hardbound text. Therefore, the Lab Manual is optional.**

Tool Kits: We have tool kits that can be used along with the lab activities in the text.

Science Content Readers: Science Content Readers are available for all unit studies. These readers are categorized into 3 reading levels: Below-Level, On-Level, and Above-Level. There is an additional Teacher's Guide to use alongside the readers that can assist in teaching the content areas within the readers. An optional writing and project packet is available for additional supplemental ideas for teaching science.

Online Support: Online support includes the student text which can be read to the student, lab activities and experiments demonstrated, and additional interactive activities. (www.hspscience.com).

Art

The Art ideas on the plan are simply pulled from the Houghton Mifflin reading book, immediately following the story for that week. Use your creativity to integrate art into your child's learning whenever possible!

Enrichment/Supplements

Check the school's calendar for important dates (Living History Days, Enrichment Classes...) as well as some suggested activities for your child. See your Resource Teacher about getting copies of the Grade One Supplement Packets. These activities have been compiled to correlate with the grid and with seasons. Included in the Supplement Packets are art activities, writing, math, books for your child to make and read, and other fun activities.

Additional Resources

United Streaming Video and California Streaming Video

These are Video-On-Demand websites that VOCS is incorporating into the grid. These websites have many features to enhance your child's learning experience with over 10,000 videos to view along with lessons and quizzes. (www.unitedstreaming.com and www.californiastreaming.org)

pbskids.org

This site offers educational philosophies, educator guides, and at-home activities that relate to PBS children's programming. You will find fun activities for your children, health information, book lists, and lots of other resources, all based on familiar characters (Arthur, Sesame Street, etc.)

California Elementary Education Association

A terrific resource for lesson plans and academic support for all subjects from the California Elementary Education Association. (www.ceeaa.org)

www.eduplace.com Another great site for lesson plans and support.