

# 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

Writing Prompt Packet

Alternative Assessment Packet

Read Aloud Packet

D'Nealian Handwriting Book

Phonics Library

United Streaming Packet

(Packets will be incorporated into a black binder and will be identified on the “Grid” as “BB”)

Math Steps (with lesson support book)

### Scott Foresman Science

Social Studies Harcourt Reflections, Grade 1

Practice Book

Assessments

## Introduction

Houghton Mifflin has been selected to guide your first grader through this most important year. Houghton Mifflin reading makes the California standards visible, accessible, and achievable for all students.

In First Grade, the development of literacy is of the utmost importance. Our recommended curriculum for Language Arts is designed to be extremely thorough. 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. 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 contents from the grid to help your child grasp a particular concept.

## **Language Arts**

Practice Book – An average of 15 pages per week devoted to spelling, phonic s, 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. It is recommended that a pre-test be given, then complete workbook pages, and final test at end of the week.

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

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

**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 to practice book pages.

### **Additional Resources:**

**Daily Writing Prompts:** The daily writing prompts will be fun for your child and will build on writing skill throughout the year. A journal would be a good idea for these prompts to be written in.

**Alternative Assessment Packet:** This packet will gauge the progress of your child throughout each theme during the school year.

**D'Nealian Handwriting Workbook:** This book also helps build handwriting skills.

**Phonics Library:** This is a series of ten books that correspond to each of the ten themes during the year. The series will help your child build their high frequency word base as well as decodable words and will also help in your child's reading fluency in the years to come.

## **Math**

\_\_\_\_\_ Our school-wide recommended curriculum for Math is Math Steps, a curriculum that is closely correlated to the State Standards. The chapters in the book cover Geometry,

Number Sense, Addition and Subtraction Facts, Place Value, Time and Money, and Fractions and Measurement. Your child will complete approximately four lessons per week (be sure to get a copy of the Lesson Support booklet for instructional tips). We hope you will take advantage of our extensive collection of math manipulatives to help your child master the concepts introduced.

## **Social Studies**

In order to meet State Standards for Social Studies, we are using a new social studies curriculum from Harcourt Publishing. We are excited about having this new 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.

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 pick one or the other to do. 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.

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 and use your judgment in using the activities you want to emphasize with your child, as well as 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!

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

## **Science**

Scott Foresman Science is the text we recommend for Science, and besides their regular science reading, it is full of easy-to-do hands-on activities for your little scientist. Science has been laid out in the plan to cover thoroughly the three main content areas the State Standards outline—States of Matter, Weather, and Living Things. You will notice that book includes other scientific topics, but as the purpose of this grid is to be standards-based, we recommend taking your time covering the three mentioned above. Unless a project/activity requires daily maintenance or observation, you will probably work on Science only one day per week.

## **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**

Here are listed some 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

This is a Video-On-Demand website that VOCS is incorporating into the "Grid" for the 2005-2006 school year. The website has many features to enhance your child's learning experience.

[www.unitedstreaming.com](http://www.unitedstreaming.com)

[pbskids.org](http://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.)

[ceea.org](http://ceea.org)

A terrific resource for lesson plans and academic support for all subjects from the California Elementary Education Association.

[www.eduplace.com](http://www.eduplace.com)

Another great site for lesson plans and support.