First Grade

How can I help my child at home?

Learning does not end in the classroom. Children need help and support at home to succeed in their studies. Try to create a quiet place for your child to study every day uninterrupted by friends, siblings, or other distractions. At home, you can play an important role in setting high expectations and supporting your child in meeting them. If your child needs a little extra help or wants to learn more about a subject, work with his or her teacher to identify opportunities for tutoring, to get involved in clubs after school, or to find other resources.

- Encourage your child to read to you books such as *Little Bear* by Else Minarik. Help him or her sound out difficult words. To find more books for your child to read, visit [http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/families](http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/families)
- Act out stories together from books, television, or your child’s imagination.
- Pick a “word of the day” each day starting with a different letter. Have your child write the word and look for other things beginning with the same letter.
- Visit the library with your child every week. Have your child sign up for a library card.

Information provided by:

District Resources

**English language Arts Website**

- LAFS Task Cards
- SAT-10 Task Cards
- Making Words
- Story Elements
- Story Sequence
- Elements of Writing

**Digital Links**

- Ready: [http://www.dadeschools.net/students.asp](http://www.dadeschools.net/students.asp)
- C-Palms: [http://www.cpalms.org/Public/](http://www.cpalms.org/Public/)
- Achieve the Core: [http://achievethecore.org/](http://achievethecore.org/)
- myON Reader: [https://www.myon.com/login/](https://www.myon.com/login/)
- Sunshine State Young Reader Award Program: [http://www.floridamedia.org/?page=ssyrahome](http://www.floridamedia.org/?page=ssyrahome)

Grade Level Expectations

In 1st grade, your child will become a more independent reader and writer. Your child will continue to learn and practice rules for recognizing the sounds that make up words and will be able to sound out more complex words. Such foundational skills are necessary and important components of developing proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend a wide range of materials. Students will learn to think about what they read and talk about the main ideas of simple stories. As they write and speak, 1st graders will learn to use language appropriately; this includes using complete sentences and spelling words with increasing accuracy.

**A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 1st Grade**

- Using phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing
- Describing characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
- Writing about a topic, supplying some facts, and providing some sense of opening and closing
- Participating in shared research and writing projects (e.g., exploring a number of "how-to" books and using them to write a sequence of instructions)
- Taking part in conversations about topics and texts being studied and asking questions to clear up any confusion
- Describing people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly and with complete sentences
- Producing and expanding complete simple and compound statements, questions, commands, and exclamations
- Identifying the correct meaning for a word with multiple meanings, based on the sentence or paragraph in which the word is used
- Learning to think about finer distinctions in the meanings of near-synonyms (e.g., marching, prancing, strutting, strolling)