

Language Arts/Writing

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas. The textbook used for reading is Wonders.

Readings/Literature-

Children through the series experience authentic literature in the form of poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, biographies, fantasies and plays. Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills:

- Link spoken and written language
- Use word identification strategies
- Develop vocabulary (includes listening and sight)
- Use structural analysis
- Comprehend the main idea
- Sequence events of a story
- Analyze details
- Use context clues
- Distinguish fact from fantasy
- Make predictions
- Use text features

Art

In Art classes, the students will learn and work with different forms of media and techniques, studying artists while using their God-given talents.

The focus is on:

- Proportion of the face
- Art History

Writing-

First grade students use writing to convey meaning.

Students will:

- Write effectively using words and pictures to convey thoughts
- Write simple sentences
- Apply spelling knowledge (skills are developed through a variety of spelling and phonetic patterns)
- Apply grammar and mechanics
 - Capitalization
 - Complete sentences
 - Basic punctuation
- Use literary elements through prompted writing

Listening/Speaking-

First grade students will listen for understanding, follow directions and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions.

Students will:

- Present material orally
- Participate in discussions
- Read & retell stories

Technology & Reference Skills

First grade students will use electronic devices to enhance the curriculum and learn introductory computer skills.

Students will:

- Login to local computer
- Open and close programs
- Navigate a browser
- Practice keyboarding using Internet software
- Construct graphic organizers to illustrate stories, etc.
- Develop proficiency with Google docs

St. Mary of Gostyn School

Curriculum Guide

Grade 1



Social Studies

First grade students develop an awareness of the world around them.

The focus will be:

- Families
- Neighborhoods
- Working together
- Meeting needs through goods and services
- Celebrations
- Our country, our world

Religion

First graders will learn through stories, activities, Scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection about their Catholic faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in all subject areas.

The focus is on:

- Traditional common prayers
- Creation
- God, Jesus, Mary and the Holy Spirit
- Celebrating liturgy
- Baptism
- How to respect each other
- Lives of saints

Spanish

The focus will be on:

- Pronunciation
- Conversation

Physical Education

In First grade, students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Students will:

- Maintain personal fitness
- Acquire an awareness of personal health needs
- Demonstrate gross motor skills
- Participate in cooperative group games
- Engage in activities that increase heart rate
 - Jogging
 - Jumping rope
 - Tag games
- Engage in activities that develop eye-hand coordination/eye-foot coordination using a variety of equipment

Science

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning and explaining.

Students will study:

- Plant and animal growth
- Investigating habitats
- Properties of matter and energy
- Force and motion
- Weather, Planets and Seasons
- Earth's land/Natural Resources

Math

First grade students will acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems through the use of the text My Math.

Students will:

- Identify and count numbers from 0-100
- Add and subtract numbers up to 10
- Understand the concept of zero
- Solve simple word problems
- Chart, compare and graph data
- Compare height and weight
- Use a calendar
- Sort by size and shape
- Compare numbers
- Identify patterns, shapes
- Count to 100 by fives and tens
- Identify and describe characteristics of shapes
- Use manipulatives to solve for an unknown
- Apply logic when estimating
- Measure time and money
- Solve two-digit operations using base 10

Music

Students will be able to:

- Discern sensory elements of music such as high, low, fast and slow using music
- Terminology (pitch, allegro, andante, adagio, forte, piano etc.)
- Demonstrate the mood or emotion expressed in a piece of music presented through body movement, drawing, painting and verbal expression
- Accurately sing songs related to the season and the Christmas program
- Play hand percussion instruments and demonstrate hands on manipulation of musical concepts presented and to explore artistic expression through music
- Introduction of basic musical notation such as staff, note movement and counting beats