



Needham Public Schools

GRADE 1 CURRICULUM SUMMARY

August 2020

Mathematics

- Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction
- Understand and apply properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction
- Add and subtract within 20
- Work with addition and subtraction equations
- Extend the counting sequence
- Understand place value
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract
- Measure lengths indirectly and by iterating length units
- Tell and write time
- Represent and interpret data
- Work with money
- Reason with shapes and their attributes

Reading

- Show an interest in books through questions and discussion
- Participate in book discussion with partners, small groups, and whole class
- Read books at independent level
- Begin to read, recognize and understand characteristics of various genres
- Recognize high frequency words
- Recognize story elements (character, setting, plot) in simple texts
- Read independently
- Retell a story in sequence using beginning, middle and end
- Read to acquire information
- Use comprehension strategies while reading to make meaning
- Increase knowledge of word structure and vocabulary

Writing

- Use stages of the writing process including, drafting, revising, editing and publishing
- Use oral story telling to plan writing
- Use pictures and sentences to tell a story across multiple pages
- Experiment with writing in different genres and for different purposes
- Use mentor text to learn crafting techniques
- Write with voice
- Use phonetic spelling
- Use the word wall and other spelling resources
- Spell grade level high frequency words correctly
- Use capital letters to begin sentences
- Use ending punctuation
- Experiment with punctuating dialogue

Handwriting

- Write legibly
- Use spaces between words

Science

The 2020-2021 school year includes changes to science programming and curriculum in order to meet the needs of the district's hybrid and remote learning plans. Units that will be facilitated support the [Science and Engineering Framework](#). Grade 1 students explore the big ideas of life, physical, and earth science through an inquiry-based, hands on approach, with the following units:

- Observing Weather, Seasonal Changes (Earth Science)
- Life Cycle of Plants & Animals (Life Science)
- Sound & Light (Physical Science & Engineering)

Social Studies

Students learn about geography and engage in inquiry-based social studies as they study the following units:

- Self and Society
- Calendar/Holidays
- Maps/Directions

Spanish Language & Culture

- Understand and produce memorized vocabulary and formulaic expressions related to the following themes: common greetings, the calendar, seasons, weather, colors, numbers, shapes, school, fruits, family, the body, farm animals, and insects
- Respond to simple questions and produce simple expressions
- Demonstrate comprehension by following basic classroom instructions
- Demonstrate awareness, curiosity and appreciation for different cultures

Art

- Demonstrate an understanding of the Elements and Principles of Art and Design. Be able to apply these principles in artistic work in a developmentally appropriate way.
- Connect with art in other settings
- Solve artistic problems and think critically and creatively
- Use materials safely
- Make connections between an artwork and their personal experience
- Use line to create different patterns
- Mix and identify primary and secondary colors
- Experiment with paints
- Explore and create texture

Music

- Explore different musical ideas by experimenting with the voice or instruments
- With support, identify basic elements in familiar songs (including tempo, dynamics, rhythm, melody)
- Recognize loud/soft, high/low, and fast/slow qualities in music
- Demonstrate a steady beat to given music
- Demonstrate understanding of melody and melodic direction
- Listen to, move to, and sing folk, multicultural, and patriotic songs
- Begin to read rhythmic notation
- Demonstrate the ability to use a healthy singing voice

Physical Education

- Experience the joy of movement with self and others
Learn movement concepts and skills that will lead to enjoyable participation in activities/games/sports
- Use proper form to throw underhand
- Demonstrate ability to catch a self-tossed object
- Demonstrate ability to skip using proper form
- Demonstrate the ability to forward roll
- Demonstrate ability to dribble a ball alternating hands
- Demonstrate ability to dribble a ball with feet

Library & Digital Learning

- Know the book check in/check out procedures and circulation rules
- Work cooperatively with others when using technology
- Identify parts of the book collection by proper name
- Identify particular authors and illustrators
- Practice active listening skills during read aloud lessons
- Present information orally with print or electronic illustrations
- Use electronic drawing tools independently
- Import graphics from a clip art library
- Type simple sentences with assistance
- Access information from a web site with assistance
- Learn definitions and examples of cyber-bullying
- Begin to become aware of safety rules for computer use

Social & Emotional Learning

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. SEL is more than just a program or lesson. It is about how teaching and learning happens, as well as what you teach and where you learn. There are a variety of approaches used to teach SEL including:

- Free-standing lessons designed to enhance students' social and emotional competence explicitly.
- Teaching practices such as cooperative learning and project-based learning, which promote SEL.
- Integration of SEL and academic curriculum such as language arts, math, social studies, or health.
- Organizational strategies that promote SEL as a schoolwide initiative that creates a climate and culture conducive to learning.

At the elementary level, the Responsive Classroom Approach is used to promote well-designed practices intended to create safe, joyful, and engaging classroom and school communities. The emphasis is on helping students develop their academic, social, and emotional skills in a learning environment that is developmentally responsive to their strengths and needs.

Students develop their SEL skills across five competencies:

- Self Awareness
- Self Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision Making

Grade 1 Racial Literacy

We Are Part of a Larger Community: Encouraging Kindness, Social Awareness, and Empathy

Students explore identity and build a positive sense of belonging to an inclusive classroom and school community.