

PARENT AND STUDENT GUIDE

First Grade *Concepts and Skills*



Prepared by:
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

AMESSAGEFROMTHE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another wonderful year of teaching and learning in Norfolk Public Schools! We are excited about joining with you to educate all students to be successful, productive contributors to society. We strive for all students to become powerfully literate. We have developed this parent guide to serve as a tool for you to stay involved in the learning process, and to assist you at home in strengthening your child's knowledge and skills in the core academic content.

This guide contains the state and local standards of learning in English, mathematics, science and history/social science. At the end of the guide, helpful hints for home are provided for you to use to enrich, enhance and strengthen your child's knowledge and skills in the various contents. Additionally, a calendar of important school dates is provided on the NPS website to help you keep track of holidays, early release days, parent conference day, and other important information.

Please use this guide at home as you partner with us in delivering a rigorous academic program to enable all students to become powerfully literate. If you need any assistance or additional ideas on how to use this guide or if you need other assistance with your child's education please contact your school. Finally, I look forward to working with you and the staff of Norfolk Public Schools to provide powerful teaching and learning opportunities to ensure the academic success of all of our students.

Sincerely,



Dr. Melinda J. Boone
Superintendent of Schools

What We Believe

The mission of Norfolk Public Schools, the cornerstone of a proudly diverse community, is to ensure that all students maximize their academic potential, develop skills for lifelong learning and are successful contributors to a global society, as distinguished by:

- Courageous advocacy for all students
- Family and community investment
- Data-driven personalized learning
- Strong and effective leadership teams
- Shared responsibility for teaching and learning
- Access to rigorous and rewarding college and career readiness opportunities

Board & Division Priorities

- Ensure full accreditation
- Increase academic achievement of all students
- Improve climate, safety & attendance
- Become a School Board of Distinction
- Promote Norfolk Public Schools to reflect outstanding accomplishments of staff, teachers and students
- Develop and coordinate a capital improvement plan for facilities and technology to enhance teaching and learning
- Attract, retain, and help to develop strong academic families and highly qualified teachers and staff

ENGLISH

In ORAL LANGUAGE, your child will:

- Continue to demonstrate growth in oral language.
- Listen and respond to a variety of media.
- Tell and retell stories and events in logical order.
- Express ideas orally in complete sentences.
- Begins to expand vocabulary by asking for clarification and explanation of words and ideas.
- Use vocabulary from all content areas.
- Give and follow simple two-step oral directions.
- Use singular and plural nouns.
- Begin to use compound words in oral communication.
- Adapt or change oral language to fit the situation.
- Initiate and participate in conversations.
- Ask and respond to questions in small-group settings.
- Orally identify and manipulate phonemes in syllables and multi-syllabic words.
- Create rhyming words orally.
- Blend sounds to make word parts and words with one to three syllables.

In READING/LITERATURE, your child will:

- Apply knowledge of how print is organized and read.
- Match spoken words with print.
- Identify letters, words, and sentences.
- Identify concepts about print: space, capital letters, periods, question marks, exclamation points, quotation marks, and speech bubbles.
- Apply phonetic principles to reading.
- Use beginning and ending consonant and vowel sounds in decoding single-syllable words.
- Blend beginning, middle, and ending sounds to recognize and read words.
- Recognize at least 150 high frequency words.
- Use meaning clues when reading.
- Use knowledge of the story and topic to read words.
- Use knowledge of sentence structure to read words.
- Reread, self-correct, and set a purpose for reading.

- Read a variety of fiction and nonfiction and identify the main idea or theme.
- Relate previous experiences to what is read.
- Make predictions and ask questions about content.
- Retell familiar stories by identifying beginning, middle and end, characters, setting, and events.
- Alphabetize words according to the first letter.
- Use a picture dictionary to find the meanings of words.
- Make a personal dictionary or word list to use when writing.

In WRITING, your child will:

- Write to communicate ideas in complete sentences.
- Focus on one topic.
- Use descriptive words when writing.
- Begin each sentence with a capital letter and use end punctuation in final copies.
- Use correct spelling for frequently used words and phonetically regular words in final copies.
- Share writing with others.
- Use available technology.
- Organize writing in a logical sequence.
- Use invented or temporary spelling for new words.
- Use capital letters (for the pronoun “I” and the name of persons).
- Publish individual and group stories.
- Print legibly.

MATH

In NUMBER SENSE, your child will:

- Group a collection of objects up to 100 into sets of tens and ones and write the corresponding numeral.
- Use concrete and pictorial models to create equivalent representations of the same number (up to 100)
- Model, read, say, and write numbers to 100.
- Represent part of a set or region as a fraction (halves, thirds, and fourths).

In COMPUTATION AND ESTIMATION, your child will:

- Recall basic addition and subtraction facts to 18 with

accuracy.

- Recognize and describe related facts (fact families)-addition and subtraction.
- Explain why a given estimate is the most reasonable for a problem situation.
- Explore addition and subtraction of 2-digit numbers (sums less than 100).
- Create and solve one-step story problems using basic addition and subtraction facts.

In MEASUREMENT, your child will:

- Count and determine the value of a collection of pennies, nickels, and dimes (up to \$1.00).
- Tell time to the hour and half hour using an analog or digital clock.
- Use a calendar to:
 - identify the date for a given ordinal position.
 - identify the day before and after a given date.
 - identify elapsed time (week before or after a given date).
- Estimate, compare, and measure the length, weight, and volume of two objects using direct comparison, nonstandard units, and comparison words (shorter, longer, heavier, lighter, fewer, more, and same).
- Describe temperature as hot, warm, or cold and determine appropriate dress for the temperature.

In GEOMETRY, your child will:

- Identify, describe, and sort by attributes, and construct basic plane figures (circle, triangle, square, and rectangle).
- Describe the numbers of sides, vertices and right angles of basic shapes

In PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS, your child will:

- Investigate, collect and display data from real-life situations in tally charts, picture graphs, and bar graphs with one-to-one correspondence.
- Interpret and compare data displays (object, picture, or bar graphs) using the words more, less, fewer, greater than, less than, and equal to.

In PATTERNS, FUNCTIONS, AND ALGEBRA, your child will:

- Sort and classify objects by attributes (size, shape, color, and thickness) into two or three sets.
- Explain sorting rule.
- Recognize, describe, extend, and create a repeating pattern with objects, words, symbols, and numerals.



SCIENCE

In INVESTIGATION, REASONING AND LOGIC, your child will:

- Observe differences in the physical properties of objects using the senses and simple instruments such as a magnifying glass.
- Classify objects or events and arrange them according to characteristics.
- Observe, record, and communicate data orally and with simple graphs, pictures, words, and numbers.
- Measure length, mass, and volume using nonstandard units.
- Make inferences and draw conclusions about familiar objects and events.
- Make predictions based on patterns of observations rather than random guesses.
- Conduct simple experiments that changes only one thing at a time.

In FORCE, MOTION AND ENERGY, your child will:

- Observe that moving objects exhibit different kinds of motions such as straight, circular, and back-and-forth motion.
- Observe that objects may vibrate and produce sound.
- Observe that push/pull can change the motion of an object.
- Predict an object's movement by its size and shape, and force placed on it.

In MATTER, your child will:

- Predict and describe how common liquids (oil and soda) and solids (powdered milk, sugar, and salt) interact with water.
- Observe that some liquids will separate when mixed with water, but others will not.

- Classify liquids and solids that will dissolve in water, but those that will not.
- Infer that some substances dissolve more readily in hot water than in cold water.

In LIFE PROCESSES, your child will:

- Identify the basic parts and functions of plants (seeds, roots, stems, leaves, blossoms, and fruits).
- Investigate that plants and animals need nutrients, air, water, light, and a suitable living space to grow and survive.
- Understand that plants can be classified based on a variety of characteristics.
- Understand the basic needs of animals include air, food, water, shelter, and habitat.
- Understand that animals, including humans, have many different physical characteristics.
- Classify animals according to certain physical and behavioral characteristics.

In EARTH/SPACE SYSTEMS, your child will:

- Focus on the basic relationships between the Sun and Earth.
- Identify the Sun as the source of heat and light that warms the land, air, and water.
- Observe that the Sun's relative position in the morning is east and in the late afternoon is west.

In EARTH PATTERNS, CYCLES AND CHANGE, your child will:

- Investigate the relationship of seasonal and weather change to the activities and life processes of plants and animals.
- Discover the relationships between daily and seasonal changes.
- Discover how changes in temperature, light, and precipitation bring about changes in plants, animals, and people.

In RESOURCES, your child will:

- Identify what natural resources are (plants and animals, water, air, land, minerals, forests, and soil) and understand that these resources must be conserved.

- Investigate factors that affect air and water quality.
- Explain the need for recycling, reusing, and reducing consumption of natural resources.
- Discuss the value of parks to wildlife and to people.

HISTORY/ SOCIAL SCIENCE

In HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS, your child will:

- Interpret information presented in picture timelines to show sequence of events and will distinguish among past, present, and future.
- Describe the stories of American leaders and their contributions to our country.
- Discuss the lives of people associated with Presidents' Day, Columbus Day, and the events of Independence Day (Fourth of July).

In ECONOMIC UNDERSTANDING, your child will:

- Explain the difference between goods and services and describe how people are consumers and producers of goods and services.
- Explain that people make choices because they cannot have everything they want.
- Recognize that people save money for the future to purchase goods and services.

In CITIZENSHIP, your child will:

- Apply the traits of a good citizen by:
 - focusing on fair play, exhibiting good sportsmanship, helping others, and treating others with respect
 - recognizing the purpose of rules and practicing self-control
 - working hard in school
 - taking responsibility for one's own actions;
 - valuing honesty and truthfulness in oneself and others
 - engage in classroom decision making through voting

- Recognize the symbols and traditional practices that honor and foster patriotism in the United States.
- Recognize that communities in Virginia have local governments, benefit from people who volunteer in their communities.
- Include people who have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions.

In GEOGRAPHIC AWARENESS, your child will:

- Develop map skills.
- Recognize basic map symbols, including references to land, water, cities, and roads.
- Use cardinal directions on maps.
- Identify the shapes of the United States and Virginia on maps and globes.
- Locate Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States, and Richmond, the capital of Virginia, on a United States map.
- Construct a simple map of a familiar area, using basic map symbols in the map legend.
- Describe how the location of his/her community, climate, and physical surroundings affect the way people live.

In HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE SKILLS, your child will:

- Use clues to predict what might happen next.
- Identify examples of possible cause and effect.
- Follow oral and written directions.

Helpful Hints for Home

English

- Read as much as you can with your child (read a variety of texts).
- Discuss stories.
- Listen to your child tell stories.
- Use the library as frequently as possible.
- Ask your child to dictate or write for real purposes such as grocery lists or thank you notes.
- Encourage your child to keep a journal.
- Share conversations with your child about interests and ideas each day.
- Recognize and celebrate successes.

Math

- Read children's books that rhyme, repeat, or have numbers in them. This is a great way to communicate using mathematics.
- Help your child find patterns in designs and pictures, as well as in movements (such as dancing) and in recurring events such as the days of the week or the seasons of the year.
- Consider stringing wooden blocks or pasta into a simple red-blue-red-blue pattern. Have your child reproduce and create more complex patterns.
- Help your child be a risk taker; see the value of examining a wrong answer and realize that the right answers will come with proper understanding.

Science

- Have your child compare objects based on their physical properties.
- Ask your child to demonstrate different types of motion.
- Ask your child to predict what will happen when you mix common materials with water.
- Ask your child to explain what causes day and night.
- As seasons change, ask your child to illustrate the changes that occur in the plants, animals, and the way people dress.
- Involve your child in local recycling and conservation efforts.
- Review with your child the key vocabulary discussed in each unit.

History/Social Science

- Create a treasure map for children to find hidden treats in the backyard or inside the house.
- Talk about times when you (or grandparent) were a student, pointing out the similarities and differences.
- Read with your child about people and events that have made a difference in the world and discuss the readings together.
- Use a small allowance to teach your child the value of money.
- Discuss significant holidays. Take time to discuss with your child the meaning of various holidays and their relationship to our lives today.
- Make maps and globes available to your child and use every opportunity to refer to them.





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