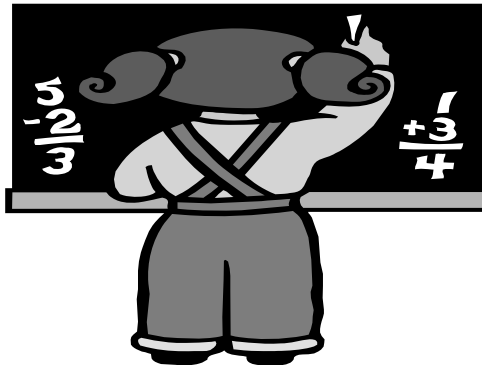


 Norfolk Public Schools

# PARENT AND STUDENT GUIDE

## First Grade Concepts and Skills



Prepared by:  
Division of Academic Affairs  
Department of Leadership & Capacity  
Development

# 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 provide a world-class education for your child as 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 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 at home, 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 a world-class education to all of our students, and all means ALL!

Sincerely,



Dr. Stephen C. Jones  
Superintendent of Schools

## ***Targets for World Class Status***

By the Year 2010, NPS will become worldclass

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### **Target #1: All Students Possess the Habits Of Powerful Literacy**

- All students will meet or exceed Norfolk Public Schools promotion criteria from grade to grade and course to course annually.
- All students will demonstrate fluency in one language in addition to English.
- All students are reading on grade level by the end of the first grade and every year thereafter.

### **Target #2: All Gaps Are Eliminated While Increasing Achievement For All**

- Group characteristics such as gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic status do not predict student outcomes
- All stakeholders (administrators, teachers, support staff, parents/guardians, business leaders, advisory groups, policymakers, and community at-large) will contribute to the organizational climate of high expectations and achievement for all students

### **Target #3: All Schools Meet and Exceed Local, State, National & International Benchmarks**

- All schools meet and exceed local benchmarks for graduation, promotion, dropout, attrition, attendance rates, and scholarships earned.
- All schools meet and exceed state benchmarks for SOL accreditation, SOL content area scores, AP participation and achievement.
- All schools meet and exceed national benchmarks for AYP, PSAT/SAT participation, National Merit Scholarships, NAEP, and other nationally recognized achievements.
- All schools meet and exceed international benchmarks for IB, TIMMS, PISA (Program of International Student Assessment).

### **Target #4: All Students Are Prepared To Access Productive Options & Opportunities Upon Graduation**

- All students will complete a "rigorous" core curriculum.
- All students are aware of and have access to courses that prepare them for postsecondary career and educational opportunities.

# 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.
- Begin to ask for clarification and explanation of words and ideas.
- 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 and comprehend a variety of fiction and nonfiction.

- Relate previous experiences to what is read.
- Make predictions and ask questions about content.
- Identify characters and setting.
- Read for enjoyment.

**In WRITING, your child will:**

- Write to communicate ideas.
- 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.
- Write freely.
- 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.

**In RESEARCH, your child will:**

- Alphabetize words according to the first letter.
- Use a picture dictionary to find meanings of words.
- Make a personal dictionary or word list to use when writing.
- Use reference materials.

**MATH**

**In NUMBER SENSE, your child will:**

- Group a collection of objects up to 100 into sets of tens and ones and match place value models to numerals.
- Use concrete and pictorial models to create equivalent representations of the same number (ones, tens, and hundreds).
- Model, read, and write numbers to 100.
- Recognize the fractional part of a shape and set of objects ( $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

**In COMPUTATION AND ESTIMATION, your child will:**

- Recall basic addition and subtraction facts to 10 with accuracy.
- Demonstrate the concept of regrouping using models when finding the sum or difference of two whole numbers whose sum is less than 99.
- Solve one-step story problems using basic addition and subtraction facts.

**In MEASUREMENT, your child will:**

- Count a collection of pennies, nickels, and dimes  $\leq$  \$1.00.
- Tell time to the hour and half hour.
- 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).
- Compare the length, weight, and volume of two objects using 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 basic plane figures (circle, triangle, square, and rectangle).

**In PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS, your child will:**

- Collect and display data from real-life situations in tally charts, picture graphs, and bar graphs with one-to-one correspondence.
- Interpret data from a given graph using the words more, less, fewer, greater than, less than, and equal to.

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

- Sort objects by attributes (size, shape, color, and thickness) into two or three sets
- Explain sorting rule.
- Recognize, describe, and extend a repeating pattern with objects 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 standard and 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 to answer questions.

**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.
- Observe that different types of motion can be observed in toys and in playground activities.

**In MATTER, your child will:**

- Investigate how common liquids (oil and soda) and solids (powdered milk, sugar, and salt) interact with water.

**In LIFE PROCESSES, your child will:**

- Identify the parts of plants (seeds, roots, stems, leaves, blossoms, and fruits).
- Characterize plants as edible/non-edible, flowering/non-flowering, and evergreen/deciduous.
- Investigate that plants and animals need food, air, water, light, and a suitable living space to grow and survive.
- 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 the Earth.
- Identify the sun as the source of heat and light that warms the land, air, and water.
- Investigate how the Earth's rotation produces night and day.

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

- Investigate the relationship of seasonal change and weather to the activities and life processes of plants and animals.
- 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.
- Understand the need to preserve land for parks and recreational activities.

**HISTORY/  
SOCIAL SCIENCE**

**In HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS, your child will:**

- Understand that past, present, and future times are different.
- Compare everyday life today with life in the past.
- Understand that important deeds were accomplished by ordinary people who became leaders by sharing their vision of a better future.
- Construct simple timelines and use them to record the order of events.

**In ECONOMIC UNDERSTANDING, your child will:**

- Describe how people use resources to produce goods and services.
- Explain the differences between goods and services.
- Understand how people are both buyers and sellers of goods and services.
- Explain that limits on resources require people to make choices about their use.
- Identify how people use money to buy goods and services that other people provide.

**In CITIZENSHIP, your child will:**

- Explain the various ways class rules are created.
- Recognize that laws are made at all levels of government.
- Identify the symbols, traditions, and holidays of Virginia and the United States.

**In GEOGRAPHIC AWARENESS, your child will:**

- Describe how climate, location, and physical surroundings affect the way people live.
- Locate important local, national, and global places on a map and a globe.
- Construct a simple map that includes cardinal directions, scale, and map symbols.
- Discuss how geography can create similarities and differences among people and communities.

**In HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE SKILLS, your child will:**

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

## 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.

## Vision

Norfolk Public Schools will become a world-class system by advancing individual and organizational excellence supported by a community of learners. All staff, parents and community members will demonstrate high expectations for themselves and each child served.

## Mission

To ensure the success of each student in a safe, stimulating and challenging environment supported with a committed workforce that focuses on quality teaching and learning.







# Norfolk Public Schools

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