



Our mission is to ensure that all students learn. We support their growth into knowledgeable, skilled and confident citizens capable of succeeding in their work, personal and family lives into the 21st century.

Helpful Links

- **Minneapolis Public Schools** - Phone - 612-668-0000
807 NE Broadway Street
<http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us>
- **Student Placement Center** - Phone: 612-668-1840
Student Placement Center Office helps families with children who wish to enroll in any Minneapolis Public Schools
<http://schoolchoice.mpls.k12.mn.us>
- **Minneapolis Kids** - Phone: 612-668-3890
Minneapolis Kids is a program within a school setting, that offers childcare for school-age children
http://commed.mpls.k12.mn.us/Minneapolis_Kids.html
- **Minneapolis Public Library** - Phone: 612-630-6000
Resources and information to help students of all ages including grade level book lists, parent tips, special programs, etc.
300 Nicollet Mall
<http://www.mpls.lib.mn.us/>

*<http://www.pbs.org/parents> **schools.nyc.gov

When schools work together with families and the community to support learning, children will succeed not just in school but in just about anything they do in life. Extensive research shows that the most accurate indicator of a student's academic success in school isn't tied to family income or social status, but the extent to which a family:

- *Creates a home environment that encourages learning.*
- *Sets high but realistic achievement and career expectations.*
- *Becomes involved in child's education and in the community**

BIG IDEAS

First graders need to be surrounded by the excitement and enjoyment of learning. They are taking the first solid steps toward fluid reading and developing the ability to understand what letter and numbers really mean. They begin to see how to “crack the code” and read words. First graders are encouraged to find their own answers to questions and patterns in the natural world.



*Socially, they are becoming more independent as they learn how to follow rules and take care of themselves. ***

Grade 1

Core Content for Grade 1 (More detailed information at http://ci.mpls.k12.mn.us/PreK-5_CoreContent.html)

English Language Arts – Learning to read is using strategies and skills to decode and understand what is read. First graders also improve writing and speaking skills as they learn to:

- Read and understand grade level materials
- Understand a variety of texts
- Expand vocabulary
- Improve listening, speaking and writing skills.

Mathematics is problem solving, reasoning, communicating, showing solutions in many ways and connecting to the real world. First graders learn to:

- Read, write, compare and order whole numbers to 120
- Learn place value concepts, including grouping in tens and ones
- Create and continue number and shape patterns
- Measure length by repeating a single unit.

Science is observing, comparing, sequencing, describing and communicating to investigate the world. First graders will:

- Learn how plants grow and reproduce their own kind.
- Understand why living organisms' need air, food, water and space to live
- Observe and describe rocks as solid material of the earth
- Use electricity to make things move, produce sound, heat, cold, light and send information.

Social Studies, in primary grades, is integrating social studies and English Language Arts to help students better understand the world in which we live.

First graders learn about the concept of family as it relates to:

- Place and geography: Where in the world?
- Chronology/time in order: When in time?
- Universals of culture: In what ways and why do cultures differ from one another?
- Vocabulary: What words help describe our world?

Arts Education is about creating, performing and responding through Visual and Performing Arts. First graders learn to:

- Explore and identify the elements of line, shape, color, form and texture
- Use symbols and notation to express musical sound and rhythm
- Create a simple movement patterns.

Health is developing the skills, knowledge and confidence to make good choices for personal health. First graders learn to:

- Express and cope with emotions and feelings
- Prevent how to prevent the spread of germs
- Recognize healthy choices in each category of the Food Pyramid
- Be aware of harmful medicines or substances and how to respond when offered or discovering one of these substances.

Physical Education is developing the skills, knowledge and confidence to make good decisions for personal fitness. First graders learn to:

- Find fun and excitement in physical activities
- Make choices to promote physical fitness for both enjoyment and health benefits
- Use physical activities that increase personal fitness levels
- Work cooperatively.

World Languages is learning to communicate in another language and appreciate other cultures. In grade one, students will use the target language as they:

- Use greetings
- Participate in age appropriate cultural activities (i.e. songs, stories)
- Recognize and imitate familiar words
- Ask and respond to simple questions about familiar topics.

Instructional Media and Technology is helping students learn to:

- Select appropriate books, check out and care for them
- Examine how pictures, charts and graphs help tell a story or relate facts
- Understand how to find and communicate information in different ways
- Use appropriate computer applications for certain tasks.