



AISL Grade One Syllabus

English

First grade students will extend their understanding of the enabling skills of phonemic awareness and decoding and word recognition while they extend their comprehension and use of conventions for written language. They read a variety of texts, listen to literature, and respond to books, poetry, plays, age-appropriate expository texts, environmental print, and self-selected reading materials. They expand their oral language skills and their knowledge about recording oral language to express themselves clearly. As they participate in discussing texts and constructing texts, they expand their store of words. They begin to use new vocabulary and formats for their written products as a result of their examination of models of speaking and writing

First grade students will:

- * Read a variety of texts in different settings.
- * Respond to texts in different ways.
- * Use conversational and literary language to express themselves.
- * Begin to develop effective listening and speaking skills.

Social Studies/African Studies

First grade students will continue to develop concepts, generalizations, and skills introduced in kindergarten as they learn about their neighborhood and community, and extend their knowledge of others throughout the world. They examine a variety of neighborhoods and recognize the multiple roles of individuals and families. Students explore characteristics of the local government while expanding their understanding of justice, authority, and responsibility. They analyze and evaluate the effects of change and become more aware of diversity and cultural traditions throughout communities.

The students will learn about their immediate environments, other selected cultures, and that history affects the world today. Students will make and use simple maps and time lines. The concepts of goods and services and the value of work will be expanded. Students will describe the importance of family customs and traditions. Study and critical thinking skills will be developed.

African Studies: First grade students will learn more about Nigerian culture by studying traditional clothing, food, and holiday customs. They will learn about the roles that people fill at home and in the community, and that different languages are spoken among different groups. The basic geography of Nigeria will be introduced. In addition, they will learn about and create Nigerian arts, crafts, and music.

Math

First grade students will continue to develop an understanding of mathematical reasoning and operation. They will add and subtract whole numbers to 20. They will use computational and estimation skills to problem-solve. They will measure length and capacity using standard and metric measurements. Students will be introduced to the concepts of fractions. They will identify and count U.S coins and begin to make change. In addition, they will identify and classify geometric shapes and understand basic concepts.

Science

First grade students will explore how weather, plant and animal life, and the earth change in different ways over time. Through the use of short and long term investigations and experiments, students gather information, report their findings, and make conclusions. In doing so, students learn how to operate in a laboratory setting which includes the proper use of science equipment such as thermometers and magnifying lenses. Observations are recorded and transferred into various graphs and displays. Students learn to read and interpret these sources of information so they can develop their own conclusions. Students will further classify living organisms into the kingdoms of plants and animals.

P.E

First grade students will continue to participate in activities designed to develop muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, and cardio-respiratory endurance. They will also be introduced to the concept of fitness development to improve the quality of their life as well as that of other people. A fitness test will be administered annually.

Music

First grade students will be exposed to a variety of songs including songs of different holiday seasons. They will continue to use all the rhythm and melodic instruments. They will expand their knowledge of the elements of music. They will continue to use movement and listening experiences to explore music. They will start learning to read music by the Kodaly Method.

Arts

First grade students continue to develop their awareness of the art around them. They create art based on imagination, familiar places, activities with family or friends, personal and interpretations of nature. Students continue to explore more possibilities with familiar media and use acquired skills to create their own artwork. They will learn about their process of looking at artworks as an enjoyable and integral part of learning. They learn to perceive and describe the subject matter, mood, details and specific visual elements in their own art and the art of adult. Students learn to express their opinions about art, to respect and react thoughtfully to the opinions of others. Students learn about a variety of styles and types of art forms.

French

The emphasis at this grade level is on:

- * Oral language development with a focus on listening and speaking skills
- * Awareness of other cultures
- * Comparison of language and culture to the students' own language and culture
- * Connections to the First Grade curriculum
- * Awareness that the target language is used outside the classroom

Reading and writing are not addressed. Instead, varied and concrete experiences engage students in oral language development within a social setting involving face-to-face interaction with the teacher. Students communicate through basic words and short memorized phrases within a given context.

Students will study the alphabet, numbers to 16, and common greetings and introductions. They will be able to ask and answer basic questions as they develop an initial French vocabulary.

Library:

First grade students begin to manage time in the library independently and select books for personal interests and needs. They also learn to identify the basic parts of a book and differentiate between fiction and non-fiction works. Library and research skills are coordinated with the grade level curriculum and they are taught by the librarian with the assigned library class time and by the classroom teacher.