

WHAT TO EXPECT IN

First Grade

PHONICS / GRAMMAR

In first grade, students build their phonics knowledge with *Core Skills Phonics 2* and *Memoria Press Traditional Spelling I*. They improve their handwriting even further with the HCA Copybook, as well as introduce cursive in *New American Cursive 1*. They will also use *Shurley Grammar Level 1* to introduce a solid grammar understanding and usage with fun jingles for easy memorization.

HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY

The first grade, students will study *The Story of the World - Volume 1*, which covers from the earliest nomads to the ancient emperors of Rome! Goals include giving students:

- An enthusiasm for history
- A basic understanding of major ancient cultures
- An idea of the chronological order of historical events

In first grade, the students learn about the geography corresponding to the places they study in our history book.

- 7 Wonders of the Ancient World
- Oceans and Continents
- Middle East Countries/Cities/Empires/Seas/Rivers/Mountains
- Asia Countries/Seas/Rivers/Mountains /Cities/Empires
- States and Capitals

MEMORY PERIOD

Our students build a wide base of factual knowledge through recitations, chants, and jingles! Some of the first grade memory work includes learning about history facts, the books of the Bible, time zones, and much more. They start each day looking to Jesus with an opening prayer. Some specific passages include:

- Genesis 1:9-13
- Psalm 84
- Psalm 34
- Psalm 130
- Westminster Short Catechism questions 18-24
- The First and Second Amendments
- *The Story Bible*
- Psalm 23
- Luke 2:8-14

MATH

Saxon 2

Saxon Math is a classically minded curriculum that focuses on continued review that helps to keep new concepts fresh and active. "Saxon teaches students using a spiral-format that consistently reviews older concepts, adding more and more information to concepts they have previously encountered."

- Saxon Teacher's Edition

Topics include:

- Mastery of basic addition & subtraction facts
- Solve story problems
- Skip counting
- Telling time to five minutes
- Measurement
- Calculations with money



SCIENCE

In first grade, we explore God's world around us through our science lessons and enrichment activities. The topics come out of our weekly read-aloud books and we build upon those topics with other readings, drawings, and projects. Topics of discussion include:

- Day & Night
- Night Animals
- Extreme Weather
- Habitats
- Maps

READING

The students read an exceptional collection of children's books and engage in classroom discussions and written responses to enhance comprehension and enjoyment of the literature, including:

- *Little Bear*
- *Frog and Toad*
- *Caps for Sale*
- *Blueberries for Sal*
- *Make Way for Ducklings*
- *Billy and Blaze*
- *The Story of Ping*
- *Stone Soup*
- *Miss Rumphius*
- *Christmas in the Big Woods*

LATIN

Students begin their study of Latin in first grade with *Sing Song Latin* which is a music based introduction to Latin vocabulary.

- Learn 125 vocabulary words
- Memorize prayers in Latin

ENRICHMENT / SPECIALS

- Daily convocation
- Weekly art, music, physical education, and chorale classes
- *The Westminster Catechism*

