

Curriculum At A Glance



Reading

The student...

- Reads at or above level HI in Houghton Mifflin Reading Program
- Reads at or above Read Well Unit 34 (if applicable)
- Uses basic elements of phonetic analysis (ex. Hears, segments, substitutes and blends sounds in words)
- Uses sound/symbol relations and beginning letters (onsets) and patterns (rhymes) as visual cues for decoding
- Uses context clues to construct meaning (ex. illustrations, knowledge of the story and topic)
- Uses information from a variety of sources (letters, sounds, pictures, background information, grammar) to figure out unknown words.
- Develops vocabulary by using references (ex. Illustrations, knowledge of the story and topic) to build upon prior knowledge
- Uses knowledge of word endings (including s, ing, ed, er, est, ful) to determine word meanings
- Uses a variety of strategies to comprehend text (ex. Inference, self-monitoring, predicting, retelling, discussing, restating ideas)
- Knows the main idea or theme and supporting details of a story or information piece
- Makes inferences based on text and prior knowledge (ex. Regarding traits, feelings, actions of characters)
- Reads for information used in performing tasks (ex. Directions, graphs, charts, signs, captions)
- Identifies fiction and non-fiction writing

Writing

Fluent writers...

- uses pre-writing strategies independently (such as brainstorming, webs, etc)
- participates in the writing process through whole group, small group and independent writing
- uses beginning, middle and end organizational formats in their stories
- uses word wall words; sensory words
- uses conventional spelling with most frequently used words
- consistent use of spacing, capitalization and punctuation
- writes for a variety of purposes on their own
- able to plan, draft, conference, revise, edit, publish
- creates narrative, informative and/or persuasive pieces of writing
- uses technology/media resources to support learning

Mathematics

The student...

- models addition and subtraction situations using a variety of strategies
- identifies, describes, and applies addition and subtraction as inverse operations
- creates and uses increasingly sophisticated strategies, and uses properties such as commutative, associative and additive identity, to add whole numbers

- uses counting strategies, number patterns, and models as a means for solving basic addition and subtraction fact problems
- compares and orders whole numbers at least to 100
- represents two digit numbers in terms of tens and ones
- orders counting numbers, compares their relative magnitudes (size), and represents numbers on a number line
- uses appropriate vocabulary to compare shapes
- composes (joins) and decomposes (takes apart) plane and solid figures
- extends repeating and growing patterns, fills in missing terms, and justifies reasoning
- measures by using iterations of a unit and counts the unit measure by grouping units
- compares and orders objects according to descriptors
- uses mathematical reasoning and beginning understanding of tens and ones
- solves routine and non-routine problems by acting them out, using manipulative, and drawing diagrams

Science

The student...

- understands that all matter has observable measurable properties
- recognizes that energy may be changed in form
- understands that types of motion may be described, measured, and predicted
- recognizes patterns in weather
- knows the basic needs of all living things
- understands how living things interact with their environment
- uses the scientific process and habits of mind to solve problems

Ideas for Helping Your Child at Home

Language Arts

- Read Daily! Listen to your child read. Read to your child.
- Encourage your child to read from many sources including magazines, newspapers, non-fiction and fiction books.
- Read a story with your child playing "word tag" You read some words, then tap your child's shoulder for him/her to begin reading. Your child will tap your shoulder when it is time for you to read.
- Read a page with "skip reading" You read one word and your child reads the next word. Continue to the end of the page.
- Have your student read the Read Well homework and decoding folders weekly. Review old units as well.
- Provide experiences in writing such as family journals, diaries and learning logs. Provide writing materials.
- Set up a home message board. Write a message to your child every day.

Mathematics

- Sort objects into groups of 2s, 5s and 10s. Practice counting orally.
- Manipulate objects to count up and back. Then write the math addition or subtraction sentence.
- Have your child make a monthly family calendar of events.
- Practice basic addition and subtraction facts using flash cards.
- Practice telling time on an analog clock.
- Identify, label and discuss all the geometric shapes found inside and outside your home.
- Have your child assist with recipes and preparing meals.
- Give a number and have your first grader say what comes next and before.
- Give two numbers and have your first grader tell you which number is larger and/or smaller.
- Order and count coin combinations containing quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies.