

High Expectations

1st Grade

Your First Grader's Academic Success Begins with You

Your involvement in your child's academic success, at every stage, opens the door to opportunities and increases their options for the future.

Do you know what your child is expected to learn in school this year? Part of being an engaged parent is knowing about key academic milestones and how you can support your child in meeting them. Here are some of the key academic skills your child will need to master in the first grade and ideas for ways you can supplement the learning at home.

Academic Skills

- Recognize a minimum of 225 sight words.
- Read first grade level books by the end of the school year. Check with your school or community library for appropriate books for your child.
- Describe the characters, the setting and the main events in a story. Identify the main topic and retell key details.
- Write a story including character, setting and sequence of events.
- Count forward to 120 and backward from 120 by ones, twos, fives and tens.
- Understand that numbers can be broken into groups of tens and ones. For example, 29 is two tens and nine ones.
- Add and Subtract within numbers 1-120.

Activities to do at Home

- Read with your child for at least 15 minutes each day and help him sound out words. Ask him questions about the book such as, "What was the story about? What do you remember about the story?"
- Have your child identify the key parts of a book including: title, author, illustrator, bold print, table of contents, glossary, illustrations and captions of text.
- Ask your child all of the different ways you can make a number. For example, 29 is twenty-nine ones as well as two tens and nine ones.

Ways to Create a High Expectations Culture in Your Home

- Make student academic success a family priority. That means school comes before extracurricular and social activities.
- Set completing college or other postsecondary program as the ultimate academic goal for your student.
- Commit to be actively engaged in your child's education at every stage – from birth through postsecondary – and take ownership for being a partner in your student's success.



Note: Every child develops at his/her own pace. These are recommended age specific guidelines for academic skill development.

The above Academic Skills are based on the Common Core Standards. Please talk with your child's teacher to get more specific information about each of these skills. A full list of common core standards by grade level is available at www.azed.gov.



Visit ExpectMoreArizona.org

for more specific resources and activities and sign up to receive more information via email.