

FIRST GRADE CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

Language & Literacy

By the end of the first grade year, a student at Mallinckrodt academy will have acquired and be able to apply the following skills in language and literacy:

- Learn what it takes to be a good reader.
- Use strategies when they don't understand a word or passage, like looking at pictures in a book for clues.
- Will discuss books in small groups and ask questions about what they're reading.
- Summarize and use graphs to organize their thoughts about the books they read.
- Make connections between concepts so he/she will be better able to compare and contrast ideas
- Expand his/her vocabulary
- Correctly use irregular verbs
- Read fluently with expression
- Ask and answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about a piece of reading
- Begin to use a dictionary
- Show an understanding of the lesson in a story by asking and answering questions about it (who, what, where, when, why and how).
- Compare and contrast elements of different stories, including characters, settings and major events.
- Explain how texts that tell stories are different from texts that provide information.
- Learn the basic rules of spoken and written English and use these rules to describe people, events, ideas and feelings.
- Converse with others, using the rules of listening, asking questions and waiting their turn to respond (such as in class discussions).

Writing

By the end of the first grade year the Mallinckrodt students will be able to:

- Revise and edit a piece of writing
- Use an apostrophe to form contractions and frequently occurring possessives
- Recognize most irregularly spelled words such as *because* and *upon*
- Write in small groups as well as independently about a single topic and provide a few facts or details about it.
- Learn the basic rules of spoken and written English and use these rules to describe people, events, ideas and feelings.

Math

Mathematics becomes a more obvious component of everyday life and real world experiences. Students learn to:

- Do mental math for single-digit addition and subtraction problems
- Add single- and multi-digit numbers with regrouping
- Demonstrate an understanding of place value
- Tell time to the nearest five minutes, using AM and PM
- Know the basic concept of multiplication (for example, 2×3 is two rows of three and 600 is six 100s)
- Add and subtract numbers up to 20 (such as $10 + 10$ or $20 - 10$).
- Understand basic rules of addition and subtraction (such as $6 + 2$ is the same as $2 + 6$).
- Solve word problems and problems with one- and two-digit numbers up to 20.
- Understand the meaning of the “tens” and “ones” places in two-digit numbers and learn to compare two-digit numbers using $>$ (more than) and $<$ (less than).
- Recognize that the equal sign means both sides of the equation have the same value and know whether an equation is false (such as $3 + 4 = 9$).
- Measure objects and put them in order by length.
- Read a clock and be able to tell the time to the nearest hour.
- Sort items into categories by shape, size, color and function.
- Will think about how they approach solving problems.

Science

First graders have observed and experimented to gather data and draw conclusions. They will learn about organism structure and function, energy and Earth processes.

- STEM Education
- Weekly activities in the Science Lab that supports classroom instruction.
- Plants and animals: structures that help organisms survive and grow; research on parent and offspring; sound and light: relationships between sound and vibrating objects; using light and sound to communicate; and objects in the sky: observe and predict patterns of the movement of the sun, moon, and stars.
- Gardening

Social Studies

First graders learn about the people and events of a community. They learn about:

- Communities and community helpers
- Create a personal timeline.
- Study the lives of earlier generations of Americans including important heroes.
- Learn about the history of their own communities.
- Learn about maps, legends, scales, and directions and think conceptually about the world.
- Identify states on a map of the United States.

- Begin to learn about the basic workings of democracies and other types of governments.
- Discuss natural resources and how they are used to produce goods.

Technology

In first grade the students have access to Chrome books and the computer lab. The Promethean board in the classroom is used for instruction, research and investigation. All first grade students participate in the on-line Accelerated Reader Program.

Enrichment

Although instruction is delivered at an accelerated level, enrichment plays an important role in the first grade experience. Some enrichment opportunities include:

- Fieldtrips to the Science Center, History Museum and the Zoo
- Genius Hour, which is a time every day that the students are able to investigate topics of interest, create products and share knowledge with others.
- Open Lab times for Science and STEM investigation
- Spelling Bee
- International Day which occurs in May and each fourth grade class researches a country, immerses themselves in the customs, language and government of that country and then opens their classroom for other students to experience the country.
- Science Fair
- Gateway Greening Garden
- Project-based Learning
- Problem-based Learning

Mallinckrodt Academy is proud of the many accomplishments that have been made.

- For the 2015-2016 school year, we ranked third in the State for English Language Arts.
- Three students won awards in the District Art Competitions.
- We received numerous ribbons for both classroom and individual Science Fair Projects.
- We formed a partnership with Pfizer and have visiting scientists working in our classrooms.