

First Grade Language Arts



Course Overview

PHONICS

Using magnetized letter tiles and multisensory activities, the advanced PhonicsWorks program builds decoding skills and helps students become confident, independent readers. Handwriting Without Tears focuses on careful practice at a pace that matches your student's development of fine motor skills.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- **Composition**—Students progress from writing words and sentences to writing a paragraph
- **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics**—Students learn basic rules of usage, as well as sentence structure and types, parts of speech, punctuation, and capitalization

- **Primary Analogies**—Students develop test-taking and critical thinking skills as they connect words and ideas
- **Public Speaking**—Reciting a poem or reading a literary passage helps students learn to address a group confidently

LITERATURE

Literature lessons focus on classic folktales, fairy tales, fables, and poetry, such as “The Elves and the Shoemaker,” “The Lion and the Mouse,” and “The Tortoise and the Hare.” Read-aloud and guided reading lessons help students apply and extend the skills introduced in Phonics.

Course Outline

PHONICS

Introduction to Advanced Phonics

- Review Letters and Vowel Sounds

- *ck* and *ed*
- *le* and *ph*
- *c, g,* and *dge*

Introducing Ending Blends

- Ending Consonant Blends *nd, ft, lk,* and *ct*
- Ending Consonant Blends *lp* and *lt*
- Ending Consonant Blends *mp* and *sp*
- Ending Consonant Blends *sk, st, nt,* and *nch*
- Review Ending Blends *sk, st, nt,* and *nch*

Mastering Long Vowel Sounds

- Long *a*
- Long *i*
- Long *o*
- Long *e*
- Long *u*
- Double *o*
- Long Vowels and Double *o*

Introducing Beginning Blends

- Beginning Blends *bl, cl, fl, gl, pl,* and *sl*
- Review Blends *bl, cl, fl, gl, pl,* and *sl*
- Blends *br, cr, dr, fr, gr, pr,* and *tr*
- Digraph Blends *shr* and *thr*
- Blends *sc, sp, st, sw, sk, sm, sn,* and *tw*
- Blends *spr, str, squ, scr,* and *spl*

Mastering Advanced Phonics

- *er, ir, ur,* and *-ear*
- Short *e* Spelled *ea*
- *oi* and *oy*
- *au* and *aw*
- *ou* and *ow*
- *ow,* as in *grow*

More Advanced Phonics

- Words Ending in *ank, ink, onk,* and *unk*
- Words Ending in *ang, ing, ong,* and *ung*
- Blends, Digraphs, and Ending Sounds

LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

Read Aloud

- Listen to and discuss literature read aloud from a variety of genres
- Recall details of a story read aloud
- Sequence events from a story read aloud
- Ask and respond to questions about the text
- Predict what will happen next in stories

Long Vowel Sounds

- Long Vowel Sounds for *a, i, o,* and *u*
- Long *u*
- Blends and Super *e*

Junior Great Books

- Listen attentively for different ideas and details

Building on Advanced Phonics

- Contractions and Another Sound for *s*
- Two-Syllable Words and the *schwa* Sound

First Grade Language Arts



- Support opinions with reasoning and evidence, citing specific passages from the text
- Build vocabulary through exposure to rich literary language
- Understand and appreciate literature through writing, dramatization, and art activities

Poetry

- Listen to, memorize, and recite poetry from classical and contemporary authors
- Identify words that rhyme
- Make up original rhymes
- Write simple rhyming poems

Grammar/Usage/Mechanics

- Demonstrate knowledge of the mechanics of language in written work
- Identify and use effective sentence construction in speech and writing
- Identify nouns, verbs, and adjectives in sentences

Analogies

- Solve and create analogies
- Make connections and use information and skills to identify relationships

Composition

- Use prewriting strategies
- Compose paragraphs that follow the conventions of mechanics and usage
- Write for a variety of purposes and audiences, for example, friendly letters, invitations, personal narratives, and brief book reports

Shared Reading

- Begin to use decoding strategies with texts beyond decodable readers
- Ask and respond to questions about the text
- Predict what will happen next in stories

Guided Reading

- Discuss literature from a variety of genres
- Discuss main idea, plot, cause and effect, and characters
- Relate stories to personal experience
- Make predictions about what will happen next and why
- Recall and retell a story

HANDWRITING

- Write legibly when printing uppercase and lowercase letters on standard-ruled paper

- Write legibly and with proper spacing when printing words and sentences
- Copy sentences neatly and accurately

Lesson Time and Scheduling

Total lessons: 180

Lesson Time: 120 minutes. You might choose to split the lessons into smaller segments. The online lesson tracking system will allow you to pick up wherever you left off in any given lesson.

Standard Curriculum Items

Printing Teacher's Guide by Jan Z. Olsen

Printed alphabet strips

Wide double-lined paper

Slate chalkboard

PhonicsWorks™ Readers Grade 1, Semester 1

PhonicsWorks™ Readers Grade 1, Semester 2

PhonicsWorks™ Video

Phonics Kit: Advanced Tray

Phonics Kit: Basic Tray

EPS Primary Analogies Book

Junior Great Books, Sun Series Vol. 1-3

Junior Great Books, Pegasus Series Vol. 1-3

Listen My Children: Poems for First Grade (Core Knowledge Foundation)

Classics for Young Readers Vol. 1

Ready...Set...Read! The Beginning Reader's Treasury,

compiled by Joanna Cole and Stephanie Calmenson

Weather, a book of poems selected by Lee Bennett

Hopkins

My Printing Book

Teachers Phonics Materials – Semesters 1&2 (shipped separately)

Student Phonics Materials – Semesters 1&2 (shipped separately)

Additional Curriculum Materials

Some lessons require additional resources, including common household items, and books that are readily available online or in your local library:

A Picture for Harold's Room by Crockett Johnson (1960; HarperCollins, 1985)

Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish (1963; HarperCollins, 1992)

And I Mean It, Stanley by Crosby Bonsall (1974; HarperCollins, 1984)

Bedtime for Frances by Russell Hoban (1960; HarperCollins, 1995)

Danny and the Dinosaur by Syd Hoff (1958; HarperCollins, 1993)

Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel (1970; HarperCollins, 1979)

First Grade Language Arts



Harry and the Lady Next Door by Gene Zion (1960; HarperCollins, 1978)
Little Bear by Else Holmelund Minarik (1957; HarperCollins, 1978)
Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle by Betty MacDonald (1957; HarperCollins, 1976)
No Fighting, No Biting by Else Holmelund Minarik (1958; HarperCollins, 1978)
Owl at Home by Arnold Lobel (1975; HarperCollins, 1982)
Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig (Simon & Schuster, 1969)
Tales of Amanda Pig by Jean Van Leeuwen (Penguin, 1983)
The First Thanksgiving by Linda Hayward (Random House, 1990)
The Legend of the Bluebonnet by Tomie dePaola (1983; Putnam, 1996)
Who Will Be My Friends? by Syd Hoff (1960; HarperCollins, 1985)
Winnie-the-Pooh by A.A. Milne (1926; Penguin, 1992)

NOTE: List subject to change.