



## Curriculum Information

### Grade 1

#### ENGLISH

In Grade 1 everything starts to become a little more formal, as the freedom and play of Reception are replaced with more organised activities. Here are the topics your child will learn in their more structured English lessons.

Literacy is a daily lesson, made up of three aspects:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and listening

#### **Reading in Grade 1 – your child will:**

- be able to use their phonic knowledge to read words
- know all the 40+ phonemes (sounds) and know which letters or groups of letters correspond to them
- read words with -s, -es, -ing, -ed, -er and -est endings
- read a range of poems, stories and non-fiction
- be able to re-tell stories that they know
- correct their own inaccurate reading

Children will be allowed to choose a book at school to take home with them to read. You will be given a Reading Journal to write your comments in when you read with them. Children will also read with their teacher daily.

***Try this at home:***

- *Read regularly to your child – even if they're a fluent reader, they will still enjoy it*
- *If your child is not keen on stories, try fact-based non-fiction books or a comic to spark their interest*

**Writing in Grade 1 – your child will:**

- learn to spell words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught (read our **parents' guide to Year 1 spelling** for a more detailed explanation)
- learn to write the days of the week
- learn to add suffixes, word endings (such as -s, -es, -ing, -ed, -er and -est) and also learn about the prefix un-
- form all lower case and upper case letters, plus the digits 0 to 9
- join clauses in a sentence using the word 'and'
- punctuate sentences using capitals, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks
- sequence stories to form short narratives
- discuss what they have written with others

***Try this at home:***

- *Give your child plenty of opportunities to draw and write with a range of materials*
- *Ask your child to help you write a shopping list and then look for the items when they get to the shop*
- *Encourage them to write to people as much as possible: Christmas cards, birthday invitations, thank you letters and postcards are a great way of giving them a real purpose for writing*

## MATHS

Your guide to what your child will learn in maths now they've reached Key Stage 1.

During KS1, it's important for your child to get to grips with maths in a very practical, hands-on way. Working individually, as a class and in groups, they will be investigating, counting, playing number games and using everyday objects to help them solve problems and do simple calculations.

As they start to become more familiar with the language used in maths, they will be encouraged to talk about their methods for solving problems and presenting their results. The maths your child will be doing at school can easily be practised at home – you don't need to be an expert – and it will really help them to learn. As well as doing maths informally at home, you may also have maths homework, which will probably be a simple worksheet, reinforcing the work they have been doing in class that week.

## **Grade 1 maths – your child will be:**

### **Number and place value**

- Counting up to 100 forwards and backwards
- Reading and writing numbers up to 100
- Reading and writing numbers up to 20 in words
- Counting on and back in twos, fives and tens
- Using a [number line](#) to put numbers in the correct order
- Recognising patterns in numbers
- Recognising odd and even numbers
- Estimating amounts of objects and then counting to check

### **Calculating**

- Learning simple addition and subtraction
- Recognising mathematical words and symbols
- Using money – paying and giving change
- Learning which pairs of numbers add up to 20 (number bonds)
- Doubling and halving

- Finding a quarter of a quantity
- Working out multiplication and division questions using objects to group or share out

### **Measuring**

- Telling the time to the hour and half hour
- Putting the days of the week and months of the year in order
- Measuring length, weight and capacity and comparing these measurements

### **Geometry**

- Recognising, naming and describing common 2D and 3D shapes
- Using shapes to make patterns, models and pictures
- Describing whole, half, quarter and three-quarter turns

### ***Try this at home***

- *Play games: a simple board game such as snakes and ladders gives your child valuable practice in counting on. Dominoes are also good for counting spots and matching numbers*
- *Sort things out: if you have a box of beads, sort them by size or colour*
- *Look for numbers when you go out – look on houses, buses, road signs*
- *Ask your child to set the table: they'll have to count the settings and work out how much cutlery is needed*
- *Get cooking: children love to weigh out the ingredients and check the timer*

## **SCIENCE**

Got a budding little scientist in the family? Here's what they will learn to develop their science skills and knowledge in Grade 1.

In Grade 1 science lessons, your child will use the following methods, processes and skills:

- asking simple questions (for example, what would happen if I didn't give a plant water? What would happen if I tried to bend some plastic).
- observing closely, using simple equipment.
- identifying and classifying.
- using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions.
- gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.

## **Grade 1 science topics**

Children will learn about the following subjects:

### **Plants**

- identify and name a variety of common plants.
- identify and describe the structure of flowering plants.

### **Animals, including humans**

- name common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- name animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- compare the structure of different animals.
- draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part is associated with each sense.

### **Everyday materials**

- name a variety of everyday materials including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock.
- describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials.
- compare and group materials.

### ***Try this at home***

- *Have a look at some plants in your garden or on a walk in the park. See if your child can name the different parts of a plant. Explain that part of the plant is*

*under the soil (push some back to show them the roots). Ask them if they know what the roots are for. Get them to draw their own diagram of a plant when they get back inside, labelling all the parts..*

- Turn an A4 sheet so it is landscape and write the following headings along the top: Wood, Plastic, Glass, Metal. Now ask your child to go around the house and make lists under each heading of anything they can find made of that material: windows, radiator, wardrobe etc. Discuss with them why each material is used to make the different objects. Why do we have glass windows rather than wood? Why is food packaged in plastic rather than paper?*
- Show your child a list of the months of the year. Ask them to circle the months that they think are the winter months. Ask them what the weather is like in the winter. What do we do in the winter to help us with the cold? Now ask them to circle the spring months. What is the weather like in the spring? Continue with summer and autumn.*
- See if you can find any books in the library on different types of animals. Read the books with your child and encourage them to become an expert on the subject before they study this topic at school.*