



## 1st Grade Curriculum

### Religion

The CPH *One In Christ* curriculum is used to teach the faith to first graders. Old Testament topics include God blessing families, nations, and leaders, and God speaking through prophets. New Testament topics include the birth of a Savior, Jesus' miracles, the parables of Jesus, salvation through Jesus, and telling about Jesus. Memory selections come from highlighted Scripture versus for each lesson. First graders are presented with their own *Growing in Faith Bibles* at a special ceremony on Reformation Sunday.

### Language Arts

The *Superkids* curriculum is used in Grades K-2. The curriculum combines reading, spelling, handwriting, and writing in a comprehensive way so that all areas overlap.

#### Reading

Each reading unit emphasizes comprehension, fluency, vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, and usage. There is also a lasting lesson that teaches character development. The Superkids children in the readers grow with the classroom children. Non-fiction readers and leveled readers also enhance the program.

#### Spelling

Spelling words are taken from the weekly workbook practice pages and include sight words. The words they are reading in the readers are the words they are learning how to spell. Spelling tests are given weekly.

#### Handwriting

Handwriting is done on a daily basis and encourages alignment, spacing, proper letter formation, and also practice in writing sentences.

#### Writing

Types of writing include sentences, personal narratives, descriptive writing, correspondence, writing opinions, poetry, and research.

#### Phonics

A separate phonics curriculum includes review of consonant sounds, followed by units on short and long vowels, consonant blends, 'y' as a vowel, endings, digraph, and contractions.

### Math

The Saxon math curriculum is strong in fact review and basic math skills. In first grade students will use manipulatives like cubes, Wrap-ups, palettes, demonstration clocks, geoboards, and money to enhance



their learning. Topics include: number recognition, ordinal position, time, shapes, coin values, counting, place value, graphing, addition and subtraction, missing addends, fractions, and comparing numbers. Problem-solving skills are taught in each unit. Tests and assessments track student progress.

### **Science/Social Studies**

A weekly non-fiction magazine called “Scholastic News” is our main resource for science and social studies education in first grade. These are enhanced with topical units. Science topics include: apple life cycle, recycling, bats, spiders, simple machines, polar bears, penguins, stars, dental health, magnets, matter, ducks, seasons, and the butterfly life cycle. Social studies topics include: belonging to groups, communities, cardinal directions, fire safety, needs and wants, goods and services, landforms, continents, American symbols, holidays, and famous Americans.

### **Art, Music, Physical Education, and Technology** *(Departmentalized)*

First graders have the opportunity to experience enrichment through Art, Music, Physical Education, and Technology. We benefit from the expertise of other teachers on staff who teach grade-appropriate instructional material.

In addition, singing is an almost daily occurrence in the first grade classroom. First graders learn musical terms and symbols, note values, copy rhythms and pitches, and study composers and instruments.