

HEALTH

During the first grade, students learn about themselves, their families, and their community. They are beginning to learn basic safety practices and how to prevent accidents that could happen with electricity, matches, guns, weapons, etc. They are also learning how to take care of their body and to identify good personal health habits.



First grade students learn:

- family and school rules for health and safety
- how to stay safe in the car
- how to treat simple injuries with basic first aid procedures
- to read, write and speak their name, address and phone number in an emergency situation
- to describe some harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs
- to define pollution and describe how to keep air and water clean
- to identify personal talents, qualities and feelings
- to describe the qualities that make a good friend
- about the meaning of change
- to describe what makes a healthy/safe decision

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

First grade students are learning about their bodies in relationship to the space around them and around other people. They learn about concepts such as direction, force and speed through a variety of teacher-led activities and begin to demonstrate behaviors that are cooperative and respectful.



First grade students learn to:

- name and locate body joints
- toss, catch and strike a variety of objects
- jump rope three different ways
- choose and maintain a personal space without touching others and to respect diversity
- travel with strong and weak force, in different directions, and in relationship to objects and other people
- associate fitness with muscular strength and endurance of the heart and lungs

FINE ARTS

Overview

In Fine Arts, the goal is that students learn to communicate at a basic level in at least two art forms and demonstrate proficiency in at least one art form. In addition, students develop skills to analyze works of visual and performing arts, have exposure to the arts from a variety of cultures and historical periods, and integrate this knowledge within and across art disciplines.



At this time, most schools provide instruction in Music and Visual Arts grades K-6. The student expectations for these two art forms are listed below.

A few schools provide instruction in Dance and Theater. The district is working on expectations and resources for broader implementation of these two art forms.

Music

First grade children explore the foundations of making music: keeping a steady beat, matching pitch and working together.

First grade students learn to:

- sing a variety of songs from diverse cultures
- discover uses of the voice including whispering, calling, speaking and singing
- play instruments such as drums, triangles, tambourines and xylophones
- create musical accompaniments to stories and poetry
- read music with three scale tones and simple rhythm patterns
- listen to music from a variety of cultures
- move to music expressively and rhythmically

Visual Arts

Students in kindergarten through third grade are introduced to a variety of materials, techniques, and processes used for visual arts. Students learn to observe critically and begin to develop a vocabulary for the arts.

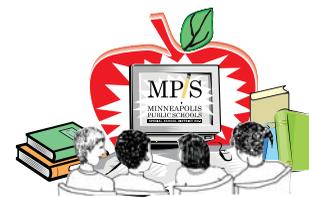
First grade students learn:

- how to communicate their ideas using different media, techniques, and processes
- vocabulary that they can use to respond to and discuss art
- how to describe the subject of an artwork
- to examine art objects from different cultures and speculate about the cultural and historical context
- the use and care of tempera paint, clay, crayon, pencil, marker, fibers, paper, and scissors
- how to use overlapping, color, outline, pattern, line quality, and horizon line in their artwork

INFORMATION MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

First grade students learn to:

- choose books they can read
- understand the concept of "authorship"
- locate and use various technologies at school
- locate a specific book in the picture book section by using the author's last name
- recognize the works of a certain author/illustrator
- compare text illustrations
- report using easy-to-read books
- use visual props for presentation purposes and produce a voice recording
- use icons and pull-down menus to identify available applications
- use a variety of applications and perform simple functions in word processing and drawing programs



Grade One Guide to Grade Level Expectations

The Grade Level Expectations outlined in this guide describe the learning goals for first grade students. They are based on the Minnesota State Standards, Benchmarks and the Minneapolis Grade Level Expectations.

Families help students achieve these expectations by taking an interest in the schoolwork they do at home and by ensuring that they come to school prepared to learn.



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