

# BLAST OUT THE BRAIN DRAIN! FIRST GRADE

Dear Parents,

We are very excited to invite your child to participate in our summer enrichment program! This is a wonderful opportunity to **STOP** the summer brain drain. It has been noted that students can lose **30-50%** of their academic growth over the summer months. Over the course of three years, this can accumulate to a **full year's** worth of knowledge and progress. We do not want this to happen. This packet includes details about our **Reading Challenge** and ideas on how to incorporate **math** into your summer days and nights. There is also a copy of the Core Knowledge "Scope and Sequence," which describes what your child will be learning next year. Writing a name on each page will help us keep track of the different prizes. Please partner with us to promote and continue your child's academic growth over the summer.

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**Packet due by August 23, 2024**



# Now For The Fun Part!



We are excited to recognize and celebrate your child's hard work in these endeavors by offering fun events in the fall upon entrance to school. There are three tiers of incentives:

## Bronze Tier

The Bronze Tier is for children who read 5 hours. These students will receive the Bronze Tier prize.

## Silver Tier

The Silver Tier is for children who read 10 hours. These students will receive the Bronze and Silver Tier Prizes.

## Gold Tier

The Gold Tier is for children who meet or exceed the goal of 15 hours. They will receive the Bronze and Silver Tier prizes, *and* earn a **Gold Tier Prize!** All three tier prizes could be yours with your diligent reading efforts.

In addition, each student who completes both the math and reading game boards will be entered to win the.....

# GRAND PRIZE!!



# Reading Challenge



Below are the Summer Reading Challenge guidelines. The hours listed are the total amount we would like your child to read (this includes parents reading to children and children working on beginning reading skills) to earn the Gold Tier, but any reading over the summer will be beneficial. Reading to your child is an important part of the beginning reading process.

**Here are some helpful tips to get your child ready for first grade (any time spent on these activities can count towards your child's reading hours):**

- As you read to your child, allow him/her to look at the words with you. Put your finger under each word as you read it. This will help your child develop a sense of directionality and begin to connect sounds to letters.
- Ask your child questions as you read- Who are the characters? Where is the story happening? What is the title? What is the problem in the story? This will help build your child's comprehension.
- Model good reading habits by reading yourself. Have a variety of reading materials in your home (newspapers, books, magazines, flyers, etc.).

**Working on beginning literacy skills:**

- Practice saying the sounds of each letter (a sound chart is included for you that follows our curriculum).
- Play sound games with your child.
  - Say a word (man) and ask how many **sounds** they hear (3). It may help to hold the sounds out (mmaaannn) and put up a finger each time you say a new sound.
  - Say a word (rabbit) and ask how many syllables are in the word.
- Practice saying each letter of the alphabet. It is best if you *do not* teach the letters in order. Show them random letters (upper and lowercase) and have them tell you the name.

Please record (on the game board provided) the amount of time you read to your child, your child reads to you, or your child works on letters/phonics. We want to reward our incoming students for their diligence!

**For incoming first graders 15 hours over the summer  
will qualify you for the Gold tier!**



## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Symbol	Pronounced	As in	Voiced or Introduced	Whispered in Lesson	Symbol	Pronounced	As in	Voiced or Introduced	Whispered in Lesson
<b>m</b>	mmm	ram	v	1	<b>ar</b>	ōrrr	car	v	49
<b>s</b>	sss	bus	w	1	<b>ch</b>	ch	touch	w	50
<b>a</b>	aaa	and	v	3	<b>e</b>	ēēē	end(ed)	v	52
<b>ē</b>	ēēē	eat	v	5	<b>b</b>	b	grab	v	54
<b>t</b>	t	cat	w	7	<b>īng</b>	iiing	sing	v	56
<b>r</b>	rrr	bar	v	9	<b>I</b>	īīī	ice	v	58
<b>d</b>	d	mad	v	12	<b>y</b>	yyyē	yard	v	60
<b>i</b>	iii	if	v	14	<b>er</b>	urrr	brother	v	62
<b>th</b>	ththth	this and bathe (not thing)	v	16	<b>oo</b>	ooooo	moon (not look)	v	65
<b>c</b>	c	tack	w	19	<b>J</b>	j	judge	v	67
<b>o</b>	ooo	ox	v	21	<b>wh</b>	www	why	w	69
<b>n</b>	nnn	pan	v	23	<b>ȳ</b>	īīī	my	v	71
<b>f</b>	fff	stuff	w	25	<b>ū</b>	ūūū	use	v	74
<b>u</b>	uuu	under	v	27	<b>qu</b>	kwww (or koo)	quick	v	74
<b>l</b>	lll	pal	v	29	<b>x</b>	ksss	ox	w	75
<b>w</b>	www	wow	v	31	<b>z</b>	zzz	buzz	v	75
<b>g</b>	g	tag	v	33	<b>ea</b>	ēēē	leave	v	79
<b>I</b>	(the word I)		v	34	<b>ai</b>	āāā	rain	v	88
<b>sh</b>	shshsh	wish	w	35	<b>ou</b>	owww	loud	v	89
<b>ā</b>	āāā	ate	v	37					
<b>h</b>	h	hat	w	39					
<b>k</b>	k	tack	w	41					
<b>ō</b>	ōōō	over	v	43					
<b>v</b>	vvv	love	v	45					
<b>p</b>	p	sap	w	48					



## SUGGESTED BOOK LIST

- **Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons by Siegfried Engelmann** (available at Barnes & Noble)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade BOOK LIST

- *Animals Do the Strangest Things* and other books by Leonora Hornblow
- *Bedtime for Frances* and other Frances books by Russell Hoban
- *Bravest Dog Ever* by Natalie Standiford
- *Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss
- *Daniel's Duck* by Clyde Robert Bulla
- *Frog and Toad* - series by Arnold Lobel
- *George and Martha* by James Marshall
- *George the Drummer Boy* by Nathaniel Benchley & other *History I Can Read* books
- *George Washington's Mother* by Jean Fritz
- *Granny and the Desperadoes* by Peggy Parish
- *Greg's Microscope and other Science I Can Read* books by Millicent Selsam
- *Horse in Harry's Room* by Syd Hoff
- *Josefina Story Quilt* by Eleanor Coerr
- *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie* by Peter Roop
- *Mouse Soup* by Arnold Lobel
- *New Coat for Anna* by Harriet Ziefert
- *Night Noises* and other Mole & Troll Stories by Tony Johnston
- *Sam the Minuteman* by Nathaniel Benchley
- *Sammy the Seal* by Syd Hoff
- *Trojan Horse, or How the Greeks Won the War* by Emily Little



# Math Challenge



Here are some helpful tips to get your child prepared for math lessons in first grade:

- Work with your child to have him/her recognize numbers 1-100.
- Have your child write numbers 1-50.
- Count objects up to 30. Children occasionally count too fast or touch the objects too fast. If this is the case with your child, count and touch with him/her to help him/her understand 1 to 1 correspondence.
- Play fun games with treats! Before eating a snack of Goldfish, have your child count how many are in his/her hand. If he/she has M&M's, ask him/her to put 4 red ones in a pile and 5 blue ones in another pile.
- Count by 2's, 5's, 10's, and 100's.
- Practice coin counting.
  - What do two dimes equal?
  - What do two quarters and one nickel equal?
  - How many dimes make one dollar?
  - How many nickels make twenty-five cents?

## How much math can you fit in your day?

Fill in the **math** game board and win a special prize. ☺

Your quest, should you choose to accept: complete **10 hours** of math work over the summer. Whatever work you do, whether it is a math workbook, print-offs from the computer, counting games, etc., record your time on the math game board provided. Ten hours will earn you the math prize, along with a raffle ticket for the Grand Prize drawing!



# RESOURCES

This page details what is included in the Core Knowledge Scope and Sequence for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, should you want to read any books or do any activities that will build familiarity with the topics. The Scope and Sequence for the kindergarten year includes the following topics.

## History

Early Civilizations: Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, History of World Religions  
Modern Civilization and Culture: Mexico  
Early People and Civilizations: Hunters and Nomads, Maya, Inca, and Aztecs  
Early Exploration and Settlement: Columbus, the Conquistadors, English Settlers  
The American Revolution  
Early Exploration of the American West

## Science

Living Things and Their Environments: Habitats, Oceans and Undersea Life, Environmental Change and Habitat Destruction, Special Classifications of Animals  
The Human Body: Systems, Germs, Diseases, and Preventing Illness  
Matter  
Introduction to Electricity  
Astronomy  
The Earth: What's Inside and Features of the Surface

## Math

Patterns and Classification  
Numbers and Number Sense  
Money  
Computation  
Measurement  
Geometry



If you feel overwhelmed about where to start, rest easy—there are many resources.

**Grade-level workbooks** and **flashcards** can be found at Dollar Tree, Wal-Mart, School Crossing, Mardels, or Target (i.e. Summer Bridge series).

For free **worksheets** and fun online activities, visit some of the sites listed below.

[www.tlsbooks.com](http://www.tlsbooks.com)- great printable worksheets based on grade level and subject

[www.hubbardscupboard.org](http://www.hubbardscupboard.org)- free printable books based on site words and word families

[www.readingrockets.com](http://www.readingrockets.com)- great ideas and resources for parents to help young readers

[www.education.com](http://www.education.com) -printable resources (you can get some for free)

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)- games and stories for kids to interact with online



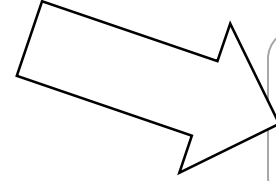
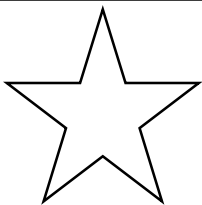
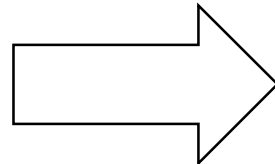
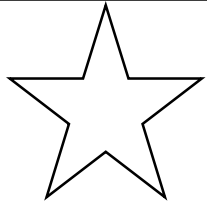
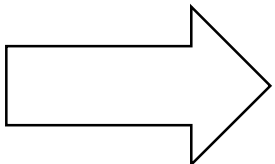


# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Reading Club Record Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 2024 - 2025 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher \_\_\_\_\_



START  
HERE

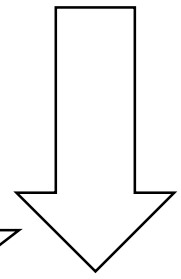
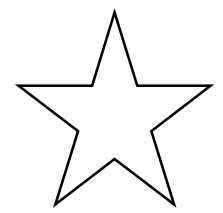
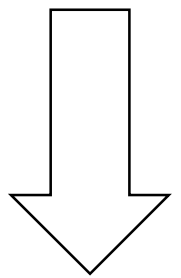


Wow! You  
are in the  
Bronze Tier!

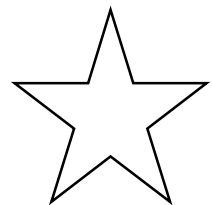
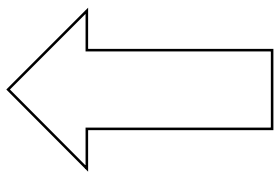
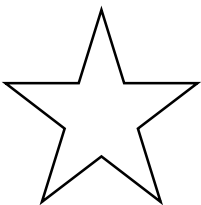
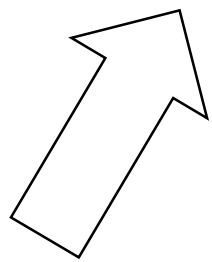
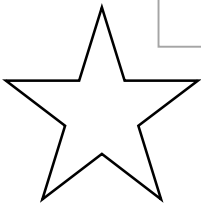


Each symbol along the arrowed path represents **one hour** of reading. Students may color in the symbol after completing one hour of reading. The goal is to read at least 15 hours over the entire summer!

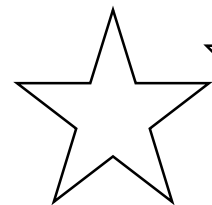
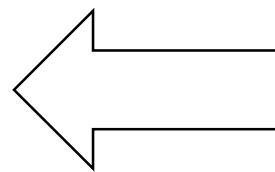
YOU CAN DO IT!



**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
You have met your goal and entered the Gold Tier! ☺



You are a  
Super Star  
Reader!  
Welcome to  
the Silver Tier!



Each shape is worth 30 minutes of math work, equaling a total of 10 fun-filled hours!

The diagram features a central illustration of a female teacher with blonde hair, wearing a purple shirt and a blue skirt, holding a white piece of paper. Behind her is a green chalkboard with the equations  $1+1=2$  and  $2+2=4$  written on it. Surrounding this central scene is a ring of 20 white circles. Starting from the top-left and moving clockwise, the circles are labeled: "Start", "1 Hour", "2 Hours", "3 Hours", "4 Hours", "5 Hours", "6 Hours", "7 Hours", "8 Hours", "9 Hours", and "10 Hours". The remaining 10 circles in the ring are blank.