

**1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE**  
**CURRICULUM GUIDE**



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
MENOMONEE FALLS

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2013-2014

**PURPOSE of the Curriculum Guide:**

The School District of Menomonee Falls is committed to developing a partnership between school and family. This curriculum guide has been developed to provide valuable information for parents related to end of year goals and resources for first grade students to ensure academic growth for all.

**Reading/Language Arts:**

By the end of the year, first grade students will be able to...

Read poetry at a first grade level.  
Read and understand stories between levels I-K while using word solving strategies.  
Read the words smoothly and with few errors.  
Find feeling words in poetry.  
Write an informational piece on a topic I have chosen.  
Add 2 or more facts about my topic.  
Write a concluding sentence.  
Use adjectives.  
Use conjunctions (and, but, so, or, because).  
Capitalize correctly.  
Use end punctuation for sentences.  
Spell words that I see often correctly.  
Use sounds that I know to spell words.  
Listen to others talk about a topic.  
Ask questions about the topic.  
Share my ideas about the topic.

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To help students be independent readers and writers the District uses a “workshop” model for instruction. This instructional model uses a combination of focused mini-lessons, read alouds, independent reading, writing & conferencing, guided reading and writing, and reflection to build strategies for reading, writing, and comprehension and to foster a love of reading and writing.

**Math:**

By the end of the year, first grade students will be able to...

Divide a circle into 2 equal parts.  
Divide a square into 4 equal parts.  
Represent tens and ones in a 2-digit number.  
Solve comparing words problems.  
Use drawings to solve word problems.  
Solve adding to word problems.  
Add within 20.  
Subtract within 20.

The District uses *Everyday Mathematics* developed by the Center for Elementary Mathematics and Science Education from the University of Chicago. *Everyday Mathematics* provides a curriculum that is rigorous and balanced and that emphasizes conceptual understanding while building a mastery of basic skills. It also explores a broad mathematics spectrum, not just basic arithmetic. *Everyday Mathematics* builds understanding over a period of time from informal exposure to more formal and direct instruction. The curriculum also helps students make connections and build upon their existing knowledge base.

## **Science and Social Studies:**

By the end of the year, students in first grade will be able to...

### Science

Conduct a simple investigation using science tools.

Write and talk about my investigations.

Use data to draw a reasonable conclusion about my investigation.

The science curriculum is guided by the Full Option Science System (FOSS) program developed at the University of California, Berkeley. Students engage in inquiry based scientific and engineering practices to help answer the essential questions, “What’s in this world?” and “How does it work?” Students engage in multi-sensory, hands on learning activities, simulations, models and reading. Through these developmental activities, students construct understanding of science concepts. Putting ideas and experiences into words, helps students develop an in-depth understanding of science.

### Social Studies

Locate oceans and continents on a world map.

Find the United States on a world map.

Show my understanding of concepts.

Show my understanding of vocabulary.

In Social Studies, the first grade students understand the importance of family as a social organization. Readings and activities focus on roles, expectations, and relationships in families. Students also explore social studies through non-fiction literature including the use of *Time for Kids (TfK)*, a weekly classroom news magazine.

**Resources for Families:**

To extend learning at home, families can utilize the following sites.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade Books to Consider**

Level I-Little Critter  
Level J- Henry and Mudge  
Level K-Frog and Toad

For students who are below or above these levels in reading, the district provides a continuum of services to challenge students accordingly. For further information on these services, please contact the teacher or building principal.

**District Electronic Libraries**

<https://sdmf.follettdestiny.com>

Provides links to learning games, non-fiction books, research tools, news sources, encyclopedias, and more.

**Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) Wisconsin Resource Center**

<http://www.palswisconsin.info/index.html>

Provides parents with information related to the state literacy assessments that schools are required to give in first grade.

### **Reading, Writing, and Math Resources**

<http://www.ixl.com/math/grade-1>

<http://www.tumblebooks.com>

<http://www.readwritethink.org>

<http://pbskids.org>

<http://www.abcya.com>

<http://www.starfall.com>

<http://www.seussville.com>

<http://www.literactive.com>

### **Compass Learning**

<http://compass.sdmf.k12.wi.us/clologin.aspx>

Compass Learning is an online academic learning tool that provides reading and math activities matching individual student scores on their most recent Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment. Each student has a unique login and password. At the beginning of the school year parents will receive information regarding Compass Learning.

### **Saving for College (529 Accounts)**

<https://www.edvest.com/>

As the cost of college rises, families find it important to start early with college savings programs, or 529 accounts. The state of Wisconsin works with Edvest to encourage and support this savings. The money in these accounts can be used for higher education costs including technical and four-year colleges.



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