

How reading benefits your child....

Long before children start school, they are gaining the skills and understandings they will need for success in school and in life—including the skills that lead to literacy. Literacy isn't just reading—it includes writing, speaking, listening, and all the ways we use language to interact and communicate with each other. Teachers and researchers know that learning literacy skills is easier for some children than for others. But, in general, those who arrive at school with the following kinds of experiences and understandings are at an advantage:

- Ability to recognize a variety of letters, signs, pictures, and sounds
- Exposure to spoken and written words and numbers
- Experience taking part in conversations, listening to stories, asking and answering questions, singing songs, and using language to communicate
- Exposure to books, magazines, newspapers, signs, games, and other forms of print
- Experience drawing, painting, and scribbling with pen, pencils, crayons, or paint.

Children who are exposed to literacy early and often are likely to become better readers and writers than those who lack this exposure, so look for opportunities to fill your child's world with print—books, magazines, charts, letters, drawings, and words of any kind. Encourage your child's emergent literacy by talking about words, pictures, and ideas. Read together and write messages and stories for each other. Look for opportunities to exercise your child's growing language skills. For other suggestions, visit the International Reading Association website, www.reading.org.

Important Links

Compass Odyssey Online Curriculum

<http://ap-compass.mercerschools.org/childu/index.html>

The National Standards

<http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>

MAP Testing Parent Toolkit

<http://www.nwea.org/sites/www.nwea.org/files/resources/Parent%20Toolkit.pdf>

AR Bookfinder

<http://www.arbookfind.com/UserType.aspx>

Lexile Find-a-book Website

<http://www.lexile.com/findabook/>

1st Grade

MERCER COUNTY ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS FOR FIRST GRADE STUDENTS



Apollo Elementary

801 SW 9th St.

Aledo, IL

309-582-5350

New Boston Elementary

301 Jefferson St.

New Boston, IL

309-587-8141

www.mercerschools.org

1st Grade

adopted 8/2011

First Grade Expectations:

Reading

Mercer County School District incorporates the five main research based components of literacy development.

Phonemic Awareness –aware of sounds in spoken words

Phonics-understand how letters represent sounds

Vocabulary-word meaning

Comprehension- understanding text

Fluency-reading with accuracy and speed

First Grade students will:

1. Blend sounds into words (cat=/c/a/t).
2. Apply long and short vowel sounds.
3. Recognize word families (an, un, ill, ask)
4. Recognize root words when endings are added (-ing, -ed, -s).
5. Use context to understand vocabulary words.
6. Retell important ideas of a story (such as beginning, middle, end, details, characters, setting)
7. Predict what will happen next in a story.
8. Connect their own knowledge to stories.
9. Read sight words accurately.
10. Read with fluency. (WPM = 47 with 90% accuracy)

Math

Mercer County School District incorporates the focus of instruction as stated in the Common Core Standards for Math.

Operations & Algebraic Thinking– place value, addition, subtraction, fractions, money

Number & Operations in Base Ten – place value.

Measurement & Data – length, weight, volume, time.

Geometry – shapes, angles

First Grade students will:

1. Count orally to 120 by ones, twos, fives, and tens.
2. Recognize and write numbers through 120.
3. Add and subtract within 20.
4. Solve word problems within 20.
5. Demonstrate understanding of basic fractions.
6. Recognize shapes and solid figures. (such as cone, cube, cylinder)
7. Tell and write time in hours and $\frac{1}{2}$ hours using analog and digital clocks
8. Measure in whole units of inches and centimeters.
9. Identify coins and their value.

Scoring for Skills

- 1 = Exceeding Standards
- 2 = Meeting Standards
- 3 = Needs Improvement
- 4 = Unsatisfactory
- x = Not covered at this time

VG = Very good

G = Good

S = Satisfactory

N = Needs Improvement

U = Unsatisfactory



Apollo and New Boston Elementary Schools use the PBIS Behavior Supports. This program teaches students how they are expected to behave in specific places and situations emphasizing respectful behavior. The purpose of the program is to reward students for making good choices. Students are rewarded with PBIS tickets when they are caught making good choices. There is a token economy set up and students can use these tickets to purchase rewards. Consequences are in place when students exhibit problem behaviors.