

First Grade

English Language Arts & Literacy

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 1st Grade . . .

- Using phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing
- Describing characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
- Getting facts and information from different writings
- Writing about a topic, supplying some facts, and providing some sense of opening and closing
- Taking part in conversations about topics and texts being studied by responding to the comments of others and asking questions to clear up any confusion
- Describing people, places, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly, and with complete sentences
- Producing and expanding complete simple and compound statements, questions, commands, and exclamations
- Identifying the correct meaning for a word with multiple meanings, based on the sentence or paragraph in which the word is used

Help Your Child Learn At Home

- ♦ Encourage your child to read to you books such as "Little Bear" by Else Holmelund Minarik. Help him or her sound out difficult words.
- ♦ Act out stories together from books, television, or your child's imagination.
- ♦ Pick a "word of the day" each day starting with a different letter. Have your child write the word and look for other things beginning with the same letter.

College and Career Ready

By implementing the Utah Core Standards, Tooele schools have committed to devoting more time and resources to preparing your child for college and the real world. The rigorous, research-based, and internationally benchmarked standards are designed to:

- Align with the expectations of colleges and the modern workforce
- Build upon states' decades-long efforts to craft high-quality education standards
- Provide a clear understanding of what students should know and be able to do at each grade level
- Give parents and teachers tools to help students stay on the college- and career-ready path

Utah Core/Common Core Links & Information

Here are a few links containing additional information, including details on what each child will be expected to know and do in each grade, as well as tips for parents:

- www.corestandards.org
- www.schools.utah.gov/core
- www.pta.org/parentsguide

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Utah Core State Standards



Every Student
College and Career
Ready

TOOELE COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

First Grade

Frequently Asked Questions

WHEN WILL MY CHILD START LEARNING UNDER THE UTAH CORE STANDARDS?

The Tooele County School District Board of Education approved the following implementation timeline:



Math

- 2011-2012: Grades K-2, 6-8, and 9
- 2012-2013: Grades 3-5, and 10
- 2013-2014: Grade 11

Language Arts

- 2011-2012: Grades K-5, and 7-12
- 2012-2013: Grade 6



HOW WILL THE STANDARDS CHANGE WHAT MY CHILD IS LEARNING?

Utah standards have sometimes been characterized as being “a mile wide and an inch deep”; meaning, many topics are introduced to students without opportunities for in-depth application. The Utah Core Standards focus instruction on critical thinking to better prepare students for real-world challenges. They specify what students need to know and do at each grade level. They allow for deeper instruction, give students more time to master each skill, and introduce each skill in sequence to lead naturally to higher-level thinking and analysis.

WILL MY CHILD BE ABLE TO TAKE ALGEBRA AND GEOMETRY?

Absolutely – starting in kindergarten. Higher-level math concepts are embedded in K-12 instruction. While math courses offered in secondary schools will no longer carry names to which we’ve become accustomed to, such as algebra or geometry, they will expand upon geometric and algebraic concepts students have been learning all along.

WILL THE STANDARDS BE TOO RIGOROUS FOR MY CHILD WHO IS STRUGGLING?

No. Teachers will receive ongoing training and support so they can quickly identify students who need additional attention. The standards are few and more in-depth; therefore, teachers will be better able to prevent students from falling behind.

HOW WILL THE STANDARDS FURTHER MY ADVANCED STUDENT’S PROGRESS?

All Tooele secondary schools will continue to offer Advanced Placement, Concurrent Enrollment, and Honors courses. In elementary school, teachers will receive ongoing training and support to help them tailor instruction to meet the needs of all students and provide greater depth and complexity to advanced learners.

ARE THE STANDARDS A NATIONAL CURRICULUM?

No. The standards specify what students need to know and be able to do at each grade level to become college- and career-ready. They articulate expectations and results, not the manner in which content is taught.



TCSD is committed to providing educational opportunities to students without regard to race, color, sex, national origin or disability. If you have questions, please contact the Title IX Coordinator @ (435) 833-1900.

First Grade Math

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 1st Grade . . .

- Solving addition and subtraction word problems in situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing
- Adding with a sum of 20 or less, and subtracting from a number 20 or less, for example, by using strategies based around the number 10
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 10 or less, and quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 10 or less
- Understanding what the digits mean in two-digit numbers (place value)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract
- Measuring lengths of objects by using a shorter object as a unit of length
- Making composite shapes by joining shapes together, and dividing circles and rectangles into halves or fourths

Help Your Child Learn At Home

Look for “word problems” in real life. An example might include:

- ♦ If you open a new carton of a dozen eggs, and you use four eggs to cook dinner, close the carton and ask your child how many eggs are left.

The proceeding was an abridged version of National PTA’s Parents’ Guide to Student Success. Read it in full at www.pta.org/parentsguide

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