

What My First Grader is Learning



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 	MATH 	SCIENCE  & SOCIAL STUDIES 	
AUGUST-OCTOBER 	<p>Students will learn to re-read texts to identify story details while reading about characters who set goals and showed perseverance to achieve their goal.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about basic place values, read, write, represent numbers up to 99, and add within 100 and subtract 10 from double-digit numbers.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about how plants and animals use their external parts to help them grow and survive, and how parent behaviors help offspring survive.</p> 	<p>Students will learn how to use maps and globes to interpret and demonstrate information about places and the environment.</p> 
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 	<p>Students will learn reading strategies, such as determining context clues and asking questions, to find the main idea and identify key features in a text while reading about animals, habitats, natural changes, and survival.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to solve different kinds of word problems using addition and subtraction with a focus on fluently adding and subtracting from 1-20.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about how parents and their offspring are alike, yet different.</p> 	
DECEMBER-FEBRUARY 	<p>Students will learn to visualize settings and characters, retell stories, and determine the central message or lesson of the story while learning life lessons about earning, saving, spending, and sharing money.</p> 	<p>Students will learn how to measure, compare lengths and use the equal sign to add and subtract.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to observe, describe, and predict some patterns of movement in the sky.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about early civilizations of the Americas and compare and contrast the daily lives of Mayans, Incas and Aztecs.</p> 
FEBRUARY-APRIL 	<p>Students will learn to compare characters and make text-to-text connections while reading about the concept of flight.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to tell time to the hour and half-hour, and will understand how to use and read data from basic charts.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about the relationship between sound and vibration and the availability of light and the ability to see.</p> 	
APRIL-JUNE 	<p>Students will learn to name the main idea and key details in a text while reading about common U.S. symbols and Americans who have made significant contributions to U.S. society.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to build and draw shapes and to divide them into two or four equal pieces creating halves, fourths, and quarters.</p> 	<p>Students will learn about symbols, icons, songs, and traditions of the United States.</p> 	

Activities to Practice with My First Grader



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**AUGUST -
OCTOBER**



Interview a family member about a time they never gave up. What did they accomplish? What kept them going?



Collect small items (like pennies or hair pins) and practice sorting them into groups of 10. Then, practice counting the total number of piles by 10 plus the number of items left.



Discuss how parents help children survive. How is this similar to how animals help their young survive? Draw a picture to help explain!



Keep a reading journal to record how much time you spend reading each day! List titles and your favorite characters from each story. Include character traits that you admire.



Sketch a map showing your route to school. Label a few significant landmarks between home and school like a friend's house or the park.



**OCTOBER -
DECEMBER**



Practice using math in basic interactions. For example, if you have 12 cookies and eat 3, how many are left?



Make a list of all the physical and personality similarities between your student and family members.



Visit the National Zoo! Record observations (like color, shape, and size) for three of your favorite animals. Keep your observations as objective as possible. For example, "the lion is furry."



Can you think of how your neighborhood would be different if people did not live there? Draw a picture of what it may have looked like before humans changed the environment to survive.



Visit your local library to check-out three new books! Visit bit.ly/findmylibrary to find your local library branch.



**DECEMBER -
FEBRUARY**



Take a trip to the National Air and Space Museum planetarium, or download the Google Sky Map application, to locate objects. Visit airandspace.si.edu for more



Draw a picture of what an ancient city may have looked like. Try to include structures that your student learned about in class. How is this different from your home today?



Write a funny poem titled, "Hey What's Up? I Have a Million Bucks!" Write about what you would do with the money.



Visit the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion, free of charge on Tuesdays. Visit www.mnh.si.edu for more information.



Use a ruler to measure different items at home. Write down your measurements and then determine, based upon your numbers, which items are bigger or smaller.



**FEBRUARY -
APRIL**



Visit the National Cherry Blossom Festival. The 2015 dates are March 20 - April 12. Visit bit.ly/2015Blossoms for more information.



Stand in a lit room and then turn off the light. What do you notice about your eyes adjusting to the darkness? How long does it take to see objects in the dark?



Practice jumping rope in February, Heart Health Month! Track your pulse before and after to see how hard your heart is working. Visit bit.ly/DCSPulse to learn more.



Visit bit.ly/DCPSTellTime to practice setting the small and large clock hands to the right time. Try all of the different skill levels as you progress.



Make a list of different types of transportation. Circle the different ways you have traveled on your list.



**APRIL -
JUNE**



Go on a scavenger hunt around your neighborhood to find as many American symbols as you can. Keep track of your findings by taking pictures, drawing, or making a list.



Visit the Kennilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. Look for frogs on a pond tour, offered every weekend at 10 a.m. Visit nps.gov/keaq for more information.



With a spare newspaper, practice cutting out shapes (like a circle, a square, or a triangle). Then practice cutting these shapes into halves and fourths.



What are your summer plans? Brainstorm five activities you can do together to keep learning over the summer.



Write a letter to your teacher sharing one of your favorite family traditions. What makes it special to you?



Read together everyday for 20 minutes



English Language Arts



Enrichment Activity



Math



Science



Social Studies