



CATALYST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

FIRST GRADE SCOPE & SEQUENCE

LANGUAGE ARTS

The reading portion of language arts changes in the first grade. Rather than advancing reading skills through letter/sound introduction with immediate practice blending, writing, and reading from primarily phonetic stories, we need to begin giving students practice with varied literature. Phonetic reading practice can be given at this stage too, when needed, though most reading should be primarily with literature as the transitions needed to read real literature require years of practice. This year should begin with simple readers and then progress into more challenging stories with longer sentences and some unfamiliar vocabulary. Success with these books comes through practice syllabifying and decoding words pulled directly from the scheduled reading sections. First, words are broken into syllables and even grouped with others containing like phonograms. Vocabulary is key to understanding the text and should be studied prior to reading by teaching how to use context clues to ascertain meaning. Next, words should be read several times and written before finally reading them within the context of the story.

Comprehension questions should be discussed as a class. Written answers to comprehension questions are the perfect venue for practicing all the components of proper English. Sentence structure, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation can all be developed and practiced while answering and writing teacher-guided comprehension questions.

Once a student has had practice decoding words in order to read, he must learn how to encode words in his writing to display true mastery of phonics. At the kindergarten level, encoding was from letter sounds that a student could hear to give the necessary foundation of letter to sound correspondence. Now that there is some familiarity with the English language, and the irregularities within it, spelling must transition to word study for patterns through memorization. This mastery is gained by reading with the spelling words, writing them, and doing a comprehensive study of the phonetic chunks within the words.

First grade is the ideal time to begin cursive. Students have mastered printing the English alphabet and are ready for a challenge. Cursive is the perfect foreign language for this age. Early enforcement with the proper penmanship mechanics, correct letter formation, pencil grip, paper position, and posture is best solidified at a young age and then practiced and perfected through their school tenure. Writing is the one skill, unfortunately, that oftentimes is allowed to be substandard.

Phonics

Students will:

- Master CVC, CVCC words, silent e and long vowel teams, schwa, and rhyming
- Have working knowledge, both oral and written, of all 44 English phonograms
- Demonstrate mastery of letter sounds, short vowels, long vowels with silent e, long vowel teams, consonant blends, consonant digraphs, r-controlled vowels
- Have working knowledge of diphthongs, homonyms, contractions, and compound words
- Answer oral questions in complete sentences

Reading

Students will:

- Demonstrate individual reading progression with speed, fluency, and expression
- Answer simple questions about a text independently read

- Follow a storyline in a book above their personal reading level
- Use vocabulary above their individual reading level
- Know how to correctly predict events within a story
- Compare and contrast aspects of a story
- Orally retell a story in narrative format
- Recall facts from a nonfiction story and be able to verbalize how they relate to subject matter
- Decode words within real literature
- Use a Table of Contents
- Recognize plot, setting, characters, author, and illustrator of a story
- Sequence events from a story

Writing

Students will:

- Be able to legibly write all letters in cursive using correct formation
- Form letter connections in cursive correctly
- Accurately and neatly copy text from the page above to the page below
- Correctly copy from the board to paper
- Write in complete sentences
- Read something written in cursive
- Maintain correct manuscript

Spelling

Students will:

- Encode level-appropriate spelling words
- Spell these words correctly in writing

Grammar

Students will:

- Introduce verbs and their tenses
- Introduce adjectives and articles
- Introduce common and proper nouns
- Use possession and abbreviations
- Identify the four types of sentences
- Recognize and use correct punctuation and capitalization

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *First Start Reading Book E (Student, Teacher, and Storybook)*** – Consumable student workbook covers, from introduction to mastery, two-vowel teams for each vowel sound, soft c, soft g, and the three sounds of y, and accompanying *Teacher Guide* includes answer key and additional teacher information. Practice is given to recognizing, reading, writing, and dictation within each lesson. Storybook is a compilation of the targeted phonetic stories from the *Student Book* for weekly practice.
- **Memoria Press *Traditional Spelling I (Student, Teacher, and Practice Sheets)*** – Introductory spelling program that is a phonetic approach. Lessons include a Phonics Focus, comprehensive word study of each list word, grouping of words by vowels or vowel teams and then again by consonant blends or

teams, color-coding of words, reading with the words, and dictation of phonograms within the words and the words within a sentence.

- **Memoria Press *StoryTime Treasures (Student and Teacher) – Student Guide*** is a consumable primary-level reader study guide for a collection of four stories (*Little Bear, Caps for Sale, Frog and Toad Are Friends, Make Way for Ducklings*). *Teacher Guide* includes answer key and phonics studies for every lesson. This study covers a partial year and progresses in difficulty. [Optional holiday lessons: *Winter on the Farm* and *Christmas in the Big Woods* are included as optional lessons in *StoryTime Treasures*, and *Little House Christmas Treasury* is included as an optional read-aloud.]
- **Memoria Press *More StoryTime Treasures (Student and Teacher)*** – The second half of first grade reader study guide for a collection of seven stories (*Billy and Blaze, Blaze and the Forest Fire, The Story About Ping, Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie, Stone Soup, The Little House, and Miss Rumphius*). This study progresses in difficulty.
- **Memoria Press *Classical Phonics*** – The 44 phonograms of the English language and many other spellings of these phonograms divided into lists of words and word families. A methodical presentation of phonics.
- **Memoria Press *Phonics Flashcards*** – Set of cards each containing either a phonogram or spelling of a phonogram in isolation with picture clue on one side and words with the sound on the other. Also includes 112 common sight word cards.
- ***Primary Phonics Readers (Optional)*** – Readers that give phonetic reading practice with individualized sounds. (Set 2: long vowels both silent e and vowel teams; Set 5: digraphs; Set 6: soft c and g, digraphs, diphthongs.)
- **Memoria Press *Copybook II*** – Penmanship, basic grammar, spelling, literature, accuracy, attention to detail, and memorization of eighteen passages of Scripture and five multi-stanza poems; includes practice copying from the page above to the page below.
 - **Memoria Press *Composition and Sketchbook II*** – This book is used for practice composing, writing, and illustrating the student's ideas. Each page has the top half as dedicated illustration space and the bottom half lined for composition.
 - **Rod & Staff 1/2" Ruled Penmanship Tablet** – For additional penmanship practice. Ruled on both sides with a dotted center line.
- **Memoria Press *New American Cursive 1*** – Workbook introducing students to proper formation of cursive letters and connections.
 - ***Cursive Practice Sheets I*** – Additional worksheets to practice New American Cursive.
- **Memoria Press *Alphabet Wall Poster*** – Visual aid that includes the alphabet in manuscript and cursive.
- ***100 Days of Summer Reading: Book Two*** – Reading journal intended to promote continued reading throughout the summer months so as to avoid regression.
- ***Summer Cursive*** – Letter review and copy sentences to be completed during the summer to solidify the cursive students learned in *New American Cursive 1* and ensure a smooth transition to *New American Cursive 2*.

MATHEMATICS

Continued work toward mastery is the focus of primary-level mathematics in addition and subtraction. Of the four concrete operations, most daily work is upon these two. Written speed is timed beginning at this level both to challenge students and to monitor their progression. Oral mastery of addition and subtraction should still be practiced and reviewed, though other math-related skills that were introduced at the kindergarten level are built upon. Previous skills are reviewed, but expansion of these skills is practiced along with daily work on addition and subtraction.

Number Sense and Numbers

Students will:

- Count and write numbers to 100 and beyond by 1's
- Skip count and write numbers by 2's, 5's, 10's, and 25's
- Count and write numbers by 10's to 200
- Count backward
- Master reading number words to ten
- Give "between" numbers
- Find missing numbers of a group
- Understand place value to the 100's
- Put numbers in order from least to greatest
- Use the symbols $<$, $=$, $>$ correctly
- Interpret pictographs
- Understand distinction between odd and even numbers
- Understand that a fraction is part of a whole, denominator and equality of fractional parts
- Display mastery of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ in relation to a whole
- Display working knowledge of $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$
- Know the amount in a dozen

Computation

Students will:

- Exhibit mastery of addition and subtraction facts through the ten family in both written and oral format
- Solve basic word problems
- Recite facts by memory without using the term "equals"
- Solve flashcards in both oral and written format
- Identify the math twin of a fact given
- Solve story problems
- Solve two-digit addition (with three-digit answers)
- Solve two-digit subtraction
- Understand number triplets (an alternate way of learning addition other than fact families)
- Solve column addition

Money

Students will:

- Identify coins and their value
- Count a mixed group of coins
- Write money amounts using the ¢ symbol
- Describe the visual distinctions between the coins

Time

Students will:

- Tell time to the hour and half hour on both analog and digital clock

- Recite the days of the week and the months of the year
- Use the terms midnight and noon

Measurement

Students will:

- Understand inches, feet, cups, pints, quarts
- Correctly read a thermometer

Geometry

Students will:

- Know basic shapes and shape words
- Understand the attributes of basic shapes

Texts Used:

- **Rod & Staff Math Grade 1**
 - *Student Book, Part 2* – Consumable student workbook that gives practice of skills taught in the interactive lessons of the *Teacher’s Manual*.
 - *Teacher’s Manual* – Teacher book containing answers to student workbook and speed drills as well as scripted lessons and templates to aid in introduction of concepts.
 - *Practice Sheets* – Reproducible pages of skills taught within the lessons of *Rod & Staff Grade 1*.
- **Rod & Staff Math Grade 2**
 - *Student Book, Unit 1* – Consumable student workbook that gives practice of skills taught in the interactive lessons of the *Teacher’s Manual*.
 - *Practice Sheets, Book 1* – Reproducible pages of skills taught within the lessons of *Rod & Staff Grade 2*.
 - *Teacher’s Manual, Units 1-2* – Teacher book containing answers to student workbook and speed drills as well as scripted lessons and templates to aid in introduction of concepts.
- **Memoria Press Memoria Math Challenge Level B (Student Drills and Teacher Key)** – Timed daily drills that promote mastery and immediate recall of basic math facts covering addition and subtraction from 0-10.
- **Memoria Press Arithmetic Flashcards: Addition and Subtraction, 0-18** – Typical flashcards for use with *Rod & Staff* lessons.

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Children of this age group learn best through observation and discussion. It is precisely for this reason that the majority of work done within this branch of study is based around a theme gleaned from our weekly read-aloud. This read-aloud selection is typically fictional in nature but is a classic work used to capture interest. From each of these weekly books, a history, geography, or cultural studies theme is extracted and further developed through the reading of an expository selection on that theme. Activities for social studies themes always culminate with a teacher-led discussion of the subject.

Students will:

- Understand the major holidays in the United States and know the month in which they occur
- Identify many of the U.S. presidents by name
- Recognize the National Anthem and other symbols of the United States
- Understand emergency services available in their community
- Know the history and founding of America, Pilgrims, and the early colonies

- Recognize basic landform characteristics
- Identify time zones
- Gain familiarity with basic mythology
- Gain familiarity with world cultures, specifically Russian and Australian

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *First Grade Enrichment Guide*** – Teacher's guide containing activities and discussion questions for elevating the cultural literacy of students. To be used in coordination with the first grade read-aloud sets.
- **Memoria Press *First Grade Read-Aloud Set*** – Selection of books on the student's listening level to be read to the student for exposure to advanced vocabulary and sentence structure.
- **Memoria Press *First Grade Science & Enrichment Set*** – Group of books with either science or social studies material.

SCIENCE

Students continue to be fascinated with their immediate surroundings and learn best by exploring within their environment. This natural curiosity is expanded further with guided introduction of unknown topics. Science at this age is still relating the world to the student with exposure to new concepts. Therefore, at this stage, no written assessments are given over science concepts mastered. As with the study of History, Geography, and Cultural Studies, a science-based theme is derived from the weekly read-aloud book. Any observations or activities are always followed by teacher-led discussions.

Students will:

- Participate well in group discussions
- Know the characteristics of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians
- Know the characteristics of trees and other plants
- Understand biomes
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic machines
- Have basic knowledge of the human body and how to maintain good health
- Know the phases of the moon
- Have a working knowledge of weather

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *First Grade Enrichment Guide*** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press *First Grade Read-Aloud Set*** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press *First Grade Science & Enrichment Set*** – Description listed above.

FINE ARTS AND POETRY

Students will have continued exposure to the elevated language and the advanced sentence structure of books that are at least two reading levels above their individual reading ability. Selected classic books at student listening level are the read-aloud focus for each week. The book is read multiple times for best results. All History, Geography, Cultural Studies, Science, Poetry, and Art are thematically tied to this read-aloud. Information about the read-aloud's author and illustrator as well as before and after reading activities are included. Many of the week's lessons include the reinforcement

of a language lesson. The poetry study covers either a classic poem or one about an animal from the story. Students will be exposed to a variety of poets and styles with brief biographies of many. Each week also includes a famous art piece which could be from any of the major art periods, as all will be represented. Information on the artist and the piece is given as a springboard to further discussion and observation of the actual artwork. The classical music selections are not as easily tied to the read-aloud theme, but the diversification of study covers each period and type of music. Exposure is the goal. Students and parents alike enjoy the introduction to these fine arts.

Students will:

- Gain exposure to 34 famous art pieces from a variety of artists and art periods
- Gain exposure to 34 classical music pieces from a variety of composers from each period
- Gain exposure to a variety of poems and poets
- Be exposed to elevated language and advanced vocabulary
- Create art using a variety of media

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *First Grade Enrichment Guide*** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press *First Grade Read-Aloud Set*** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press *Art Cards*** – Each card in this set of 34 shows a piece of art on one side and brief description on the other.
 - **Memoria Press *Art Posters*** – Larger version of each art card.
 - **Memoria Press *Music Enrichment*** – Book used in kindergarten through second grade describing each music selection, a brief biography of the composer, and guided study questions.
 - **Memoria Press *First Grade Book of Crafts*** – A compilation of directions for simple crafts that coordinate with the read-aloud selection. Additional concept crafts are also included.
 - ***Animals, Animals* by Eric Carle** – Various types of poetry about animals make up this compilation.
 - ***A Child's Book of Poems* by Gyo Fujikawa** – Book of children's poems from a variety of authors.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

Continuing the study of our history and heritage as Christians, this year's focus is from the entrance into Canaan through the end of the Old Testament. Many of the verses memorized within this year are ones subsequent to those mastered in kindergarten, thus expanding from the one verse to two or three. This equips students with a more complete contextual knowledge to enhance meaning and give understanding to previously mastered material.

Students will:

- Understand and discuss Bible stories from the entrance into Canaan through the end of the Old Testament
- Memorize seventeen Scripture verses, the Doxology, and the twelve apostles

Texts Used:

- ***The Story Bible*** – Age-appropriate book of chronological Bible stories.
 - **Memoria Press *Christian Studies Enrichment*** – Book used in kindergarten through second grade providing vocabulary and comprehension questions to be coupled with *The Story Bible*.
- **Memoria Press *Copybook II*** – Description listed above.