

# **NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



## **Curriculum Summary**

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### **GRADE ONE**

This brochure describes the critical  
learnings for the First Grade

#### **NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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## **English Language Arts**

*The goal of the first grade English Language Arts program is to develop competent, independent readers. A multi-sensory balanced literary approach is taken to help accomplish this. Reading, writing, speaking and listening are key components.*

### Reading

- Understanding and enjoyment of various literary genres
- Instruction in phonemic awareness
- Building a bank of high frequency words as sight words
- Literal and inferential comprehension strategies
- Reading with fluency
- Development of strategic reading skills
- Identifying story elements
- Vocabulary development

### Composition

- Writing stories with logical order: beginning, middle and end
- Writing for purpose and specific audience
- Capitalization rules
- Ending punctuation
- Using lower case letters consistently
- Using descriptive vocabulary
- Introduction to the writing process
- Writing in complete sentences

## **MATHEMATICS**

*The first grade math program uses a problem solving approach based on everyday situations that develop critical thinking. The curriculum emphasizes conceptual understanding while building skills.*

- Number sense
- Patterns and relations
- Addition and subtraction facts
- Money
- Measurement
- Time
- Geometry
- Place value
- Data analysis
- Problem solving strategies
- Fractions

## **HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE**

*The first grade social studies program helps children understand their place in the world around them. Their sense of awareness in their home, school, and community is developed through the study of the following topics:*

- The community of North Reading
- A community long ago
- A community far away
- Map skills
- Famous Americans
- United States symbols

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING**

*Using an inquiry based curriculum, children explore the scientific process. Using a hands-on approach, the program focuses on developing such skills as comparing and contrasting, organizing and classifying, problem solving, developing hypotheses, and predicting.*

- Life Science: organisms
- Physical Science: solids and liquids
- Earth Science: weather

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

*Comprehensive health instruction includes health literacy, health promotion, and health education that enhance health and wellness. Using health information for self-management and to build healthy lifestyles is the overall goal. The program has four components: Physical health, social and emotional health, safety and prevention, and personal and community health. Topics are addressed in a developmentally appropriate sequence and depth.*

- Basic movement skills/body control
- Manipulative skills
- Tumbling, stunts, apparatus use
- Game activities
- Dance and rhythms
- Sportsmanship and cooperation

## THE ARTS

*The Arts program consists of the study and practice of dance, music, theatre and the visual arts. These classes provide an opportunity for development of students' skills and understanding of creating, performing, and responding as well as learning about the historical and cultural content of the arts.*

### Music

- Expand range and song selection
- Sing in tune with expression, appropriate tone, posture and diction
- Perform steady beats with bilateral and alternating motions
- Use simple locomotor skills
- Identify contrast and repetition
- Recognize simple notation and sol-mi, la and do syllables
- Hear in wide and narrow intervals
- Create and participate in music while connecting to other subjects

### Art

- Explores the uses of basic art materials and tools
- Introduced to concepts of line, color, texture, form, and shape.
- Creates artwork using a variety of 2D and 3D processes such as drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and ceramics
- Draws from life
- Looks at the work of famous artists
- Begins to develop an art vocabulary

To Parents/Guardians:

This brochure contains a brief description of the subjects your child will study at each grade level. It has been designed to provide you with a general overview of the content and skills that are taught throughout the year, as well as other pertinent information.

It is hoped that the combined use of this brochure and meetings with your child's teachers and principal will keep you informed of the curriculum goals of the North Reading Public Schools.

It is important to note that children learn and grow at different rates. Although a child will develop skills and learn at his or her own pace, each child will be challenged to demonstrate a level of progress during the school year.

*The Mission of the North Reading Public Schools is to educate all students by providing a safe learning environment which challenges and encourages them to be thinking, creative, and responsible individuals who are confident and committed to excellence, service, and life-long learning.*

#### WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR CHILD...

- Develop good nutritional, rest, and safety habits.
- Promote home study skills and self-discipline.
- Provide time at home to show an active interest in your child's daily school activities.
- Help your child select materials and ideas at home that will contribute to class activities.
- Plan family experiences that support topics studied at school.
- Encourage your child to pursue his or her own individual interests.
- Volunteer in your child's school.
- Attend individual conferences and other school events.
- Consult with the teacher about specific ways to help your child.
- Encourage the use of public resources (e.g. libraries, museums, theaters, concerts, community events, etc.)
- Provide a place and time for your child to comfortably and successfully complete homework assignments.
- Assist your child with the completion and correction of homework, but ensure the final product is reflective of the child's understanding of the assignment.

If you have questions about the curriculum summaries, please contact your child's teacher first. If you need additional assistance, you can call your child's principal or the Director of Curriculum.

**North Reading High School**

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**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

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