

First Grade Overview

First Semester

Second Semester

Language Arts

- Upper- and lowercase letters A-Z
- Long and short vowel sounds
- Fairy tales and poetry
- Word families
- Printing words
- Phonics

- Fairy Tales
- Form drawing
- Printing words
- Independent reading
- Writing out sentences
- Consonant blends
- Word games

Social Studies

- HISTORY*
- Classic fairy tales
 - Daily and monthly cycles
 - Yearly calendar
- GEOGRAPHY*
- Navigating with a compass
 - Mapmaking and reading maps
 - Using a globe

- ECONOMICS*
- Goods and services
 - Marketplace exchanges
 - Saving and spending
- CIVICS*
- Rules and playing fair
 - Family jobs
 - Respect
 - Diversity

Science

- Phases of the moon
- Constellations
- Life cycle of the seed
- Animal observations
- Weather and cloud formations
- Seasonal animal behavior, tracks, and hibernation
- Deciduous and coniferous trees

- Diurnal and nocturnal animals
- Forms of matter
- Pond and forest life
- Seed dispersal
- Pollination and bees
- Planting and charting plant growth
- Scientific inquiry
- Life cycle of a butterfly

Math

- Four processes
- Ordinal numbers
- 2, 5, 10 times tables
- Translating story problems into equations
- Missing numbers
- Mental Math
- Counting/Sorting
- Form drawing

- Odd and even
- Number bonds
- Multistep problems
- 3 times tables
- Mental math
- Relationships between math processes
- Equations in vertical format
- Cummulative property of addition

Arts & Crafts

Throughout the year, students engage in a variety of arts and crafts activities. Fine-motor dexterity and focus are developed through learning to knit, which benefits the child's developing writing skills. Highlights include making a bird feeder and nesting supply box, maintaining a seasonal display, wet paper watercolor painting, nature crafts, and creative sand and water play.

Music & Movement

In addition to regular singing exercises, students learn how to play the recorder. Instructions and simple songs are included in Oak Meadow's *Beginning Recorder* book. Movement activities focus on balance, coordination, directional awareness, and rhythmic movements such as jumping rope.

Health

The book *Healthy Living from the Start* provides the basis for a yearlong health course. Families explore topics relevant to their child's growth and development including nutrition, the growing body, hygiene, community, emotions, and safety.

Oak Meadow

Grade 1

COURSEBOOK

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Item #b010110
v.1217

Grade



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Grade 1



Lesson

Welcome to first grade! This is a very exciting time for your child, and you may be feeling a mixture of excitement and trepidation. Your child may be feeling the same thing. If you haven't already done so, please read the introduction to first grade in *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book*. You will find lots of tips and ideas for getting your homeschooling year off to a good start. This year is all about laying down a solid educational foundation while nurturing your child's sense of adventure, curiosity, and fun. We hope you enjoy learning together!

Starting Your Day

Each morning before beginning your circle and main lesson activities, take time to "clear your space." Mentally and physically, set aside the tasks that you can do later in the day. Clear off the table and arrange your materials neatly. Organizing your psychological and physical space is an important part of teaching good study habits. Have a snack ready for any younger children who may have trouble waiting until you are finished with the morning's school work, and bring out supplies (blocks, crayons, picture books, etc.) for these younger children so they can enjoy a quiet time while you are focusing on first grade lessons.

These first few lessons contain an overview of the basic elements of the day to help you with your planning. Please refer to *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book* for a more complete explanation of the daily schedule.

A Review of the Daily Schedule

Morning Circle

- Recite an opening verse.
- Sing or say one or two songs, verses, or fingerplays. It's best for you to choose these ahead of time and to learn them yourself. Add movement and/or act them out.

MATERIALS

Social Studies: Calendar

Large drawing paper
Crayons
Ruler

Science:

Pressed Flowers

Fresh flowers or plants
Scissors
Cardboard
Blotting paper or newspaper
Bricks or heavy objects

Arts & Crafts: Knitting

Knitting needles,
two sets (thick
needles are best for
beginners)
Yarn, two balls (thick
yarn works well)

Arts & Crafts:

Treasure Box

Cardboard box,
medium to large
Poster paints
Paint brushes
Newspaper (to cover
painting surface)

A Review of the Daily Schedule

(continued)

- Recite a closing verse with accompanying gestures or movements.

Each day, repeat the songs and fingerplays several times so your child can learn them. Use the same verses a week or more so they become very familiar. While as adults we may feel that we need to move on to a new activity each week or each day, children of this age love repetition. Just think of how many times your child has asked that the same book be read aloud. By using the power of repetition, children are able to integrate the concepts of the activity into their whole body (plus, you will need less preparation time!).

It is important to do gestures with verses or songs whenever possible. Children of this age learn very much through their bodies, so any activity that can integrate a concept with physical movement is helpful in the learning process. Either use the gestures indicated or make up your own to go with a verse or song.

As the year progresses, you may find that your morning circle evolves into something quite different from what we have described here. We encourage you to create new elements and to invite your child to contribute ideas. We have included many songs, verses, and fingerplays in the *Oak Meadow Guide to Teaching the Early Grades*, and you can find many good books in the library as well. Space has been provided in the weekly planner at the start of this lesson to help you keep track of your ideas for morning circle. Write down which verses you used, and put a star by ones that were particularly enjoyed—you may want to revisit them later in the year.

Morning Main Lesson

The morning main lesson time consists of 45–60 minutes devoted to language arts and social studies. On some days you will no doubt need less than one hour to complete the assignments, and on other days, more time may be needed. Use the weekly planner provided to help you plan your daily activities for each morning main lesson throughout the week. Use the assignment summary found at the beginning of each lesson to check off activities as you complete them.

In the first 12 weeks, two (or sometimes three) letters of the alphabet will be presented each week in uppercase and lowercase form, along with long and short vowel sounds. In the second 12 weeks (lessons 13 through 24), two or three word families will be introduced each week, and in the final 12 weeks, we will focus on developing reading and writing skills. Import-

A Review of the Daily Schedule

(continued)

that doing Music & Movement after morning main lesson works well, and doing Arts & Crafts after your math or science time is a good balance. The health activities can be done one or two times a week, either morning or afternoon. The important thing to remember is that you don't have to do every subject every day!

Bedtime Routine

In the beginning of the year, you will be reading or telling stories to your child at bedtime in preparation for working with the letters of the alphabet. All the alphabet stories are located in *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book*. As the year progresses, you are encouraged to continue to read to your child at bedtime. You may want to choose stories that relate to the curriculum, or stories that relate to your child's interest, or any other stories that strike your fancy. The *Oak Meadow Guide to Teaching the Early Grades* contains useful information about storytelling, and we encourage you to read it.

Morning Circle

- Recite an opening verse. After several days, your child will join you as the verse becomes familiar. Here is a lovely verse with which to begin your day:

Morning has come,

Night is away.

We rise with the sun

To welcome the day.

The opening and closing verses offered here are the same that are found in kindergarten through third grade; this should help families with multiple children create a more cohesive circle time.

- Sing or say one or two songs, verses, or fingerplays. Learn these ahead of time so you can recite them with enthusiasm! Add movement and/or act them out. Do each song or verse several times. Once your child is familiar with the verse, feel free to vary the way it is done, speeding it up or slowing it down, or doing it loud and then soft.
- “Baa Baa Black Sheep” and “I See the Moon” are two verses that will work well for this week's language arts and science activities (found in the *Oak Meadow Guide to Teaching the Early Grades*).

Language Arts

(continued)

You can talk about details from the story (such as the haystack or how the little girl finds the magic spindle) as you draw.

Ask your child to use crayons to draw the pictures in the main lesson book.

3. On another day, ask your child to retell the story of “The Bear’s Child.” Prompt your child, if necessary, to include specific details of the story, and help him or her retell the story in the correct sequence.



4. Demonstrate how the uppercase and lowercase letter **B** may be drawn from the story. The uppercase letter B looks like the bear’s head and big belly, and the lowercase letter B can be found in the bear’s chair with a big seat cushion and a tall, straight back.

Ask your child to use crayons to draw the pictures in the main lesson book.

5. One day this week, introduce the long and short vowel sounds for A (the long A is heard in *play* and the short A is heard in *hat*). You can play a game in which you both see how many words you can think

of that use the long A and short A sounds. It will be easiest if you stick to the one-syllable “ay” and “at” word families:

bay	hay	pay	bat	hat	sat
hay	clay	say	cat	mat	scat
gay	lay	stay	fat	pat	vat
gray	may	way	flat	rat	

6. Have fun reciting these tongue twisters that use A and B sounds. To begin with, have your child repeat each line after you, and then as it becomes more familiar, have your child repeat two lines at a time, and then four. Eventually, your child may memorize the whole thing. Feel free to act it out and make faces when reciting the “bitter butter” verse!



A

My dame hath a lame tame crane.
My dame hath a crane that is lame.
Pray, gentle Jane,
Do you have the same
As my dame's lame crane that is tame?

B

Betty Botter bought some butter
But, she said, the butter's bitter.
If I put it in my batter,
It will make my batter bitter.
But a bit of better butter,
That would make my batter better
So she bought a bit of butter
And she put it in her batter
And the batter was not bitter.
So 'twas better Betty Botter
Bought a bit of better butter.



Language Arts

(continued)

Lined writing area for student practice.

- 7. One day this week, ask your child to practice printing both upper and lowercase letters A and B, first on unlined scrap paper (if necessary) and then in the main lesson book. Encourage your child to work carefully and not rush the forming of each letter.

Further Study

Writing can be a challenge for young children. Begin by having your child express writing by using one finger to trace the shape in the air. Then, have your child write with using feet in the dirt or sand. You may then move into writing the letters yourself and having the child trace your lettering. Repeat this process until your child is comfortable with writing the letters independently on paper. This process is particularly helpful for kinesthetic learners for whom gross motor movement is important.

Math

If you haven't read the introduction to the mathematics, please do so before you begin.

Assignments

1. This week, do jigsaw puzzles, mazes, and games with your child.

These activities should continue throughout the year. The more experience your child has with numbers and spatial orientation through a variety of activities, the more integrated the sense of geometry, numeracy, and arithmetic will be.

It's fun to make your own mazes for your child. Simply start with a start point and an end point. From there create a series of lines (curved or straight) that lead from the start point to the end point. Then create the distractions, or ways in the maze that lead to dead ends. Maze books can also be bought at most bookstores or downloaded online.

There are many games that encourage the development of mathematical capacities that you can play with your child, such as Chutes and Ladders, Candy Land, Uno, Go Fish, chess, backgammon, checkers, etc. Any game with counting, cards, dice, sorting, matching, classifying, and ordering will help your child develop solid mathematics skills. You can also make up your own games. Some children love making game pieces, and you can tailor your games to your family's interests.

2. Count from 1–30 while throwing a soft ball or beanbag. Use an underhand throw so the activity doesn't become too wild. Do this while counting forwards, and then do it while counting backwards. Count together the first time, and then alternate counting. You say, "One!" and your child saying "Two!" and so on. Repeat this activity on another day and have your child begin with one. There's no need to talk about odd and even numbers at this time; simply allow your child to experience them naturally. You can vary the game by saying your numbers in a whisper and your child saying his or her numbers in a shout.
3. Have your child help with household chores that involve counting and sorting, such as setting the table, folding laundry, and collecting and sorting toys at cleanup time. (See *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book* for more ideas of integrating mathematics into daily life.)

Arts & Crafts

(continued)

2. Make a seasonal table (see the instructions in *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book*). Take nature walks several times this week to find natural items to add to your seasonal display.
3. Make a treasure box. This treasure box will be used to hold all your child’s “treasures” throughout the year. These treasures can be any special projects, Arts & Crafts, or other creations that don’t fit into the main lesson book (MLB). These are fun to collect for sentimental reasons but they are also good examples of your child’s creativity or academic progress. As an added bonus, having one place to put all those extra creations can help you control the clutter that so often accumulates in a busy, active household! While not everything your child creates will (or can be) saved, you will probably be able to identify favorites that you want to keep around.

To make your treasure box, find a good-sized cardboard box. Don’t worry if you outgrow it over the year—you can always make a second one! Cover your work surface with newspaper, and then help your child paint the box. Any type of color or design that your child likes is just fine. You might want to paint “Treasure Box” in bold letters on the side.

Once the paint on your treasure box has dried, keep the box in a handy spot. This will help you remember to use it to store all your child’s wonderful treasures.

Music & Movement

Assignments

1. Begin recorder playing using the *Beginning Recorder* book. Introduce the note B and practice exercise #1: Exercise for B. Pay special attention to helping your child develop correct posture and fingering. Use your recorder to play along with your child and model good habits.

Each week you will present a new exercise or song on the recorder. If your child is already familiar with playing music, you may want to move more quickly through *Beginning Recorder*, but there is no reason to rush. The pace of these music lessons is intentionally slow to allow your child plenty of time to develop proper breath control, tone, and musicality. The goal is not to learn songs quickly in order to progress to the next level, but rather to enjoy playing music and to develop an

Health

Assignments

Complete lesson 1 in *Healthy Living from the Start*. Health studies begin with a unit on the physical body. For the next six lessons, you'll examine human growth and development, sharing the wonder of the human body with your child as you explore activities around the way we grow.

For Enrolled Students

You will be sending a sample of work from this lesson to your Oak Meadow teacher at the end of lesson 4. In the meantime, feel free to contact your teacher if you have any questions about the assignments or the learning process. Use your assignment summary checklist, weekly planner, and the learning assessment form to keep track of your child's progress. You will be sending this documentation to your teacher every four weeks (with each submission of student work).

Learning Assessment

These assessment rubrics are intended to help you track your child's progress throughout the year. Please remember that these skills continue to develop over time. Use the following pages to make notes about the learning your child demonstrates or skills that need work.

Learning Assessment

LANGUAGE ARTS	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Retells story events in sequence				
Identifies the long A sound in words				
Identifies the short A sound in words				
Draws uppercase and lowercase letter A in picture form				
Draws uppercase and lowercase letter B in picture form				
Writes uppercase and lowercase letter A				
Writes uppercase and lowercase letter B				
Memorizes and recites verses				

LITERATURE	Read aloud by adult	Read by child, in progress	Read by child, completed	Notes

SOCIAL STUDIES	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Demonstrates familiarity with days, weeks, and months				
Identifies significant family and seasonal events				

Learning Assessment

MATH	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Shows familiarity with counting in games				
Counts to 30 rhythmically in ascending order				
Counts to 30 rhythmically in descending order				
Sorts, measures, counts, and categorizes in the context of daily activities				

SCIENCE	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Observes and draws phases of the moon				
Recalls details from events from the past season				
Identifies similarities and differences between plants				
Describes plant observations				

ART/CRAFTS/MUSIC/HEALTH	Presented yes/no	Notes
Begins learning to knit		
Creates seasonal table		
Plays tunes using B note on the recorder		
Demonstrates good balance in a variety of positions		
Shows ability to move smoothly around the axis of the body		
Demonstrates knowledge of the growing body		

Weekly Planner—Lesson 2

Date _____

	Language Arts 3 /week	Social Studies 3 /week	Math 3 /week	Science 2 /week	Arts & Crafts	Music & Movement CHOOSE : 1-2 /DAY = 3 /week	Health
D A Y 1							
D A Y 2							
D A Y 3							
D A Y 4							
D A Y 5							
D A Y 6							
D A Y 7							

Grade 1



Lesson

Starting Your Day

Before you begin your day, remember to assemble all your materials, clear your space physically and mentally, and have snacks and activities available to keep younger siblings busy. Use your weekly planner to keep track of the songs, verses, activities, and projects you will be doing this week. Use the assignment summary to check off activities as you complete them, and make notes on the learning assessment form about the skills your child demonstrates or needs to work on.

A Review of the Daily Schedule

Morning Circle

- Recite an opening verse. You will use the same opening and closing verses for several weeks, or even months. This establishes a clear beginning and end to your circle time, and provides a comfortable, consistent routine to your day.
- Sing or say one or two songs, verses, or fingerplays. It's best for you to choose these ahead of time and to learn them yourself. Add movement and or act them out.
- Recite a closing verse with accompanying gestures or movements.

Morning Main Lesson

Use the morning main lesson time each day to spend 45–60 minutes focusing on language arts and social studies. You do not have to do each subject each day. On some days, you may find your child eager for more and able to do a bit of work in each subject, and other days, it works best to focus on a single subject. Write notes in your weekly planner to help you keep track of your daily activities for each morning main lesson this week.

MATERIALS

Social Studies:

Body Tracing

Large paper (a roll of easel paper or butcher paper works well)

Masking tape

Marker

Arts & Crafts: Knitting

Knitting needles

Yarn (you will continue to use these materials throughout the year)

Arts & Crafts:

Leaf Prints

Leaves

Liquid white glue

Cardboard

Poster paint

Paintbrush

White drawing paper

Language Arts

Reading

At bedtime this week, read “Dick Whittington and His Cat” and “Jordan and Maria.” Both stories are found in *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book*. You may choose to read them several nights in a row or to add other bedtime stories on other nights.

Assignments

1. After reading “Dick Whittington and His Cat,” the next morning ask your child to retell the story. Encourage your child to use specific details and retell story events in chronological order.

Next, demonstrate how the uppercase and lowercase letter **C** may be drawn from the story. The cat curled up in the queen’s lap forms the uppercase letter C, and a little cat shows the lowercase letter.



2. Another day, after reading “Jordan and Maria,” ask your child to retell the story in sequence. Show how the uppercase and lowercase letter **D** may be drawn from the story: the uppercase letter is the shape of the door to the crone’s oven, and the lowercase letter forms the handle on the oven’s door.

Have your child do a watercolor or wet paper painting of the crone’s oven. Make the door in the shape of a D and put lowercase d for a handle. When dried, paste the painting into the main lesson book.

3. Make up rhymes, tongue twisters, or alliterative phrases (where all the words start with the same sound) for C and D letter sounds. This is a fun activity that you can do throughout the year, and your child will quickly join in. Here are two short ones to get you started:

C

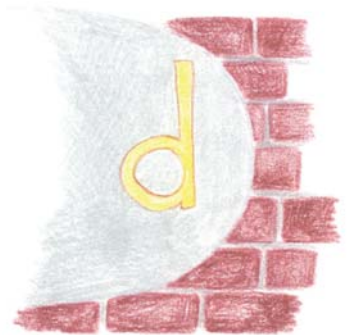
Chris carries cute cats in a cozy carton.

Can you carry a carton of cute, cozy cats?

D

Daisies, daffodils, and dandelions

Dance and dip at dawn



Language Arts

(continued)

4. One morning this week, ask your child to practice printing both upper and lowercase letters C and D in the main lesson book (MLB). He or she might also enjoy drawing C and D word pictures along the border of the page. If you are doing your own MLB, you can draw a neat border design to show your child the possibilities.

Further Study

Phonic games are plentiful! The more your child works with the sounds they are learning, the better. Bouncing ball games are wonderful for naturally reproducing the cadence of speech. Try this simple game:

“A, my name is _____ (Alice) and I live in _____ (Alabama), and I sell _____ (apples).” Or this one: “I’m going on a trip and I’m taking an _____ (artichoke).” Bounce the ball and catch it as you fill in the blanks, going through each letter of the alphabet. You can also play this game with clapping or drumming instead. Have fun with it, and prompt your child when he or she gets stuck.

Some children have difficulty grasping letters and words phonetically. When working with the letters, encourage your child to experience the sounds “inside” their mouth. For example, what does the mouth do when it makes the B sound? How does it feel when the mouth is making that sound? This emphasis on the feeling of sounds, rather than focusing on what the child hears, is particularly helpful to the kinesthetic learner.

Alternative programs, such as Lindamood-Bell, reinforce word processing and decoding in different areas of the brain. If your child consistently displays difficulty assigning appropriate sounds to letters, this may be an avenue you may wish to explore further. Be aware, however, that many children do initially confuse their letters. Do not be alarmed! This is all part of the process of developing the very complex skill of reading.

Social Studies

Assignments

1. One morning this week, ask your child to draw a picture of a person containing the following parts: eyes, nose, mouth, ears, neck, trunk, arms, hands, legs, and feet. Place emphasis on the completeness of drawing and not on proportions. You can also draw incomplete figures and ask your child to draw in the missing parts.

Math Further Study

(continued)

For geometric drawings, a fat crayon works best. Crayons are forgiving of small imperfections in the drawing and allow children who are perfectionists to avoid getting too caught up in the details, focusing instead on the bigger picture. It will be helpful for the first grade child to have triangular pencils for writing numbers and doing arithmetic problems. As the first grader's fine motor skills are still developing, a fatter, triangular pencil will assist in proper pencil grip and lead to less fatigue in writing.

Midlines are interesting elements of movement integration: being able to smoothly move between the right and left sides of the body and the spatial orientations of above and below help children with academic work. In reading and writing, this midline integration allows your eyes to track a single line of text or to write across the whole page. In math, it allows you to track a column or row of numbers. The movement exercises for form drawings are a great way to strengthen the capacity to integrate right/left and above/below.

Science

Assignments

1. Have your child continue observing the moon this week and making note of the phases in the calendar. You do not have to observe every night, but only as the phases begin to shift distinctly. It might be fun to show your child what a moon calendar looks like—there are many photos online that show how the moon looks each day of its cycle from new moon to full to new again.
2. Take a nature walk together and notice what is happening outside. Is anything different from last week? Are leaves falling? Is it colder? Warmer? Rainy? Look closely at natural objects that signify the season you are in: fallen leaves in autumn, shells or eggs in spring, etc. Whatever your climate or geographic region, encourage your child to develop observation skills by taking the time on your walks to stop and study things that catch your eye. Look at them from different angles, and crouch down to look underneath things.

Occasionally you will find something special to bring back and add to your seasonal table. Remember, there is no one right way to develop

Science

(continued)

your area, and then draw a picture for autumn, showing how nature looks now. (If you are beginning this course in another season, adjust accordingly, having your child draw a picture of the last season and the current season.)

You child will add two more pictures later in the year, as the other seasons arrive.

Further Study

We will continue to work with nature observations over the next few lessons. As you explore the world around you, it may be exciting to your child to learn not only the names of some of the plants they see, but also some interesting facts about them. For example, did you know that people use various common plants to cure headaches? Some kinds of sumac are poisonous; others have a fruit that makes a delicious drink much like lemonade! Remember to keep it light and playful at this age—you are not trying to stuff your child’s head full of facts and information, but rather to feed the natural spark of curiosity and wonder.

There are wonderful children’s stories that reflect the seasons as well. The “Brambly Hedge” series by Jill Barklem is one example of lovely seasonal storytelling.

Arts & Crafts

Assignments

1. Continue knitting with your child, working on it for a short time each day. If your child is doing well with knitting, he or she might enjoy knitting while you read aloud, or perhaps your child prefers to have you knit at the same time. Depending on how fast your child becomes comfortable with knitting and how much knitting is produced, you can begin to think about ways to use the knitting. It is wonderful for your child to know he or she is making “something” rather than just knitting for the sake of knitting.

There are many wonderful books in the library that show simple knitting projects for children, but these are probably better suited to later in the year. Think small at first: a square of knitting can become

Learning Assessment

LANGUAGE ARTS	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Recalls specific story details				
Retells story events in chronological sequence				
Identifies the hard C sound in words				
Identifies the D sound in words				
Draws uppercase and lowercase letter C in picture form				
Draws uppercase and lowercase letter D in picture form				
Writes uppercase and lowercase letters A through D				

LITERATURE	Read aloud by adult	Read by child, in progress	Read by child, completed	Notes

SOCIAL STUDIES	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Draws the human form				
Demonstrates knowledge of concepts of time				
Shows awareness of social relationships				
Demonstrates familiarity with days, weeks, and months				

Learning Assessment

MATH	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Identifies geometric forms in environment				
Draws straight and curved lines				
Performs form drawings in movement				
Shows symmetry in form drawings				
Sorts, measures, counts, and categorizes in the context of daily activities				

SCIENCE	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Observes seasonal changes				
Creates detailed drawings of seasonal changes				
Identifies similarities and differences between plants				
Describes plant observations				

ART/CRAFTS/MUSIC/HEALTH	Presented yes/no	Notes
Knits independently		
Plays tunes using B note on the recorder		
Demonstrates good balance in a variety of positions		
Shows ability to move smoothly around the axis of the body		
Moves rhythmically at varying tempos		
Demonstrates knowledge of internal organs and body systems		

Grade 1



Lesson

Morning Circle

- Recite the opening and closing verses. Enjoy favorite songs, verses, and fingerplays, and add new ones to keep circle time fresh and lively. Incorporate movement whenever possible.
- “Snail Song” is a verse that goes well with this week’s math lessons.

MATERIALS

Arts & Crafts:
God’s Eye
Sticks
Yarn in several colors

Language Arts

Assignments

1. Introduce the **ING** word family. Have your child draw a bird with a red wing from the story in *Oak Meadow Word Families*, and list the ING words under it.
2. Introduce the **IP** word family. Write the IP words in the main lesson book and draw a picture related to the IP story.
3. Introduce the **ICK** word family. Draw a picture of a chick in the MLB, and have your child cut out several strips of paper to use as “sticks.” Write an ICK word onto each stick and glue them around the chick.
4. Introduce the **INK** word family. Brainstorm as many INK words as you can think of, and have your child write them down on a piece of paper. Take turns coming up with sentences that use as many INK words as possible—the sentences have to make sense! Write down your favorite sentences in the MLB.
5. Play a beanbag toss game to practice the word family words. Throw a beanbag back and forth a few times to establish a steady rhythm, and then speak in time with the rhythm of each catch, saying, “R—I—N—G spells...” and your child can call out the word: “Ring!” Try to stay with the beat of the beanbag toss. Give your child lots of words from different words families, and then switch places and have your child spell out words and you call out the name of the words.

Language Arts Further Study

(continued)

There are many different ways to learn, and not all children learn in the same manner. Some absorb written material easily, others prefer auditory stimulation, and still others retain material best with tactile or physical activities. When working with word families or other repetitive concepts, such as multiplication tables or counting, it is helpful to include movement with your lessons. Marching is wonderful, as is skipping rope. Have fun and you may be surprised how quickly your child will internalize the material!

Social Studies

Reading

Read “Nagamo: A Day in the Life of an Algonquin Girl” (found in *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book*).

Assignments

1. Read the story of Nagamo. Let the story rest overnight with your child. In the morning, review the story together. The Powhatan tribe had no grocery stores. How did they get their food? What did they eat? What might life have been like for a child in the Powhatan tribe? How were their lives different from ours? How were they the same?

In the main lesson book, have your child draw a line down the center of the page. Ask your child to draw a picture of him- or herself doing something in your daily life on one side, and then draw Nagamo in her daily life on the other.

2. Discuss with your child the choices that a family in the Powhatan tribe might have to make. What happens if they do not bring meat home for their family? How does the tribe take care of each other? How does your family take care of each other?
3. Have your child describe the members of your family and the jobs each does that help the group. In Nagamo’s life, she helped with chores and the harvest for the entire village. Her mother traded skins for extra food and other goods. Each member of the tribe helped both their own family and the whole tribe.

How does your family interact with the community as a whole? Do you recycle? Care for other friends when they are in need? Discuss with your child the role he or she plays in the community as well. Perhaps your child has many friends whom he or she helps; perhaps your child has been involved in a building project, or a beach clean-up activity.

Social Studies

(continued)

Further Study

This is a fine opportunity to explore your community and the organizations that are available to care for others. Church groups provide many opportunities for outreach, as do soup kitchens, and other community-spirited groups. These programs keep us connected to each other!

Math

This week your child will work with spirals in geometric drawing. Spirals are great forms to do large. If you live by a beach or have snow on the ground or on a large paved area, draw large spirals on the ground. You can then walk the spiral path (the space between the lines) in and then out. This is a very calming and soothing activity to do together.

Assignments

1. Draw a spiral for your child and tell a story of a snail or a pathway in the sand.

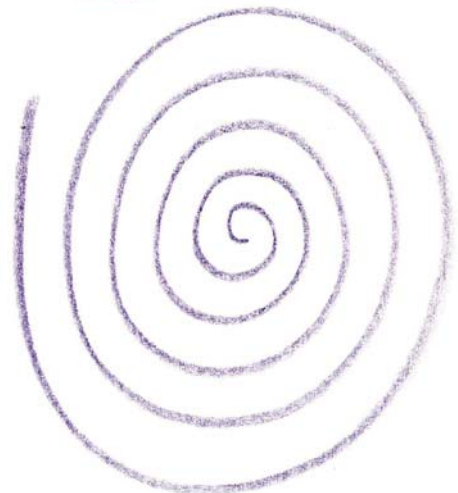
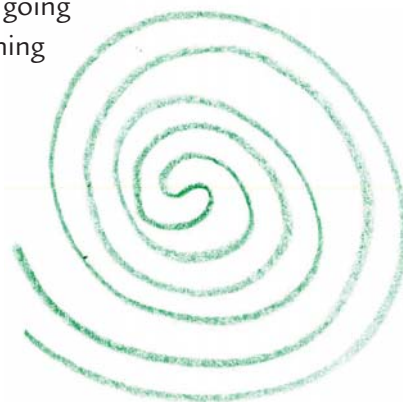
Have your child perform movement exercises for this spiral (see lesson 2 for a refresher).

Try a spiral drawn the opposite way.

Do the movement exercises for this spiral.

You can also do a double spiral like this:

This spiral has one path going in and another path coming out (this is also called a labyrinth).



Math

(continued)

Have your child do movement exercises for each spiral before drawing it in the MLB.

2. Have fun this week with spirals. See if you can find spirals in the world around you. Spirals can often be found in the nature world.

Spirals can be used as borders or corner decorations for main lesson book pages.

3. Continue to present math activities in the context of daily life. Sometimes you might present oral problems (“If eight people will be at dinner and we want two rolls for each person, how many rolls do we need to bake?”). Other times, you can play games that use dice, cards, etc., or do jumping, handclapping, or ball games that use skip counting.

Science

Reading

Read “Moonlight Flight.”

Assignments

1. Let the story “Moonlight Flight” rest overnight. In the morning, have your child retell it to you. This story highlights the lives of many kinds of animals. Some are *diurnal*, which means they sleep at night and are active during the day, and some are *nocturnal*, sleeping during the day and awake at night. Discuss the different animals in the story. Can you name some animals that are diurnal? How about nocturnal? Which are you?
2. Have your child choose two animals, one that is diurnal and one that is nocturnal. Divide two main lesson book pages in half, and label one “Day” and the other “Night.” Draw a picture of each animal during the day (what might it be doing? where would it be?) and during the night (where will it sleep? does it sleep alone or curled up with others?). Label each picture with the animal name and perhaps a brief description of the picture.
3. Go for a walk outside. Notice which animals are alert during the day. Go outside at night, if possible, and try to notice which animals are alert at night. You may only hear the nocturnal animals since they will be hard to see in the dark.

Learning Assessment

LANGUAGE ARTS	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Identifies ING words				
Identifies IP words				
Identifies ICK words				
Identifies INK words				
Demonstrates oral spelling and word recognition				
Memorizes and recites verses				
Writes uppercase and lowercase letters A through Z				
Identifies sounds for letters A through Z				

LITERATURE	Read aloud by adult	Read by child, in progress	Read by child, completed	Notes

Learning Assessment

SOCIAL STUDIES	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Identifies cultural similarities and differences				
Demonstrates awareness of community involvement				
Shows familiarity with bartering system				
Identifies locations on a world globe				
Draws a simple world globe				
Compares characteristics of living in various climate regions				
Traces a route on a map				
Shows familiarity with a map legend				
Navigates based on a simple map				

MATH	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Draws spiral-form drawings				
Demonstrates skip counting by twos				
Demonstrates skip counting by fives				
Demonstrates skip counting by tens				
Translates story problems into equations				
Identifies missing numbers in a sequence				
Articulates how a problem was solved				
Solves addition problems with manipulatives				

Learning Assessment

MATH (CONTINUED)	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Solves subtraction problems with manipulatives				
Solves multiplication problems with manipulatives				
Solves division problems with manipulatives				
Uses math in the context of daily activities				

SCIENCE	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Differentiates between diurnal and nocturnal animals				
Compares different geographical regions				
Shows awareness of seasonal changes				
Shows knowledge of animal habits and habitats				
Gives detailed descriptions of observations				
Creates detailed drawings of observations				

ART/CRAFTS/MUSIC/HEALTH	Presented yes/no	Notes
Knits independently		
Plays tunes on the recorder using notes B, A, G, and C		
Uses varied tempos while playing familiar songs on recorder		
Maintains a steady march while handclapping various rhythms		
Demonstrates coordination and balance in movement activities		
Moves rhythmically at varying tempos		
Demonstrates knowledge of personal space		

Weekly Planner—Lesson 21

Date _____

	Language Arts	Social Studies	Math	Science	Arts & Crafts	Music & Movement	Health
	3 /week	3 /week	3 /week	2 /week		CHOOSE : 1-2 /DAY = 3 /week	
D A Y 1							
D A Y 2							
D A Y 3							
D A Y 4							
D A Y 5							
D A Y 6							
D A Y 7							

Grade 1



Lesson

Morning Circle

- Recite the opening and closing verses. Enjoy favorite songs, verses, and fingerplays, and add new ones to keep circle time fresh and lively. Incorporate movement whenever possible.
- “Over the River” is a song that goes well with this week’s social studies and science lessons.

Language Arts

Assignments

1. Introduce the **INE** word family. Have your child draw a line of nine pine trees from the *Oak Meadow Word Families* story and put an INE word on the trunk of as many trees as possible.
2. Introduce the **IGHT** word family. Have fun making up a new story about the knight. You may want to write this story down in the MLB and have your child illustrate it. On the opposite page, your child can make a list of IGH words.
3. Introduce the **OUT** word family. You make play a “Shout Out” game. Stand as far apart as possible (outside is best for this game!) and take turns shouting out a word family and then coming up with as many words as possible before introducing a new word family. A fun variation on this game is to start out close together, speaking in a normal volume, and each time you say a new word, you take a step backward. The farther you go, the louder you’ll have to shout to be heard.
4. Make a deck of cards on which you write all the I-based word families. (You can cut them into the shape of fish, if you like.) Put a paper clip on each card and put all the cards into a paper bag. You can pretend it is a deep fishing hole.

MATERIALS

Language Arts: Fishing Game

Construction paper or index cards
Paper clips
Stick
String
Magnet

Math: Lily Pads

Construction paper
Scissors

Science: Melting Ice

Pie pan or shallow dish

Arts & Crafts: Twig Raft

Twigs
Garden clippers (to cut twigs)
Twine
Scissors
Construction paper or felt (for sail)

Language Arts

(continued)

Take turns catching the fish with a stick “fishing pole” with a magnet tied on the end of a string. When a fish is caught, the one who caught it spells the word and the other person has to say the word aloud (without seeing it first).

Further Study

Make a Word Family word chart! On a large piece of construction paper, chart the word families we have covered—or perhaps just the ones that are most challenging for your child. Under the Word Family heading (such as “INE”), help your child write a list of all the appropriate words they can think of. Do the same with each word family. Leave space to add to the chart. If you wish, you can add new charts and keep track of many of the new words your child is learning. Decorate the chart with color and crafts to create an artistic representation of language!

For children who are eager for more practice with I-based word families, here are more you might like to work with: *-ice, -id, -ide, -ig, -ile, -im, and -ix*.

Social Studies

This week, we will look at the seafaring world of early explorers. Your child will look at trade and the exchange of goods from afar.

Reading

Read “Martin Alonso: Sailor of the Santa Maria” (found in *Oak Meadow Grade 1 Resource Book*).

Assignments

1. Read the story of Martin Alonso, and the next morning, ask your child to retell it to you. Discuss the items that Christopher Columbus and his men traded with the native people of this “new” land, what was later found to be the islands of the Bahamas, just south of Florida.

How do you think these people’s lives were different because of the things Columbus and his men brought? Discuss with your child other things these men brought with them, like a completely new way of speaking (Spanish), and different ways of acting. What might the inhabitants of the islands have shared with or taught the voyagers?

Can your child think of a friend who speaks a different language or comes from a different cultural heritage? Has this friend taught your child something new?

2. Have your child draw pictures of the items of trade in the main lesson book. You can help label the items.

Further Study

When people consider trade, they often forget the strong influences people of different beliefs and cultures bring. Historically, it was trade routes that brought different cultures together and transformed the world map. Consider how people of your community influence one another. How diverse is it where your child lives? This is a nice opportunity to explore different cultures in your community.

Math

Assignments

1. Demonstrate for your child how to draw a square in the center of a page (or chalkboard). Then draw larger, evenly spaced square around the original square. Draw one or more additional squares, each one larger than the last. Try to make the distance between the lines consistent so each square is incrementally larger, in proportion with the others.

Have your child perform some of the movement exercises with this form before drawing it in the MLB. Your child might wish to color the shapes with a pattern of colors.

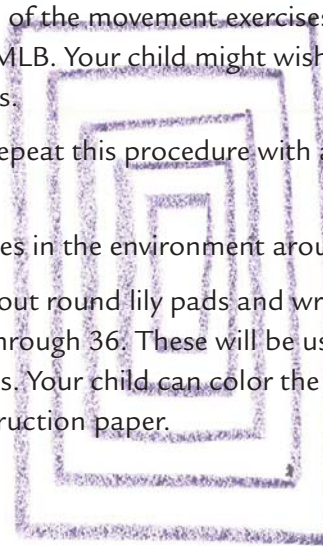
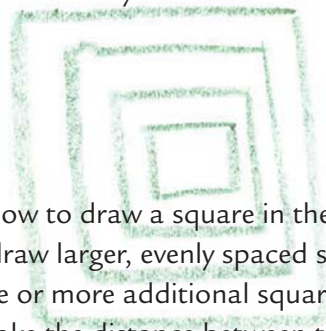
2. Over the course of the week, repeat this procedure with a circle, a rectangle, and an oval.

Try to find similar nested shapes in the environment around you.

3. Have your child draw and cut out round lily pads and write one number on each pad from 1 through 36. These will be used next week with the times tables. Your child can color the lily pads or cut them out of construction paper.

Social Studies

(continued)



Science

This week your child will explore various kinds of matter (liquids, solids, and gases) and look for examples in nature.

Assignments

1. Go for a walk with your child. Explain that you both will try to remember as much as you can of the things you see, feel, smell, or hear on your walk.

When you return, sit with your child and make a list of things your senses perceived. What did you see? Hear? Did you feel warm or cold air? What about smell? Recall and identify as many sensory impressions as you can.

2. Explain to your child that all things consist of matter of one form or another, and all matter can change form. Some are gas, like air. Gas is often invisible and spreads out to fill the space as much as possible. You might describe this in an imaginative way by saying, "Gas is a merry substance. It moves far and wide, and loves to fill spaces."

Liquid takes the form of whatever container it is in, like water in a glass. Pour the same water from a glass to a bowl and see how the same liquid changes shape to fit its container. Unlike gas, it only fills from the bottom of the container and doesn't spread out to fill the whole space like gas does. Liquids will change to fit the container that holds them. You could say they are a bit shy and wish to please.

A solid does not change its form on its own. Notice a book or a block: these are solid and they do not change unless something works on them, like a page is torn out or a block is chipped when it is dropped on the hard floor. You might say solids are more stubborn matter than a liquid or a gas; they must be convinced to change.



Look at the list you made together from your walk today. What did you experience today that was solid? Liquid? Gas?

Learning Assessment

LANGUAGE ARTS	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Identifies INE words				
Identifies IGHT words				
Identifies OUT words				
Demonstrates oral spelling and word recognition				
Writes uppercase and lowercase letters A through Z				
Identifies sounds for letters A through Z				

LITERATURE	Read aloud by adult	Read by child, in progress	Read by child, completed	Notes

Learning Assessment

SOCIAL STUDIES	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Identifies cultural similarities and differences				
Demonstrates awareness of community involvement				
Shows familiarity with bartering system				
Identifies locations on a world globe				
Draws a simple world globe				
Compares characteristics of living in various climate regions				
Traces a route on a map				
Shows familiarity with a map legend				
Navigates based on a simple map				

MATH	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Draws nesting-form drawings				
Demonstrates skip counting by twos				
Demonstrates skip counting by fives				
Demonstrates skip counting by tens				
Translates story problems into equations				
Identifies missing numbers in a sequence				
Articulates how a problem was solved				
Solves addition problems with manipulatives				

Learning Assessment

MATH (CONTINUED)	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Solves subtraction problems with manipulatives				
Solves multiplication problems with manipulatives				
Solves division problems with manipulatives				
Uses math in the context of daily activities				

SCIENCE	Not yet evident	Developing	Consistent	Notes
Performs an experiment and draws conclusions				
Describes sensory impressions				
Distinguishes between gas, liquid, and solid				
Shows awareness of seasonal changes				
Shows knowledge of animal habits and habitats				
Gives detailed descriptions of observations				
Creates detailed drawings of observations				

ART/CRAFTS/MUSIC/HEALTH	Presented yes/no	Notes
Knits independently		
Plays tunes on the recorder using notes B, A, G, C, and D		
Uses varied tempos while playing familiar songs on recorder		
Maintains a steady march while handclapping various rhythms		
Demonstrates coordination and balance in movement activities		
Moves rhythmically at varying tempos		
Demonstrates listening skills		

Oak Meadow Grade 1

RESOURCE BOOK

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Item #b010112

v.0717

Grade



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