



School Year 2018-2019  
Class Syllabus

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Teacher: Ms. Clary  
Assistant Teacher: Mrs. Atkins  
Grade Level: First Grade  
Subject(s): All  
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**Overview:** Mrs. Atkins and I plan to have a safe and nurturing learning environment. We have high expectations for our students, and we want our students to become independent learners.

**Classroom Rules:**  
Our class follows Hampstead Hill Academy Schoolwide Expectations.

**Behavior and Consequences**

Students' behavior will be monitored using a color system. Each student will have his name on a clothespin displayed in the classroom.

**Green Step:** Each student will begin on green which means they are doing well.

When a student is not following directions, they will receive a verbal warning.

**Yellow Step:** When a student continues the same negative behavior, they will be asked to move their clothespin down to yellow. Yellow means they need to slow down because their behavior is sliding.

**Red Step:** If the behavior continues, they will be asked to move their clothespin to red. Red means we need to stop because there is a problem. The student will be asked to sit in an area to reflect (no more than 5 minutes) and will later conference with a teacher to discuss the behavior. They will complete a Think Time Sheet which will be sent home for parents to sign and be returned the next day.

Please remember that your child's behavior will affect their conduct and effort grades and their participation in the Terrific Kids program and end of the year awards.

**Blue Step:** If your child is doing a great job in class by following school rules, they will move their clothespin up to blue.

**Purple Step:** If your child continues to do a fantastic job following school rules, they will move their clothespin up to purple.

**Grading Policy:**

Homework =10%  
Classwork =30%  
Tests= 60%

**P**=Proficient -100%-80%

**I**=In progress-79%-50%

**N**=Needs development 49%-0

**Homework:**

Homework will be given Monday thru Thursday. The homework will usually be for Math and Reading class. However, there may be some times when there will be weekend homework.

**Make-up/Missing Work:** How is this handled?

If a child is absent or misses work for any reason, that work will be given to the child when he/she returns to school.

**Coach Class:** Coach class will be conducted on an as needed basis. If your child is struggling with any subject, please contact me to set up extra help sessions.

**Late Policy:**

If work is handed in late, 5 points will be deducted off of the assignment.

**Course Overview:****Reading Mastery Signature 1**

By the end of this level, the students will be able to read several thousand words. They read, practice sounds and words, and learn to follow written directions. They also learn to recognize capital letters. (Capital letters are not used at first, because we don't want to confuse children with more than one symbol for each sound. *A* and *a* may look like different letters to a beginning reader.) Throughout RMS 1 students work on reading faster and with fewer mistakes. The take homes worksheets now have written directions and questions which the students read independently.

**Signature Language 1/Reasoning and Writing A/ Language for Thinking**

The language programs teach children to listen carefully and follow directions exactly. They learn to understand what they hear, reason logically, and explain things clearly. Ultimately, these are the skills that allow children to make important decisions- decisions like what to buy and who to listen to. Other topics include:

- Following Directions
- True or false
- Putting events in order
- If -Then
- Classification
- Right and left
- Writing Sentences

**Singapore Math**

We have an exciting math program called Singapore Math. This program focuses on in-depth understanding of the essential math skills using text books and manipulatives. These textbooks have a consistent and strong emphasis on problem solving and number bonds. Explanations of math concepts are exceptionally clear and simple and at times may seem slow paced, but build a strong math foundation. Some topics that will be covered this year are: addition/subtraction up to 100, shapes, length, graphs, time, and money. The program is based on the mathematical concepts that should be taught from concrete to pictorial to abstract.

**Core Knowledge**

This year we have a fabulous Core Knowledge program that deals with Fables, The Human Body, Astronomy, and Same Stories, Different Lands. The students will listen to stories and then we will extend this with writing activities.

**Agenda Books/ Folder**

Please check your child's folder and agenda book every night. The agenda shows what resource we have the next day, what color your child earned that day for their behavior, and other important reminders. The folder will have math homework and any important information from school.

**Portfolios:** This year we will also be collecting student's work samples throughout the year to show how much progress the students have made in First Grade. The portfolios will be given back at the end of the year so that you can see all of the creative and hard work that your child has accomplished.

**Field Trips:** Possible locations are:

1. Green Meadow Farm
2. Science Center
3. Washington Zoo
4. Goucher College to see a play