

First Grade Curriculum

Children in the First Grade Program at Al Nur School explore the concepts listed below. Children learn these concepts at their own pace. Children are taught with hands-on materials, as well as with traditional methods.

Goals

- Provide a safe and loving environment for all children
- Foster a sense of self-confidence and well being in each child
- Expose children to and build a love for grade appropriate reading, math, science, Arabic, Quran, social skills, art, and movement
- Provide physical activities to facilitate gross and fine motor development
- To develop in children and parents a positive attitude towards self, others, school and learning

Math

- Know all addition facts and subtraction facts to 18.
- Rote count by to 100 and skip count by 2's, 5's, and 10's to 100.
- Name and describe fractional parts of whole objects up to fourths.
- Count and compare sets of coins to make purchases.
- Recognize and know the value of a penny, nickel, dime, quarter and their relationship.
- Add and subtract money.
- Identify, create, and extend more complex patterns.
- Identify even and odd numbers.
- Identify and create fact families to 20.
- Demonstrate knowledge of addition and subtraction by identifying the correct operation needed to solve word problems.
- Identify and understand place value for the one's and ten's place.
- Identify and describe geometric shapes as plane figures or solid figures.
- Explore the concept of time in terms of what can be done in one minute and one hour and order three events by how much time they take.
- Tell and write the time to the hour and the half hour.
- Identify elapsed time to the hour.
- Identify numbers before, after, and in between.
- Collect data to make picture graphs and bar-type graphs using objects or picture of objects.
- Draw conclusions and answer the questions using information from real object graphs, picture graphs, and bar-type graphs.
- Solve problems connected to everyday experiences in and outside of school.
- Communicate about mathematics using informal language.

Language Arts

- Listen to gather information, solve problems, and enjoy and appreciate literature.
- Respond appropriately to directions, questions, and stories.
- Speak with a purpose, using variety of vocabulary words to tell about ideas, feelings, and experiences.
- Talk about meanings of the words and learn new words through experiences and listening to literature.
- Recognize how readers use capitalization and punctuation for comprehension.
- Use phonemic awareness to identify sounds in words, blend sounds, and write letters to make words.
- Participate in songs, rhymes, word games, and tongue twisters; distinguish rhyming words from non-rhyming words.
- Identify and decode inflections.
- Recognize and construct compound words.
- Read familiar text, both loud and silently, at about 60 words per minute at least 10 minutes daily.
- Read the second grade sight words fluently and with 90% accuracy.
- Read a grade level passage and answer comprehension questions in complete sentences with 80% accuracy.
- Ask and answer the questions, retell stories, predict outcomes, draw conclusions, and compare cultures when reading or being read to.
- Understand and identify the main characters, setting, events, problems, and solutions in stories.
- Distinguish between fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.
- Use correct letter formation, appropriate one and spacing when writing.
- Use basic capitalization when writing names and the first word in a sentence.
- Write complete messages on a page from left to right, and top to bottom with correct word and letter spacing.
- Write lists, friendly letters, personal stories, poems, and short stories.
- Recognize words with opposite meanings and similar meanings

Science

- Conduct classroom and field investigations following home and school safety procedures, learning how to use and conserve resources and materials.
- Develop abilities needed in asking questions, planning and conducting simple investigations, gathering information, constructing reasonable explanations and drawing conclusions.
- Communicate findings about simple investigations.
- Explain a problem, identify a means to solve it and identify the solution.
- Collect and compare information using age appropriate tools.
- Identify, predict, and create patterns seen in charts, graphs, and numbers.
- Sort organisms and objects in groups accordingly to their parts.
- Describe plants and animals according to their attributes.
- Manipulate parts that, when separated from the whole, result in a system failure.
- Observe, measure, and record changes in size, mass, color, position, quantity, time, temperature, sound, and movement.

- Identify and test ways that heat may cause change.
- Observe and record weather changes from day to day and over seasons.
- Observe and record stages in life cycle of organisms.
- Identify characteristics of living organisms that allow their basic needs to be met.
- Compare and give examples of how living organisms depend on each other for their basic needs to be met.
- Identify and describe a variety of natural resources.
- Identify ways that the Earth provides resources for life.
- Observe and describe differences in rocks and soil samples.
- Identify the significance of water cycle and understand the role in the water cycle.

Creative Arts

- Explore a variety of art processes: painting, drawing, collage, etc.
- Use a variety of art materials: crayons, tempera paint, watercolor paint, colored pencils, markers, art chalk.
- Experiment with mixing paint colors
- Sing traditional songs and songs that enhance the curriculum
- Participate in dramatic play
- Dramatize familiar stories

Social Studies

- Describe and identify the origin of holidays and celebrations.
- Distinguish past, present, and future events by using calendars and timelines.
- Identify characteristics of good citizenship as shown by historic figures and ordinary people.
- Identify the flags of the United States and Texas and recognize them as patriotic symbols.
- Locate places on maps and globes using four cardinal directions.
- Identify the characteristics of places including physical characteristics (mountains, rivers, and trees) and human characteristics (man-made structures such as bridges, buildings, and roads).
- Identify the physical characteristics of places such as landforms, bodies of water, natural resources, and water.
- Locate Texas and United States on the map and on the globe.
- Describe similarities and differences in ways families meet basic human needs.
- Describe various customs and traditions of families and explain their importance.
- Identify examples of goods and services.
- Identify the workers who provide goods and services.
- Explain and give examples of rules and laws in the home, school, and the community.
- Identify examples of technology used in the home and school.
- Describe how life might be different without modern technology.
- Describe how technology helps accomplish specific tasks.
- List ways in which technology meets people's needs.
- Identify the main ideas from oral, visual, and print sources.

Technology

- Use computer programs to create and write picture stories
- Use a computer mouse: click, click and drag
- Use the Internet to explore kid-friendly websites

Arabic

- Know the Arabic letters at the beginning, middle and end of the word.
- Know Harakat (Fatha, damma, kasra), sukoon, shadda, tanween and differentiate between its different types; know how to pronounce it.
- Compose words from given letters.
- Read and write Arabic words.
- Read Arabic sentences.
- Write Arabic sentences dictated by the teacher.
- Compose Arabic sentences from given words.
- Know colors and number words in Arabic.
- Begin to speak basic Arabic language and learning Grammar.
- Know 350-400 new Arabic words.
- Learn the rules for proper Arabic calligraphy.
- Know some Arabic anasheed and simple poetry.

Quran

- Develop the love of Quran and a motivation to memorize it.
- Know the right etiquette for learning Quran and learn to respect it.
- Finish memorizing Juz Amma up to Surat An-Naba'.
- Revise short Surahs.
- Understand meanings of the Surahs with the help of stories, pictures, and plays.
- Improve on Quran recitation and pronunciation.
- Learn how to read and write the Ayahs they are memorizing.

Islamic Studies

*(We are following the **I Love Islam** Curriculum Series for Islamic Studies)*

- Develop the love of Islam and a sense of Muslim identity.
- Develop love and respect for knowledge and scholars and the school.
- Know Allah (s.w.t.) and Attributes of Allah.
- Know the Five Pillars of Islam.
- Know the Six Pillars of Faith (Iman).
- Know the major Prophets of Allah (s.w.t.) and their stories.
- Know Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w.) and his Sira.
- Know some of the characteristics of a good Muslim.
- Show respect towards to elders.
- Learn to love one another, know kindness and sharing.
- Build a sense of truthfulness and honesty.

- Build a sense of responsibility towards the community and the environment.
- Know how to use the toilet and perform Istinja.
- Know how to perform wudu and salat.
- Memorize dua'as for different everyday situations.
- Learn 15 new Hadeeth and their meanings.
- Learn about the Muslim Holidays (Eid-ul Fitr, Eid-ul Adha).
- Learn about Muslim Holy Cities (Macca, Madina, Al Quds).