

# GRADE 1 AT A GLANCE



*Look at me—I'm in Grade 1!* Grade 1 is the start of an exciting journey. All Grade 1 students in Alberta take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



## ART

*How do I create things?* In Grade 1, your child will create visual art by using a variety of media and techniques and will begin to think about what visual symbols mean. Through the four major components of the art program, they will explore form and function and develop decorative styles.



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

*What are words and how can I use them? How can I speak well with others and know I am using the right words?* Grade 1 students see why words are important and how words can be used to create beautiful stories. Your Grade 1 child will experience the fun of communicating, learning and expressing themselves.



## HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

*I won't forget to wash my hands!* Grade 1 students see the importance of establishing healthy habits, eating well and following safety rules at home and in school. They understand that they can be a good friend by taking turns, being kind and sharing. They also learn how to set goals to work toward.



## MATHEMATICS

*Building the basics through addition and subtraction facts.* Your child will count to 100 in different ways, and describe and estimate quantities to 20. They will understand and apply strategies for addition facts up to and including  $9 + 9$  and related subtraction facts, and recall addition facts to a sum of 5 and related subtraction facts. They will connect numbers to their everyday life, and find geometric shapes in their surroundings. Your child will solve problems involving numbers, patterns and measurement.



## MUSIC

*Let the music move you!* Your Grade 1 child will explore and describe the sounds around them, noting whether they're high or low. They will echo rhythms and express their feelings by using action songs, singing games and rhythm instruments.



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.



## SCIENCE

*Do you know why fall is my favourite season of the year?* Grade 1 Science will foster your child's natural sense of wonder about their world while they learn about the seasons, colours and living things. By using their hands, their senses and their mind, your child will make exciting discoveries and satisfy their curiosity.



## SOCIAL STUDIES

*What makes a community? How do I fit in? What are some stories of the past?* Your child will grow to understand the benefits and responsibilities of living in a community, while appreciating the differences in others. They'll also explore the history of your family and community.

## OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

DRAMA  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES  
LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES

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LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR  
CHILD'S EDUCATION  
BY VISITING

**My Child's Learning: A Parent  
Resource**

<http://www.mychildslearning.alberta.ca>



### ASSESSMENT

Your child's learning is assessed using a variety of tools and strategies within the classroom. Ask your child's teacher what methods they are using. The different assessment methods tell you and your child's teacher about your child's strengths, the areas in which they might grow and how well your child is doing throughout their courses. Your child's teacher can then change or refine their teaching plans to ensure that learning activities better meet the needs of your child. At the end of each course, your child is assessed and their achievement is reported so that you know if they have achieved the expected learning outcomes for their grade.

You play an integral role in your child's education by providing the encouragement and support your child needs to succeed.

### RESOURCES

A variety of digital and print resources, developed by publishers, Alberta Education or Alberta teachers, are available to help students learn. Teachers may select, and bring into the classroom, numerous innovative and creative resources to create rich learning experiences for your child. Visit LearnAlberta.ca (<http://www.learnalberta.ca/>) to learn more about the resources your child may encounter.

### WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

EARLY AND MIDDLE YEARS CURRICULUM SECTOR

Telephone: 780-422-7996

E-mail: [EDC.DivisionalStrategicSupports@gov.ab.ca](mailto:EDC.DivisionalStrategicSupports@gov.ab.ca)