

GRADE 1 SCIENCE

When your child is learning first grade science s/he will be learning about a number of varied and exciting topics, from light and sound to plants and animals. Whether you're in first grade or high school, science is all about exploration, and first graders are encouraged to continually ask questions as they delve deeper into their science education. To make sure everything is covered, check off the following topics as your child progresses.

EXPLORATION

- Make and record observations about the world around him/her (such as a pet, rainstorm or plants in the backyard)
- Use his/her five senses (sight, smell, hearing, taste, touch) to observe and learn about different objects

LIGHT AND SOUND

- Plan and conduct investigations about sound and vibrations
- Use observations as evidence to show that objects are only visible when illuminated
- Plan and conduct an investigation about the effect of placing objects made of different materials in the path of a beam of light
- Use various tools and materials to design and construct a device using light or sound that allows them to communicate over a distance

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

- Design a solution to a human problem that mimics how plants and animals survive and grow
- Use texts and media to learn about patterns of behavior of parents and offspring that help offspring survive
- Use observations as evidence to show that young plants and animals are similar but not identical to their parents

PATTERNS AND CYCLES

- Use observations of the stars, sun and moon to describe patterns that can be predicted
- Relate the amount of daylight to the time of year using observational skills



Science offers a unique opportunity for parents to get creative when helping their first graders meet academic goals. These basic skills will one day flourish into the complete use of the scientific method: hypothesis, experiment, observation, conclusion. Parents can also help their children integrate math and literacy skills into science learning by reading books and practicing various measurements.