COMMON CORE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR

FIRST GRADE

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First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Reading (Literature)	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Key Ideas and Details.	
RL.1.1. Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	EERL.1.1. Identify details in familiar stories.
RL.1.2. Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate	EERL.1.2. Retell details from a familiar story.
understanding of their central message or lesson.	
RL.1.3. Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using	EERL.1.3. Identify characters and settings in a familiar story.
key details.	
Craft and Structure.	
RL.1.4. Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest	EERL.1.4. Identify sensory or feeling words in a familiar story.
feelings or appeal to the senses.	
RL.1.5. Explain major differences between books that tell stories and	EERL.1.5. Classify reading materials into storybooks and informational
books that give information, drawing on a wide reading of a range of	books.
text types.	
RL.1.6. Identify who is telling the story at various points in a text.	EERL.1.6. Identify a speaker in a familiar story.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas.	
RL.1.7. Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters,	EERL.1.7. Identify details or illustrations that describe the characters or
setting, or events.	events in a familiar story.
RL.1.8. (Not applicable to literature)	EERL.1.8. N/A
RL.1.9. Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of	EERL.1.9. Identify the adventures or experiences of characters in a
characters in stories.	familiar story.
Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity.	
RL.1.10. With prompting and support, read prose and poetry of	EERL.1.10. **This Literature Essential Element references all elements
appropriate complexity for grade 1.	above.

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Reading (Informational Text)	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Key Ideas and Details.	
RI.1.1. Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	EERI.1.1. Identify details in familiar text.
RI.1.2. Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.	EERI.1.2. Retell details of a familiar text.
RI.1.3. Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas,	EERI.1.3. With guidance and support, identify events or ideas in a
or pieces of information in a text.	familiar text.
Craft and Structure.	
RI.1.4. Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the	EERI.1.4. Respond to questions about a new word in familiar text.
meaning of words and phrases in a text.	
RI.1.5. Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, tables of	EERI.1.5. With guidance and support, recognize that books have titles.
contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or	
information in a text.	
RI.1.6. Distinguish between information provided by pictures or other	EERI.1.6. With guidance and support, distinguish between text and
illustrations and information provided by the words in a text.	illustrations in a text.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas.	
RI.1.7. Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.	EERI.1.7. Identify illustration that shows what the text is describing.
RI.1.8. Identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.	EERI.1.8. With guidance and support, identify details that match the
	topic of a text.
RI.1.9. Identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts	EERI.1.9. With guidance and support, match similar parts of two texts
on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).	on the same topic.
Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity.	
RI.1.10. With prompting and support read informational texts	EERI.1.10. **This Literature Essential Element references all elements
appropriately complex for grade 1.	above.

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Reading (Foundational Skills)	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Print Concepts.	
RF.1.1. Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic	EERF.1.1. Demonstrate an understanding of the organization and basic
features of print.	features of print.
a. Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence (e.g., first word,	a. Interact with books one page at a time from beginning to end.
capitalization, ending punctuation).	
	EERF.1.1.b. Follow print from left to right.
	EERF.1.1.c. Follow print from top to bottom.

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Reading (Foundational Skills)	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Phonological Awareness.	
RF.1.2. Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and	EERF.1.2. Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and
sounds (phonemes).	sounds (phonemes).
a. Distinguish long from short vowel sounds in spoken single-syllable words.	a. Identify spoken rhyming words
b. Orally produce single-syllable words by blending sounds (phonemes)	EERF.1.2.b. With guidance and support, indicate the number of
including consonant blends.	syllables in a spoken word.
c. Isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds	EERF.1.2.c. Identify a single syllable spoken word with the same onset
(phonemes) in spoken single-syllable words.	(beginning sound) as a familiar word.
d. Segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence	EERF.1.2.d. Match orally presented segmented phonemes to pictures
of individual sounds (phonemes).	that are labeled orally first by an adult.
Phonics and Word Recognition.	
RF.1.3. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in	EERF.1.3. Apply letter name and letter-sound knowledge when
decoding words.	decoding words during shared activities.
a. Know the spelling-sound correspondences for common consonant.	a. Identify words that begin with a single-consonant phoneme that is
	spoken by an adult.
b. Decode regularly spelled one-syllable words.	EERF.1.3.b. N/A
c. Know final -e and common vowel team conventions for representing	EERF.1.3.c. N/A
long vowel sounds.	
d. Use knowledge that every syllable must have a vowel sound to	EERF.1.3.d. N/A
determine the number of syllables in a printed word.	
e. Decode two-syllable words following basic patterns by breaking the	EERF.1.3.e. N/A
words into syllables.	
f. Read words with inflectional endings.	EERF.1.3.f. N/A
g. Recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly	EERF.1.3.g. N/A
Fluency.	
RF.1.4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support	EERF.1.4. Engage in sustained independent study of books (e.g., studies
comprehension.	a book one page at a time).
a. Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.	a. Independently engage in exploring a book or navigating pages in a multimedia book.
b. Read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and	EERF.1.4.b. Sustain attention to a variety of reading materials reflecting
expression.	a variety of text genre.
c. Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and	EERF.1.4.c. N/A
understanding, rereading as necessary.	

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Writing	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Text Types and Purposes.	
W.1.1. Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name	EEW.1.1. Select a book and use drawing, dictating, or writing to state
the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for	an opinion about it.
the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.	
W.1.2. Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic,	EEW.1.2. Select a topic and use drawing, dictating, or writing to share
supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.	information about it.
W.1.3. Write narratives in which they recount two or more	EEW.1.3. Select an event and use drawing, dictating, or writing to share
appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what	information about it.
happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some	
sense of closure.	
Production and Distribution of Writing.	
W.1.4. (Begins in grade 3)	EEW.1.4. (Begins in grade 3)
W.1.5. With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic,	EEW.1.5. With guidance and support from adults, add more
respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to	information to own drawing, dictating, or writing to strengthen it.
strengthen writing as needed.	
W.1.6. With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital	EEW.1.6 With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital
tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.	tools to produce writing, including in collaboration with peers.
Research to Build and Present Knowledge.	
W.1.7. Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore	EEW.1.7. Participate in shared research and writing projects.
a number of "how-to" books on a given topic and use them to write a	
sequence of instructions).	
W.1.8. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from	EEW.1.8. With guidance and support from adults, identify information
experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a	related to personal experiences and answer simple questions about
question.	those experiences.
W.1.9. (Begins in grade 4)	EEW.1.9. (Begins in grade 4)
Range of Writing.	
W.1.10. (Begins in grade 3)	EEW.1.10. (Begins in grade 3)

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Speaking and Listening	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Comprehension and Collaboration.	
SL.1.1. Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners	EESL.1.1. Participate in conversations with peers and adults.
about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger	a. Engage in multiple-turn exchanges with peers.
groups.	
a. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others with	
care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).	
b. Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments	EESL.1.1.b. Build on comments or topics initiated by an adult.
of others through multiple exchanges.	
c. Ask questions to clear up any confusion about the topics and texts	EESL.1.1.c. Uses one or two words to ask questions related to
under discussion.	personally relevant topics.
SL.1.2. Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud	
or information presented orally or through other media.	details presented orally or through other media.
SL.1.3. Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to	EESL.1.3. Ask for help when needed.
gather additional information or clarify something that is not understood.	
Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas.	
SL.1.4 . Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details,	
expressing ideas and feelings clearly.	things, and events.
SL.1.5. Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when	EESL.1.5. Communicate own thoughts, feelings, or ideas.
appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.	
SL.1.6. Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and	EESL.1.6. With guidance and support, provide more information to
situation.	clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Language	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Conventions of Standard English.	
L.1.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English	EEL.1.1. Demonstrate emerging understandings of standard English
grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	usage when communicating.
a. Print all upper- and lowercase letters.	a. Write letters from own name.
b. Use common, proper, and possessive nouns.	EEL.1.1.b. With guidance and support, use familiar nouns (e.g., own
	name, Mom, dog) in isolation.
c. Use singular and plural nouns with matching verbs in basic	EEL.1.1.c. With guidance and support, produce noun + verb or verb +
sentences (e.g., He hops; We hop).	noun combinations.
d. Use personal, possessive, and indefinite pronouns (e.g., <i>I</i> , <i>me</i> , <i>my</i> ;	EEL.1.1.d. With guidance and support, use familiar personal pronouns
they, them, their, anyone, everything).	(e.g., <i>I, me</i> , and <i>you</i>).
e. Use verbs to convey a sense of past, present, and future (e.g., Yesterday	EEL.1.1.e. With guidance and support, use familiar present tense verbs.
I walked home; Today I walk home; Tomorrow I will walk home).	
f. Use frequently occurring adjectives.	EEL.1.1.f. With guidance and support, use familiar frequently occurring
	adjectives. (e.g., big, hot).
g. Use frequently occurring conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or, so, because)	EEL.1.1.g. N/A
h. Use determiners (e.g., articles, demonstratives).	EEL.1.1.h. N/A
i. Use frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., during, beyond, toward).	EEL.1.1.i. With guidance and support, use frequently occurring
	prepositions: in, out, on, off.
j. Produce and expand complete simple and compound declarative,	EEL.1.1.j. With guidance and support, use simple question words
interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory sentences in response to	(interrogatives) (e.g., who, what).
prompts.	
L.1.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English	EEL.1.2. Demonstrate emerging understandings of the use of
capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	conventions of standard English during communication.
a. Capitalize dates and names of people.	a. Locate first letter in own name when presented with name.
b. Use end punctuation for sentences.	EEL.1.2.b. N/A
c. Use commas in dates and to separate single words in a series.	EEL.1.2.c. N/A
d. Use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns	EEL.1.2.d. With guidance and support, recognize that letters are used
and for frequently occurring irregular words.	to create words.
e. Spell untaught words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness	EEL.1.2.e. N/A
and spelling conventions.	
Knowledge of Language.	
L.1.3. (Begins in grade 2)	EEL.1.3. (Begins in grade 2)

First Grade English Language Arts Standards: Language	
CCSS Grade-Level Standards	Common Core Essential Elements
Vocabulary Acquisition and Use.	
L.1.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-	EEL.1.4.a. With guidance and support, demonstrate understanding of
meaning words and phrases based on grade 1 reading and content,	the meaning of newly acquired vocabulary.
choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.	
a. Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.	
b. Use frequently occurring affixes as a clue to the meaning of a word.	EEL.1.4.b. N/A
c. Identify frequently occurring root words (e.g., <i>look</i>) and their inflectional forms (e.g., <i>looks, looked, looking</i>).	EEL.1.4 .c. N/A
L.1.5. With guidance and support from adults, demonstrate understanding	EEL.1.5. With guidance and support from adults, demonstrate emerging
of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.	understandings of word relationships.
a. Sort words into categories (e.g., colors, clothing) to gain a sense of	a. With guidance and support from adults, sort common objects into
the concepts the categories represent.	familiar categories.
b. Define words by category and by one or more key attributes (e.g., a	EEL.1.5.b. With guidance and support from adults, identify attributes of
duck is a bird that swims; a tiger is a large cat with stripes).	familiar words.
,	EEL.1.5.c. With guidance and support from adults, demonstrate under-
places at home that are <i>cozy</i>).	standing of words by identifying real-life connections between words
	and their use.
d. Distinguish shades of meaning among verbs differing in manner	EEL.1.5.d. N/A
(e.g., look, peek, glance, stare, glare, scowl) and adjectives differing in	
intensity (e.g., large, gigantic) by defining or choosing them or by	
acting out the meanings.	
	EEL.1.6. N/A
and being read to, and responding to texts, including using frequently	
occurring conjunctions to signal simple relationships (e.g., because).	