

GRADE 1

TRUE STORIES AND FOLK TALES FROM AMERICA AND FROM AROUND THE WORLD

In first grade, children listen to and read folk tales and true stories from America and from around the world. They learn about major historical events, figures, and symbols related to the United States of America and its national holidays and why they are important to Americans. As students study concepts in geography, civics, economics, and history, they also learn about each other's families and about the achievements of different people in different times and places.

Grade 1 Concepts and Skills

Students should be able to:

Apply concepts and skills learned in previous grades.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

1. Identify temporal sequences such as days, weeks, months, years, and seasons. Use correctly words and phrases related to time (*now, in the past, in the future*) and recognize the existence of changing historical periods (*other times, other places*). (H)
2. Place events in students' own lives in chronological order. (H)
3. Read dates on a calendar and associate them with days of the week. (H)
4. Describe a map as a representation of a space, such as the classroom, the school, the neighborhood, town, city, state, country, or world. (G)
5. Identify cardinal directions (north, east, south, west) and apply them to maps, locations in the classroom, school, playground, and community. (G)
6. Define and locate the North and South Poles and the equator. (G)
7. Define and give examples of a continent, mountain, river, lake, and ocean. (G)

CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT

8. Give examples that show the meaning of the following words: *politeness, achievement, courage, honesty, and reliability*. (C)

ECONOMICS

9. Give examples of products (goods) that people buy and use. (E)
10. Give examples of services that people do for each other. (E)
11. Give examples of the choices people have to make about the goods and services they buy (e.g. a new coat, a tie, or a pair of shoes) and why they have to make choices (e.g., because they have a limited amount of money). (E)

Grade 1 Learning Standards

Building on knowledge from previous years, students should be able to:

UNITED STATES LEADERS, SYMBOLS, EVENTS, AND HOLIDAYS

- 1.1** On a map of the United States, locate Washington, D.C. and identify it as the capital of the United States of America; locate Boston and identify it as the capital of Massachusetts. (G)
- 1.2** Identify the current President of the United States, describe what presidents do, and explain that they get their authority from a vote by the people. (H, C)
- 1.3** Identify and explain the meaning of American national symbols. (H, C)
- A. the American flag
 - B. the bald eagle
 - C. the White House
 - D. the Statue of Liberty
- 1.4** Demonstrate the ability to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, to explain its general meaning, and to sing national songs such as *America the Beautiful*, *My Country, 'tis of Thee*, *God Bless America*, and *The Star Spangled Banner* and explain the general meaning of the lyrics. (H, C)
- 1.5** Give reasons for celebrating the events or people commemorated in national and Massachusetts holidays. On a calendar for the current year, identify the months for Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Patriots' Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Independence Day. (H, C, G)
- 1.6** Give reasons for noting the days that mark the changes in seasons. (G)

INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES NOW AND LONG AGO

- 1.7** After reading or listening to folktales, legends, and stories from America (e.g., Johnny Appleseed, Paul Bunyan, Davy Crockett, John Henry, and Annie Oakley) and from around the world (e.g., Anansi, Issun Boshi, the Knee-High Man, Lon Po Po, and Medioc Pollito), describe the main characters and their qualities. (H)
- 1.8** After reading or listening to stories about famous Americans of different ethnic groups, faiths, and historical periods (e.g., Neil Armstrong, Cesar Chavez, Roberto Clemente, Thomas Edison, Bill Gates, Daniel Inouye, Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, Colin Powell, Sacagawea, Jonas Salk, Harriett Beecher Stowe, Clarence Thomas, Booker T. Washington, and the Wright Brothers) describe their qualities or distinctive traits. (H, C)
- Teachers are free to choose whatever biographies they wish.*
- 1.9** Explain that Americans have a variety of different religious, community, and family celebrations and customs, and describe celebrations or customs held by members of the class and their families. (H)