



Zion Lutheran School First Grade Overview

Religion: Voyages: Exploring God's Word is a series of nine unit booklets teaching the Bible stories from creation to the life of Jesus. Students learn of God's love and how to show that love in our lives for others. They memorize selected Bible verses and the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, and Lord's Prayer. Each Wednesday, students attend a school chapel service. Prayer and sharing from God's Word are intertwined throughout the day.

Reading: In the first grade, students learn to read! We build a love and joy for reading through the Scott Foresman Literature Experience. First graders begin with learning the sounds letters make, blending sounds to form words, building a sight vocabulary, and work into sentences and meanings of words. They finish with reading writings by award winning authors. We want to instill a life-long love for reading. Reading daily with their parents is also encouraged.

Language Arts: Shurley English helps students learn, retain, and apply grammar and writing skills with dependable results.

Phonics: Phonics reinforces the sounds and letters for reading. Students learn phonics skills as part of the daily reading lesson.

Writing: Journal entries, sentence and paragraph writing, and "Power" writing help children express and share their ideas.

Spelling: Spelling, including weekly tests, is used to reinforce reading vocabulary of the week.

Mathematics: In Houghton-Mifflin Mathematics, students learn the basic concepts of addition and subtraction. They develop problem solving skills as well as skills in geometry, fractions, graphing, money, time, measurement, and finally two digit addition and subtraction. Skills are practiced daily with the use of many math manipulatives.

Science: The curriculum includes life science, earth science, and health and safety.

Social Studies: The curriculum includes units related to sociology, history, economics, citizenship, and geography.

Art: Lessons provide experience in drawing, painting, printing, texture, and mosaics.
MUSIC –

Physical Education: Physical Education provides opportunities to develop and grow in health, fitness, and motor skills.

Computer: Students demonstrate knowledge of basic computer skills.

Cultural Experiences: Students go on field trips to the “Nutcracker” and “Illinois Symphony”.