

Chesney Elementary School  
First Grade Curriculum Letter  
Fourth Quarter - 2011



Dear Parents:

It is hard to believe that the year is almost over! Our expectation of learning for the fourth grading period continues to increase with the AKS (Academic Knowledge and Skills) that every first grader will need to master by the end of the school year. We appreciate your continued effort in reinforcing the following ongoing activities/skills that are taught in school and at home. A complete list of the first grade AKS (Academic Knowledge and Skills) can be found on the following website: [www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us) or in the AKS booklet which was given out at the beginning of the school year.

Sincerely,  
First Grade Teachers



**Reading:** In reading, the students will continue to read from fiction and non-fiction books as part of the Reading Workshop and Guided Reading lessons. We will continue to focus on identifying sequence of events in stories, main idea/ supporting details, real and imaginary contents, comparing and contrasting within/ between stories with the use of graphic features/ graphic organizers. Students will retell stories independently or with a partner. They will be able to recall information orally and communicate effectively as they listen to, ask questions, and respond to different genres of literature.

Students will recognize and compare plot, setting, and characters within a story. Throughout reading experiences students will begin to recognize correct spellings and identify a comma and quotation marks. Students will continue to use reading strategies such as applying letter-sound knowledge to decode new words, using spellings patterns/word families; applying phonic skills and apply knowledge to decode accurately/quickly. Knowledge of Greek and Latin roots will be used to read new words and determine their meanings (un-, re-, -ly).

**AKS 10, 18, 21, 22, 34, 38, 39, 40, 50**



**Writing:** Students will write in multiple genres including narrative, persuasive, and response to literature. This nine weeks students will apply phonics skills to spell unknown words and will identify predicates in sentences. In their narrative writing students will begin to use transitions and time cue words and will work on developing characters and setting through the use of adjectives and dialogue. In their persuasive writing students will learn how to state an opinion and use details to support that opinion. They will use a variety of formats to express their opinion through writing. In response to literature students will read texts and state an opinion they have formed about the writing. They will do so in a way that demonstrates an understanding of the text and that makes connections to the text and their own lives. Teachers will continue to conference with students throughout the writing process. Students will celebrate their writing achievements with a publishing party at the end of the nine weeks.

**AKS3 WR 64, 67, 71, 75, 2010-1, 77, 80, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91**



**Mathematics:** During the 4th nine weeks, we will continue to work on all the AKS we have taught this year. The students will model and explain place value notation for numbers between 1 and 100. Students will be able to use tools such as number lines and hundreds charts to determine which multiple of ten (rounding) a given number is nearest. Students will continue to add and subtract numbers less than 100, including 2-digit numbers, without regrouping and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction (e.g.  $15 + 4$ ,  $80 - 60$ ,  $56 + 10$ ,  $100 - 30$ ,  $58 - 5$ )

Students will also determine reasonableness of results, skip count by 2s, 5s, and 10s forward and backwards to and from numbers up to 100, and solve and create word problems involving addition and subtraction to 100 without regrouping. Students will build number patterns including concepts of even and odd, using various concrete representations (hundreds chart, ten grid frame, place value chart, number line, counters, etc.) and describe how both repeating and growing patterns are generated .

**AKS 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 42, 46, 63**



### **Social Studies**

During the fourth nine weeks, students will learn about Theodore Roosevelt and his contributions to protect our environment and to conserve the land.

We will discuss importance of conservation and impact it has on our environment.

Students will also learn about personal spending, smart spending, and saving of money.

Students will learn how to make good economic and saving choices as a consumer. We will also cover self-discipline as a character trait.

**AKS 25-27, 33-36**



**Science:** During the fourth quarter, students will demonstrate the effects of magnets on various objects and other magnets. Also, students will predict whether different materials will be attracted to or repel by a magnet. Your child will enjoy science centers and experiments with objects that do not block the magnetic force.

**AKS 11**



**Health:** Students will describe ways to handle disagreements without fights.

Students will be able to describe his/her role as a family member. Students will identify major internal structures and organs.

**AKS 8, 9, 10**

**Suggestions for helping your child at home:**

- Read to your child
- Listen to your child read aloud to you
- Ask your child questions about the books (characters, setting, problem, solution)
- Practice addition and subtraction facts with flashcards
- Count out change at the grocery store
- Practice telling time to the half hour
- Review papers in the Friday Folder
- Visit Sparky's website if you have access to the Internet or public library.



**Suggestions for test taking:**

- Make sure to have a good night sleep and have a high protein breakfast in the morning.
- Read the directions carefully
- Read over all the choices and eliminate answers you know are wrong.
- Look back at the text for clues/answers.
- Work all math problems on scratch paper.
- Go back and check your answers.
- Read each question at least twice.
- Read the question before you look at the answer.
- Eliminate answers you know aren't right.



Sight Word Search

W K H P E R G V W V N  
T H O S W M G N X Y O  
B S I O F I V E I Y O  
G O O T L L M X A H S  
I J O M E R V L J V T  
B B O K V I P O V R V  
W H E R E G T X U G K  
J O I W A Q F O O H S  
F R I E N D F T B S O  
S U Q Q H V P W N R Q  
O L D S A G M V P X L

BIG  
BOOK  
FIVE  
WHITE  
LOOK  
MOST  
PLAY

FOUR  
FRIEND  
GIRL  
GOT  
SOON  
THING  
THERE