



Curriculum Guide to First Grade



BADER
HILLEL
ACADEMY

Child Development



First Grade at Bader Hillel Academy...

is a year of growth, discovery, and emerging independence. Students build on foundational skills while developing confidence as readers, writers, thinkers, and community members. Learning is engaging and purposeful, blending academic development with creativity, collaboration, and Jewish values in a supportive environment.

Social and Emotional Development

Social-emotional learning supports students as they develop independence, empathy, and self-regulation. Children practice cooperation, respectful communication, and problem-solving within a caring classroom community. Teachers prioritize creating an environment where students feel valued, supported, and proud of their progress.

First Grade Experience

LANGUAGE ARTS

First graders strengthen early literacy skills as they transition into more independent reading and writing. Instruction focuses on phonics, decoding, reading fluency, and comprehension through shared texts and guided practice. Writing experiences expand from sentences to short stories and responses, helping students organize ideas and express themselves clearly through words and illustrations.

MATHEMATICS

Math instruction emphasizes strong number sense and problem-solving through hands-on learning. Students build fluency with addition and subtraction, explore place value, understand time and money, and work with basic measurement and shapes. Lessons encourage reasoning, discussion, and confidence in mathematical thinking.

SCIENCE/ SOCIAL STUDIES

Students explore their world through observation, questioning, and discussion. Science learning introduces basic concepts in life, earth, and physical science through experiments and hands-on activities. Social studies focuses on community, citizenship, and understanding how people live and work together, helping students recognize their role in the classroom and beyond.

JUDAIC STUDIES

Judaic Studies in First Grade deepens students' understanding of Jewish holidays, traditions, and values. Through stories, projects, and celebrations, students explore mitzvot, kindness, and responsibility. Learning emphasizes personal connection, helping children see how Jewish values guide everyday actions.

HEBREW

Hebrew instruction builds on early exposure to the language by strengthening letter recognition, decoding, and vocabulary. Students practice reading and writing simple words and phrases while engaging with Hebrew through songs, stories, and conversation. Instruction fosters confidence and a joyful connection to Hebrew as a living language.

SPECIALS

First graders participate in a range of enrichment classes that support creativity, physical development, and exploration. Art, music, physical education, and library experiences enhance learning and provide opportunities for self-expression and skill-building.