



Kunming International Academy Curriculum Summary: Grade One

In first grade, our teachers strive to:

- Work with students as individuals, accommodating different learning styles.
- Provide a nurturing atmosphere that supports the students' emotional, physical, social and intellectual development in a multi-cultural context.
- Challenge each student to work to his/her potential.

The following is a brief summary of what an average first grader needs to know and be able to do by the end of the year.

Personal Development Skills

Students should have an understanding that through consistent effort they can:

- Succeed
- Value their accomplishments
- Appreciate their own culture and also the cultures of others

Study Skills

Students should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- Follow and give written and oral directions
- Use the table of contents and index
- Use a dictionary
- Organize and summarize information
- Complete homework assignments in an orderly and timely manner

Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking

Students should be able to:

- Read with comprehension, fluency and accuracy at a first grade level
- Identify and give examples of the basic parts of speech such as nouns, verbs and adjectives.
- Apply phonics/decoding skill by blending sounds into words
- Identify consonant clusters, digraphs, sounds and words
- Implement spelling and vocabulary by identifying compound words, homophones, synonyms and antonyms
- Use long and short vowel spelling patterns

- Identify and correctly use contractions (ie: don't, can't, I'll, she's) in reading and writing
- Be able to read a short story and answer content questions about the story
- Read a story and identify details, setting, and characters
- Read or listen to a story and identify if it is fiction or non-fiction, and if it is realistic fiction, fantasy, fairy tale, folk tale, autobiography or biography
- Be able to alphabetize to the first letter
- Apply basic punctuation, capitalization and grammar rules in writing.
- Be able to write a descriptive paragraph with at least 5 complete sentences

Mathematics

Students should be able to:

- Count, read and write beyond 100
- Count, read and write by 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s and 25s
- Define numbers in ones, tens and hundreds place
- Identify odd and even numbers
- Identify numbers greater than, less than, and numbers that come between
- Memorize and recall addition and subtraction facts for families 1 to 18
- Write a simple number sentence to solve word problems
- Tell time to the hour and half-hour
- Use ruler in centimeters and inches
- Recognize and draw a circle, square, rectangle and triangle
- Recognize a sphere, pyramid, cone, cylinder, and cube
- Measure in halves, thirds and fourths

Social Studies

Students will learn about:

- Rules and responsibilities
- Symbols and holidays
- Changes—now and long ago
- Cultural awareness
- Economics

Science

Students will participate in hands-on activities in the following units:

- Living and non-living things
- The body and staying healthy
- Magnets
- Weather and seasons
- Earth's land and water

Music

- Sing music from a variety of cultures with an emphasis on healthy vocal production.
- Students learn the four instrument groups of the orchestra (percussion, strings, brass, woodwinds.)
- Perform on variety of classroom instruments.
- Begin learning to sight read using solfege.
- Learn about various aspects of rhythm and musical expression.
- Learn about a variety of classical composers and their music.

Art

- Explore certain media and approaches
- Improve motor skills
- Enjoy
- Respect and appreciate others' artworks
- Explore and appreciate art in history, culture, and contemporary

Physical Education

Students will:

- Learn the beneficial aspects of physical training and competition: fun, physical fitness, working in a team and competing with oneself to be the best one can be
- Learn basic rules and some basic tactics for popular sports
- Develop rhythmic movement, manipulative and gymnastics skills

Chinese

Students will be able to:

Level I

- Understand and speak basic vocabulary for daily communication
- Acquire some basic knowledge of Chinese characters, such as the basic strokes, radicals
- Gain a preliminary understanding of some of the Chinese culture

Level II

- Express themselves in a set of sentences and move towards more complex sentences by adding descriptors and details
- Master vocabulary in high-frequency sentence patterns relating to topics of survival and daily life, such as weather, time, hobbies, shopping, etc.
- Read and write 25 basic characters

Level III

- Express themselves in a set of sentences and move towards more complex sentences by adding descriptors and details
- Master vocabulary in high-frequency sentence

patterns relating to topics of survival and daily life, such as weather, time, hobbies, shopping, etc.

- Read and write 25 basic characters

Level IV

- Express themselves in a set of sentences and provide some detail in their statements, reaching towards narration and description
- Master vocabulary at high frequency sentence patterns relating to topics of survival and daily life
- Write sentences by using pinyin and 143 high-occurring characters