



# FIRST GRADE



P.S 117  
Briarwood, New York

First Grade Curriculum  
April 2011

## First Grade Curriculum Newsletter

### Math

First graders will count, group, and describe objects using tens and ones. They will model and count groups of tens. First graders will count and group objects to 50 as tens and ones. They will count and group objects to 100 as tens and ones. First graders will write 2 digit numbers in expanded forms. They will solve problems by using the skill make reasonable estimates. First graders will model and compare 2-digit numbers to determine which is greater. They will model and compare 2 digit numbers to determine which is less. First graders will use the symbols for "is less than <", "is greater than >", and "is equal to =" to compare numbers. They will identify one more than and one less than a given number. First graders will identify ten more than and ten less than a given number. They will use a number line to determine *before*, *between*, and *after*. First graders will order numbers from least to greatest or greatest to least. They will solve problems by using the skill *use a table*.

### Social Studies

Happy Birthday Earth! Earth Day is on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental even worldwide. We will learn how to help keep the Earth clean and help protect our environment!

We will learn about recycling and how it helps the earth. In addition, we will learn about trees and the reasons why trees are so important to us. Arbor Day is on April 29! This is the day we set aside to plant trees.

In addition, we will learn about holidays celebrate in Spring. We will read lots of books about Earth Day, trees, holidays in spring and the Spring season.



### Science

Welcome to Spring! We will continue to explore the changes in weather and the various signs of spring. We will plant seeds and learn about the life cycle of a plant. We will also finish our unit on matter. Remember the three states of matter are: solids, liquids, and gases. We will lean about how matter changes states.



### Reader and Writer's Workshop

#### Reading – Readers Get to Know the Characters in Our Books and Talk About Them With Others in Character Clubs.

This unit differs from the other character units the children have been engaged in because they will participate in character clubs. Teachers will be re-evaluating and looking through their classroom libraries in order to set up "character books libraries". There will be new titles for children to choose from. The libraries can be set up in categories: "Bossy Characters", "Shy Characters", "Characters that are Animals", etc. As children read, they will do a lot of retelling, dramatizing a book or scene, learn to react, and learn to react to and pay attention to the important parts of a story. They will get to know how stories tend to be written in a predictable structure. Finally, readers will make decisions about what they want to study, and about how to learn and study those things together in reading clubs. The children will get to know their characters by being in these book clubs. They will be taught to use post-its in their books and to talk to others in their clubs.

#### Writing - Independent Writing Projects

More writing stamina will infuse genre studies with greater purpose and meaning throughout the year. Our first graders will look through their own writing folders and decide on what kind of writing they will do: chapter books, graphic novels, picture books, etc. Teaching throughout this unit reinforces the habits, processes, and qualities of good writing, and to work on good writing every day. As always, word study, and phonics work continues ongoing.