

Welcome!

*My name is Jenny Abrams

College: University of Missouri St. Louis

-Bachelor's Degree: Elementary Education

-Master's Degree from Lindenwood University

Past Education Experience:

- 5 years in 3rd Grade

- 8 years in 5th grade

14th year at MCKelvey

I am here for your children. I work extremely hard to ensure that all of their needs are met.

I look forward to being a part of your child's First Grade experience!

Mrs. Babitz's Schedule 2017-2018

8:50 - 9:20	Morning Work/Morning Meeting
9:20 - 10:20	Math Workshop
10:20 - 11:20	Writing Workshop
11:30 - 12:10	Recess/Lunch
12:15 - 1:15	Reading Workshop
1:15 - 2:05	Specials
2:10 - 2:30	Shared Reading
2:30 - 3:00	Science/Social Studies
3:00 - 3:15	Extra Recess
3:15-3:45	Guided Reading/Word Work
3:45 - 3:55	Pack Up/Dismissal

Specials: 1/3-Days: PE 2 Days: Art 4 Days Music 5 Days: Library

Reading

Building Good Reading Habits

Word Detectives Use All They Know to Solve Words

Learning About the World: Reading Nonfiction

Readers get to know their Characters by Performing Them

Readers Have Big Jobs to Do

Meeting Characters and Learning Lessons: A Study of Story Elements

Reading Nonfiction Cover to Cover: Nonfiction Book Clubs

Fountas and Pinnell

(Reading Test)

This test is given individually based on your child's abilities

Right now I am testing your children to see which reading level they can successfully read.

When I test, there are two parts to consider:

Accuracy

- Can they read the words accurately?
- Are they reading fluently?

Comprehension

- Can they retell what happens in the book?
- Can they state the problem and how it was solved?
- Do they know who the characters are and what they did?
- Can they go beyond the text to tell me why things happened or why characters did what they did?

Reading Level Note

This note will come home every time your child moves up in a reading level

Congratulations! _____ is now reading on level ____!

As teachers, we know students learn to read at different paces. It is important to note that a student's reading level is based on the Fountas & Pinnel Assessment. This reading test requires both an oral reading (decoding & accuracy) & answering questions to clarify the student's understanding of the text (comprehension).

1st graders should be reading independently at a C at the beginning of the year.

This sheet will be sent home periodically to inform you of your child's progress. Please take some time to celebrate your child's hard work & success!

Date _____ Teacher _____

	Kindergarten (A,B,C)			1 st grade (D-J)						2 nd grade (K,L,M)			
NR Not yet reading	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
			End of Kindergarten Target			1 st Trimester Target End of October		2 nd Trimester Target End of February		End of 1 st Grade Target End of May			

Writing

Small Moments

Music in our Hearts: Writing Songs and Poetry

Nonfiction Chapter Books

- Authors as Mentors: Craftsmanship and Revision

From Scenes to Series: Writing Fiction

Writing Like Scientists

Accountable Words

Please be looking for kindergarten and first grade word assessments to be sent home. We do not give weekly spelling tests, but we do work on 3-4 words a week. I will also spend time with your child individually to help them successfully spell their kindergarten and first grade words.

Please know that I take spelling seriously and aim to help your child succeed as developmentally appropriate as possible.

a	and	Dad	in	at
go	I	can	is	it
we	me	mom	my	see
the	to	like	First Name	Last Name

all	am	are	as	back
be	best	big	by	came
can't	day	did	do	for
get	got	had	has	he
her	him	his	if	look
love	make	no	of	on
one	or	play	saw	she
stop	tell	that	the	they
thing	this	up	was	went
when	will	with	yes	you

Social Studies

Our Community

Cultural Traditions

○ Location!

Producers & Consumers

We All Can Be a Hero

Science

Balance & Weighing

Balance & Motion

Organisms

Weather

Math

Addition and Subtraction 1

Data

○ Place Value

Addition and Subtraction 2

Measurement

Geometry

Behavior/Homework Chart

Name: _____

Week of: 8/17 – 8/21

Monday 08/17 Parent Signature	Today I was: Respectful, Responsible, Safe, <u>Cooperative</u>
	Homework: 1. Read at home Special Notes: _____ _____ _____
Tuesday 08/18 Parent Signature	Today I was: Respectful, Responsible, Safe, <u>Cooperative</u>
	Homework: 1. Read at home 2. Lesson 1 Math Page Special Notes: _____ _____ _____
Wednesday 08/19 Parent Signature	Today I was: Respectful, Responsible, Safe, <u>Cooperative</u>
	Homework: 1. Read at home Special Notes: _____ _____ _____
Thursday 08/20 Parent Signature	Today I was: Respectful, Responsible, Safe, <u>Cooperative</u>
	Homework: 1. Read at home 2. Lesson 2 Math Page 3. Return "Me Bags" tomorrow Special Notes: First Grade Open House _____ _____ _____
Friday 08/21 Parent Signature	Today I was: Respectful, Responsible, Safe, <u>Cooperative</u>
	Homework: 1. Read at home 2. "Me Bags" due Special Notes: _____ _____ _____
Please Return Daily	

First Grade Friends

Week 2: August 17-21, 2015

Here's a quick peek at what we are learning this week!	Math <u>Addition & Subtraction within 20; Numbers & Operations</u>	Reading <u>Building a Community of Readers</u>	Writing <u>Building a Community of Writers</u>	Social Studies <u>What's a Citizen?</u>	Word Work
	First graders will learn to solve a variety of problems using addition & subtraction strategies within 20 & practice counting to 120.	In this unit, first graders will learn the expectations of reading workshop including our daily routines. We will also be taking of students to determine their reading level.	First graders will learn the daily procedures & expectations of Writers Workshop. The goal of this unit is to help students further develop their writing habits & processes.	In this unit, first graders will learn about rules in our classroom, school, & society. We will also discuss our rights & responsibilities as citizens of our world.	In Word Work we will begin our yearly reviewing letter formation & handwriting skills as well as kindergarten words.

Dear First Grade Families,

We made it! Week 2 has begun & we're off to a busy start!

Here are a few reminders of some upcoming events in 1st grade.

- o "Me" Bags due on Friday, August 21
- o Daily Homework begins this week. 1st grade homework is about building responsibility & sharing what we are learning at school. On the back of the weekly newsletter, you will always find a planner page with the nightly homework, information on what specials we have each day as well as any notes about your child's behavior.
- o 1st grade Open House this THURSDAY August 20th. Please choose ONE session to attend: 6-6:25 p.m. OR 6:35-7 p.m. This is an adult only evening, so please make childcare arrangements at home.

Have a great week as we look forward to another successful year in 1st grade at McKelvey. Where Each Child is Special!

Sincerely,

The First Grade Team



Homework:

- Please see Homework letter.
- Please sign and return. 😊

Homework will be listed daily on your child's homework/behavior chart. Please check and sign each night. Feel free to write me notes! 😊

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays:

read from book bag – See talking point on behavior/homework chart

word work homework (Mondays and Wednesdays)

Tuesdays and Thursdays:

read & math homework

***Please help keep our classroom library full of books by ensuring that your child returns his/her “just right” book in good/clean condition every day!**

Math Pre-assessments, Post-assessments, and Benchmarks

Every unit in math has a pre-assessment to guide our instruction. Once we have completed the unit, we give a post assessment on the same material. Giving both a pre and post-assessment shows us their progress.

○ Benchmark assessments include grade level material implemented all year. We give the benchmark 3 times- one at the beginning, one in the middle, and one at the end of the year.

Teachers evaluate the data received from these assessments in order to guide our instruction towards mastery of new skills.

Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be the same as last year for your children.

- They will have meaningful feedback specific to your child.

We will give information on their progress (no letter grades). The report will show, for each area of study, whether your child is “On Track” OR “Not Yet on Track” to meet academic expectations for the school year.

Progress Reports will be accessible online. You will receive an email with a link to your child’s progress report when it’s available.

Field Trips

We will be taking one trip to the St. Louis Zoo in the spring!

Parents are very welcome! 😊



STAR STUDENT

Your child will be assigned a date to be the “Star Student” of the week.

This will be a simple opportunity to let us get to know your child a lot better!

Your child will fill in a poster sent home the previous week and be asked to share a few things.

School-Wide Food Safety Expectations

In order to help protect the health and safety of our students with life-threatening food allergies and to contribute to the health and academic success of all students, the Parkway School District has adopted new district-wide Food Safety Expectations. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, all schools will promote these best practice guidelines.

Classrooms should be food-free whenever possible. Consumption of food in the classroom is strongly discouraged due to allergy and sanitation concerns. Students may continue to bring a snack for their own consumption, especially students with an individual health plan. Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks to promote health and wellness. Parents may be advised to send in snacks without a particular allergen, if needed, to prevent cross-contamination, which could impact safety for food allergic students. Careful cleaning of surfaces with soap and water after consumption of food is essential. **Food may not be brought from home for sharing class-wide.**

The school nurse will be informed and consulted to identify students with known food allergies. Teachers will make alternative lesson or curricular plans if students with known food allergies could be adversely impacted.

Find safe and inclusive ways to celebrate without food. To maintain healthy learners, the safest celebrations occur without food. ***Birthday celebrations at school and holiday celebrations at school will not include food.*** Schools are encouraged to be creative in celebrating without food.



Questions?
Thanks for
Coming!!
Reach for the
Stars!