

A sample of what your child will be learning in First Grade Language Arts:

- Using phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing
- Getting facts and information from different writings
- Writing about a topic, supplying some facts, and providing some sense of opening and closing
- Taking part in conversations about topics and texts being studied by responding to the comments of others and asking questions to clear up any confusion
- Producing and expanding complete simple and compound statements, questions, commands, and exclamations
- Identifying the correct meaning for a word with multiple meanings, based on the sentence or paragraph in which the word is used (e.g., deciding whether the word *bat* means a flying mammal or a club used in baseball)
- Learning to think about finer distinctions in the meanings of near-synonyms (e.g., *marching, prancing, strutting, strolling, walking*)

Here are some activities you can do with your child to support Language Arts learning at home:

- Go to the public library.
- Keep a journal
- Participate in a family reading time
- Visit a zoo or museum.
- Write about the experience.
- Write letters or emails to family members.
- Play word games.
- Watch educational tv programs

A sample of what your child will be learning in First Grade Math:

- Solving addition and subtraction word problems in situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing (e.g., a taking from situation would be: "Five apples were on the table. I ate some apples. Then there were three apples. How many apples did I eat?")
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 10 or less, and quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 10 or less (e.g., $2 + 5$, $7 - 5$)
- Understanding what the digits mean in two-digit numbers (*place value*)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract (e.g., $38 + 5$, $29 + 20$, $64 + 27$, $80 - 50$)
- Measuring lengths of objects by using a shorter object as a unit of length
- Making composite shapes by joining shapes together, and dividing circles and rectangles into halves or fourths

Here are some activities you can do with your child to support Math learning at home:

- Cook together allowing the student to measure out ingredients.
- Talk with the student about everyday problem solving that involves math.
- Help the student count out money when making a purchase.
- Discuss the time of daily routines.
- Play counting games.
- Watch educational tv programs.

Barwell Elementary School School/Parent Compact

First Grade Focus



For Student Success

Barwell Elementary School

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Teachers, Parents, Students – Together for Success

What does it mean to be a Title I school?

- The emphasis in a school-wide Title I school is on serving all students. Schoolwide programs maximize the impact of Title I funding in that all students in the school are served as funds are used to improve the entire educational program.

What is a family/school compact?

- A family-School Compact is an agreement between parents, students and teachers. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all students get the individual support they need to reach and exceed grade level standards.

Barwell's Goals for student achievement:

- Reading – By June 2015, all students will be reading on at least a level K.
- Math – By June 2015, all students will be working on

In The Classroom – As your child's teacher, I promise to...

- Use the latest research to teach students.
- Provide open communication through folders, conferences, phone calls and notes.
- Establish collaboration with the classroom teacher for student instruction and scheduling/pull-out.
- Provide materials that are interesting and motivating.
- Help parents understand instructional practices, class expectations, and grading policies.
- Plan meaningful lessons that meet individual student needs.
- Provide a safe school environment that promotes learning and encourages a partnership with the school.
- Employ effective classroom management skills.
- Promote a feeling of belonging for all.

At Home – As the child's parent/guardian, I promise to...

- Read nightly with my child.
- Help my child with his/her homework.
- Provide an appropriate area for doing homework.
- Engage in activities that encourage learning.
- Provide encouragement and positive reinforcement.
- Talk with my child about his/her school day.
- Attend school activities & parent-teacher conferences.
- Show respect with my words and actions for my child, other children, and their families, the teachers, and the school.
- Communicate and work with the school to encourage my child's learning and positive behavior.
- Ask specific questions to stimulate my child's conversation/oral language skills.
- Encourage regular & prompt attendance.

Students – As a student, I promise to...

- Complete my homework.
- Read nightly with my parents.
- Participate in activities that help me learn.
- Participate in classroom activities.
- Ask questions when I need help.
- Help others.
- Be at school on time and regularly.
- Be responsible with my books, folders and school supplies.
- Be responsible for my actions and behavior each day.
- Be a good citizen by doing what is right because it is the right thing to do for myself and others.