1

First Grade

English Language Arts Standards

	WHAT I NEED TO LEARN BY THE END OF	
	FIRST GRADE IN READING & WRITING	HELPFUL HINTS & EXAMPLES
☺	I match the words I see to the words I say.	As you read to your child, always identify the author and the title.
©	I know what an author does. I know what a title is.	Have your child point to words and identify certain letters.
☺	I know the difference between letters, words, and sentences.	
☺	I know the beginning, middle and last sound in a word.	□ c-a-t
☺	I know the long and short vowel sounds: a,e,i,o,u.	□ bit/bite
☺	I can make up rhyming words.	□ cat/mat/flat
☺	I can change letters in words to make new words.	□ cat/at/splat
☺	I can blend sounds to read words.	□ c-a-t = cat
☺	I can separate the sounds in words.	ea/t = eat tr/ea/t = treat
☺	I can read sight words.	the, said, come
©	I can read "r" controlled words.	car, bird, fur
☺	I can read compound words.	Snowman; Contractions such as: didn't = did not
☺	I can read words and different word endings.	ualk, walks, walked, walking
☺	I can read word family/chunks.	□ -ack/-ate/-ite
☺	I can read fluently with expression.	☐ I read like I talk.
☺	I can sort words into groups.	(animals, shapes, colors, foods, etc.)

1

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	WHAT I NEED TO LEARN BY THE END OF FIRST GRADE IN READING & WRITING	HELPFUL HINTS & EXAMPLES
③	I know the beginning, middle, and end of a story.	☐ Have your child retell a story or movie they just saw.
☺	I can answer who/what/where/when/how questions.	When reading to your child, ask questions about characters, the plot, and the setting (where the story takes place).
☺	I can read and follow instructions.	See if your child is able to read instructions and then follow them.
☺	I can correctly predict what will happen next in a story.	As you read, ask your child what they think is going to happen next.
☺	I can retell the main idea of the story.	Ask your child to retell the main idea of the story.
③	I know the parts of a story.	☐ Does your child know the beginning, middle, and ending of a story?
☺	I can talk and write about stories I've read/heard. I can retell stories.	After reading a story together, ask your child to draw a picture that retells the story and shows the most important parts.
☺	I can hear and write the sounds in words.	Ask your child about the sounds they are hearing in words.
☺	I can write a story with complete sentences using beginning, middle, and end.	My fun day was at the Fresno Zoo. First I rode on a big brown camel. Next, I had some soda. My family and I loved it.
☺	I use words to describe and make my story interesting.	
☺	I write neatly so others can read my stories. I can read my story and make corrections to improve it.	Every event in your child's busy life can be used as something to write about—encourage daily writing, keeping a journal or diary, and writing notes to family members.
☺	I can write a story about myself and things I know.	



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☺	I can speak in complete, correct sentences.	Help your child to speak in complete sentences.
☺	I can speak and write using correct English; I can identify singular and plural nouns; I can identify contractions.	he/she my/mine his/her your/yours isn't/is not boy/boys dog/dogs
☺	I use periods, question marks, and exclamation marks correctly.	How are you? Great!
©	I know how to capitalize names of people and the pronoun <i>I</i> .	☐ Some examples are: Jose, "I"
☺	I ask questions to learn.	
☺	I can retell directions.	Use your child's name to develop interest in the world
☺	I can tell a story.	of print.
☺	I can use words that describe.	Use every outing with your child to ask questions, to read signs in grocery stores, etc.
☺	I can tell a story about myself.	Make learning new words a game, such as one new
©	I can retell stories in the right order and answer questions.	word a day.