

First Grade Expectation Checklist

Reading & Language

- Recognizes most uppercase and lowercase letters
- Knows letter sounds for many letters
- Can identify rhyming words
- Understands that print is read from left to right
- Can listen to and retell a simple story
- Writes their first and last name

Writing

- Holds a pencil comfortably
- Draws recognizable pictures
- Writes some letters and simple words
- Attempts to express ideas through drawing and writing

Math

- Counts to at least 20 (often higher)
- Recognizes numbers 0–20
- Understands basic concepts of more/less
- Sorts objects by color, shape, or size
- Identifies common shapes
- Can do simple addition and subtraction with objects

Social & Emotional Skills

- Follows simple classroom rules
- Takes turns and shares
- Works independently for short periods
- Expresses needs appropriately
- Interacts positively with peers and adults

Motor Skills

- Uses scissors safely
- Colors and draws with reasonable control
- Buttons, zips, and manages basic self-care tasks

Independence

- Handles a backpack and lunch items
- Follows 2–3 step directions
- Cleans up after activities
- Transitions between activities with minimal assistance