

## **Academics | The Day in the Life of First Grade**

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, elementary students meet for a time of worship. Students sing worship songs and listen to a short message from God's Word. Once a month during chapel, students are recognized for character traits. Elementary classes focus on two character traits a month. Teachers recognize students whose behavior has shown evidence of the monthly character traits.

**Bible:** Students are taught familiar Bible truths that emphasize God's relationship to people. The Bible is taught with the utmost care, enthusiasm, and passion, as well as a deep sense of responsibility for its eternal impact on the lives of our students.

**Prayer:** Teachers pray daily with their students. Students are taught to pray by offering praise and thanksgiving, as well as praying for their needs and the needs of others.

**Accelerated Reader:** AR is a reading enrichment program providing the opportunity for students to be assessed on comprehension skills. The AR program also targets vocabulary development.

**Writing Technique:** The Six Traits of Writing; handwriting.

**Math:** The target concepts include operations and algebraic thinking, number and operations in base ten, measurement and data, and geometry. Through these concepts, the students are able to make sense of problems, reason abstractly and quantitatively, model problems, and use appropriate tools and manipulatives.

**Language Arts:** Summit's Language Arts is an integrated program involving handwriting, phonics, spelling, reading comprehension, and reading fluency. Children are introduced to a range of genres including poetry, information text, biographies, and narrative stories. Through decodable readers, weekly literature, and leveled readers, students are able to target increased vocabulary, as well as develop strong background knowledge and appreciation for the many stories they will read independently in the future.

**Social Studies:** The target themes include maps and globes, patriotism, landforms, Christian holidays, government, Flat Stanley, and Texas goods and services.

**Science Concepts:** Science concepts taught include the five senses, wild and tame animals, matter, natural resources, recycling, the rainforest, the four seasons, weather, sun, moon and stars, plants and pushes and pulls.

**Specials:** Every school day, students attend one or two of the following: physical education, music, art, computer, library, Impact Education, or Spanish.

**Impact Education:** First graders make pretend passports to "travel" to global destinations. They learn about world cultures, religious beliefs, and personal stories of a child from each country that they visit. The focus of the learning experience is that God created all people groups and He loves each and every one of them.

**Lunch:** Summit has a full-service cafeteria where elementary students may either bring their lunch or purchase a hot lunch that is prepared on-site.

**Recess:** 30 minutes a day.

**Special Events:** National Day of Prayer at the Cedar Park courthouse, Science Fair, ACSI Speech Meet, and ACSI Young Authors and Illustrators Olympics.

**Service Project:** Through SCA's Summit Serves program, first grade students serve the community for a day by doing one of various projects throughout the community. Every year during the Christmas season, elementary students participate in a service project that helps meet the needs of other people groups. Some examples of past projects are: collecting blankets for a village in Afghanistan, making care bags for the homeless, and collecting gift cards for local families in crisis.