

Parents' Guide to Student Success in *Science* *First Grade*

Why Are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

Here are Some Things Your Child Will Be Working on in First Grade

- Identifying patterns in weather while using simple instruments
- Investigate what makes sound
- Understand the daily needs of plants and animals
- Learn how magnets attracts some things and not others
- Learn to follow rules to stay safe



Keeping the Conversation Focused:

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything instead keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In Grade 1, these include:

- How science relates to everyday situations in your child's life
- Places in the community that can help your child learn science

Help Your Child Learn at Home

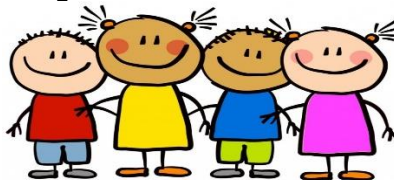
Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

- Ask your student what they learned today
- Check the homework and testing expectations so you can prepare your child
- Go on nature walks ☺

Resource: <http://www.pta.org/parents/> and <http://www.georgiastandards.org>

Grade 1

Nine Week Checkpoints for Parents and Students



Helpful Websites	
Science for Kids Discovery Kids NASA Climate Kids	National Geographic Kids NASA Kids' Club Ask a Biologist
First Nine Weeks	Second Nine Weeks
<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Weather</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make observations about weather • Collect weather data from each season • Explain weather findings through pictographs and bar graphs • Can use simple instruments to measure temperature, wind and precipitation • Compare and contrast changes in weather by seasons 	<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Needs of Living Things (Plants and Animals)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify parts of plant-root, stem, leaf and flower • Identify the basic needs and physical characteristics of plants • Identify the basic needs and physical characteristics of animals
Third Nine Weeks	Fourth Nine Weeks
<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Light and Sound</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe how light is required to make objects visible • Compare and contrast sources of light • Investigate how vibrations produce sounds • Identify emergency sounds and lights that keep me safe 	<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Magnets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how magnets attract and repel • Identify common objects that are attracted to magnets • Explain how magnets are used in used in everyday life