**Ms. Washington’s Classroom Syllabus**



**Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!**

A little bit about me… I was born in Louisville, Ga. I relocated to Philadelphia with my family when I was 2. I graduated high school in Philadelphia. I relocated back to Georgia a little after high school. Here I obtained my bachelor’s and master’s degree. I have worked with children nearly all my life in different capacities. This is my third-year teaching at Goshen. I have 7 years of teaching experience and 3 years on the collegiate level. I am looking forward to another exciting year of teaching, inspiring, learning, and fun.

**Contact Information**

  **Email: washibr@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us**

 **phone: 706 796-4646**

 **You can also send me a message me through our classroom DOJO!**

# Curriculum and Grades

In compliance with the Georgia Standards of Excellence for First Graders, the daily activities are carefully planned to encourage independence and self-confidence through large group, small group, and one-on-one participation. The focus of the curriculum centers around themed units and related selections of literature. This is the core of our integrated learning and these units of study will be used to extend across and connect all our content areas...because Goshen Dragons are Full STEAM Ahead!

 **● GRADES**

Students will be graded using standards-based grading. Grading will represent student progress towards meeting the academic standards using the rating scale below in each subject.

* Level 1= (Beginning Learner) Limited or minimum progress toward achievement of standard.
* Level 2= (Developing Learner) Progressing toward achievement of the standard.
* Level 3= (Proficient Learner) Consistently and independently achieves the standard.
* Level 4= (Distinguished Learner) Consistently and independently achieves the standard with evidence of exceeding the standard.

**Math:**

The first-grade math curriculum focuses on 5 major domains of math.

* + Developing Base Ten Number Sense
	+ Operations and Algebraic Thinking
	+ Understanding Place Value
	+ Sorting and Comparing
	+ Understanding Shapes and Fractions

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| **Course Assessment Plan*** Weekly observation through

Number Sense and NumberTalks* Unit/Topic Pre-Assessments &

Post Assessments | ●●● | **For the Math Average**Graded ClassworkTestsPerformance Based Tasks &Culminating Tasks |
| ● | Various Formative Assessments |  |

**Science:**

The first-grade science curriculum focuses on 4 major domains of science.

* + Weather
	+ Light and Sound
	+ Magnets

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| **Course Assessment Plan*** Unit Topic Pre-Assessments &

Post Assessments* Various Formative Assessments
 | ●●● | **For the Science Average**TestsIn Class ProjectsActive Participation OnScience Labs |

**English Language Arts:**

The first-grade ELA curriculum focuses on 4 major domains of ELA.

* + Ask Me Questions
	+ Give Me All the Details
	+ Show Me What You Know
	+ What’s the Same and Different

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| **Course Assessment Plan*** I-Ready Benchmarks
* Foundations Assessments
* County Pre-Tests and

Benchmarks* Various Classroom Activities
 | ●●●● | **For the ELA Average**Vocabulary and PhonicsAssessmentsWriting AssignmentsIn Class ProjectsReading Assessments |

**Social Studies:**

The first-grade social studies curriculum focuses on 5 major domains of social studies.

* + Our National Heritage
	+ A Changing Country
	+ Inventors in the United States
	+ Community Helpers
	+ We are Alike, We are Different

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| --- | --- |
| **Course Assessment Plan*** Unit/Topic Pre-Assessments &

Post Assessments* Various Formative Assessments
 | **For the Social Studies Average*** Graded Classwork
* Teacher Observation
* Formative Assessments
* In Class Projects
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 **● STEAM**

This year Goshen will be tremendously focusing on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math, also known as STEAM, as we work towards our STEAM Certification. While students will still be taught the traditional subjects, the lessons will often be integrated with STEAM concepts and materials. We will be incorporating STEAM projects by blending literature, math strategies, hands on science, and history. The first-grade curriculum will be challenging at times but is an exciting new way to learn.

**SPECIALS**

In addition to the subjects above, Students will attend PE, Art, and Music on a regular basis. Those teachers will handle grading for those subject areas.

**Classroom Guidelines**

* **Signed Papers and Behavior Charts**

Papers requiring signatures will go home weekly/bi-weekly via daily communication folders. Daily behavior charts will also be sent home in the communication folder. Please initial nightly next to the current date. Please be sure to go over papers and behaviors with your child, sign, and place them back in the communication folder. I will inform everyone of any policy changes asap.

* **Homework Policy and Procedure**

Our classroom uses a choice board for homework. Students should be studying spelling words and sight words daily as well as choosing one choice from the choice board to do with your words.

* **Communication**

Please keep me informed of any changes in contact information for you and your child. It is imperative that the school has up to date contact information for you and other emergency contacts so that by chance an emergency arises we will be able to contact you immediately. I will also need to be able to contact you when needed to discuss any issues (positive and negative) that may arise with your child. Email is the quickest way to contact me, or you can use Class DOJO.

* **Technology**

Our classroom will be using lots of technology! Students will use all of the technology available to us throughout the year to expand their knowledge of technology and how it can be used constructively in our daily lives.

* **Behavior**

When students enter our classroom, I expect them to try their very best when managing their behavior. Throughout the year, we will work on appropriate “first grade behavior” and taking responsibility for our actions. My goal is to create a classroom environment where all students succeed and feel safe and valued.

* + Daily behavior reports will be sent home in communication folders. Parents may also track student’s behavior using the Class Dojo app. NO news is GOOD news.
	+ Dojo points will be given throughout the week for positive classroom behaviors. Every Friday the students will be able to spend their DOJO points on different prizes based on how many points they earned that week.
	+ Dragon links are whole class behavior incentives. The class can earn links by making good choices and by being on their best behavior. For example: positive reports from subs or specials teachers, 100% homework completion, using teamwork, etc. Once the link chain reaches the floor, the class will celebrate and be rewarded with a party for an outstanding job.
* **Additional Information**

Additional information can be found on our classroom or school website. The

Parent Handbook can also be found on the Goshen Elementary Webpage with school wide policies. Please feel free to contact me via email with any additional questions you may have.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_