



# Valley Catholic First Grade Curriculum Overview

## Catholic

### Religious Instruction:

Following the Archdiocese new 21 core standards, we offer students the opportunity to grow their faith from scripture, prayers, service, Mass participation, and live according to church teaching through our SLE's.

### Physical Education:

Students develop strong gross motor strength through sports, swimming, tumbling, relay, and jump rope experiences.

### Art:

We support core content with crafts, some exposure to theater, and personal expression through different mediums.

We also offer Art Literacy!

### Library:

We enjoy Library weekly, where students grow their reading comprehension, library procedures, and support classroom content. Students grow personal responsibility by having a book to enjoy at home!!

### Technology:

Weekly classes to enhance different content areas as well as promote responsible use.

### Science:

We have incorporated the new NGSS standards ensuring a S.T.E.M approach to learning. We explore molecules to organism, Heredity, and Earths place in the Universe. Our favorite area is life science with a live chick unit!

### Math Readiness:

Utilizing the My Math program and IXL software as a learning center connection, students develop strong Problem Solving skills. We explore math vocabulary to help set the framework when they move into algebra. Students rotate through multisensory centers to grow comprehension.

### Spanish:

Students explore age-appropriate Spanish language concepts and culture through music, movement, and meaningful connections, with class twice a week for 35 minutes.

**Music:** Age appropriate Music theory, listening, rhythm and singing, and as a bonus Mass song preparation.

### Language Arts/ Reading Readiness:

Utilizing our Journeys program students grow in their phonemic understanding. Many cross curricular texts grow student comprehension, fluency, and accuracy.

We focus on a different grammar piece in each chapter and use Sitton spelling to support strong writers. Each student is aware of how to write a basic narrative, informational, and opinion piece.

### Health:

Second Step is our social-emotional program. We also meet in community circles to grow our compassion and empathy for our classmates. We follow the Jump Rope for heart program supporting healthy eating and exercise.

### Social Studies:

We explore cultural celebrations, national symbols, community, government and leaders, map skills, and celebrating National Holidays. A student is also honored each week.