

First Grade Spelling

First grade teachers will use the phonics program Letterland to support phonics and spelling instruction. We will follow the progression of skill listed below. As students develop spelling skills in first grade, please keep in mind that there are some words (sight words, or what Letterland calls tricky words) that students should be able to spell correctly once they are taught. There are also words that students should be able to use phonetic spelling to write. This means that a student can have misspellings and still earn a 3. Here are some examples of that: *skip* and *scip* would both be correct; *feet* and *feat* would both be correct because they both apply a long vowel pattern. Students need to be able to apply their phonics and spelling knowledge in the context of a sentence, not just in isolation with a list. We will formally assess spelling twice a quarter using dictation sentences that cover the phonics skills learned so far.

First Grade Progression of Phonics Skills for Spelling:

(Begin with consonant sounds already mastered in kindergarten)

Short vowel sounds

Blends

Digraphs

Silent E

Vowel Teams

R-controlled vowels