



charlottesville  
WALDORF SCHOOL

# FIRST GRADE: THE BRIDGE INTO ACADEMICS



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## **EASING INTO ACADEMICS, FIRST GRADE IN THE WALDORF SCHOOL BUILDS ON THE SKILLS OF A READINESS-CENTERED EARLY CHILDHOOD.**

When children enter the First Grade, they know that it is a Big Deal, and we do our best to show them that we understand that as well, through our expectations for their behaviour and demeanor, and by providing meaningful work to meet their Grade School selves.

*The First Grade marks a new stage of development, wherein children can begin to shift their focus from developing their physical bodies and becoming part of a group to the new challenge of academic learning.*

# ***The Whole to the Parts***

**NUMBER SENSE**

**THE FOUNDATIONS  
OF READING**

**BEGINS WITH A WHOLE,  
EXPERIENTIAL CONCEPT THAT  
THE CHILDREN CAN GRASP.**

**PROCEEDS INTO MORE ABSTRACT  
CONCEPTS AS THE STUDENTS'  
UNDERSTANDING EXPANDS.**



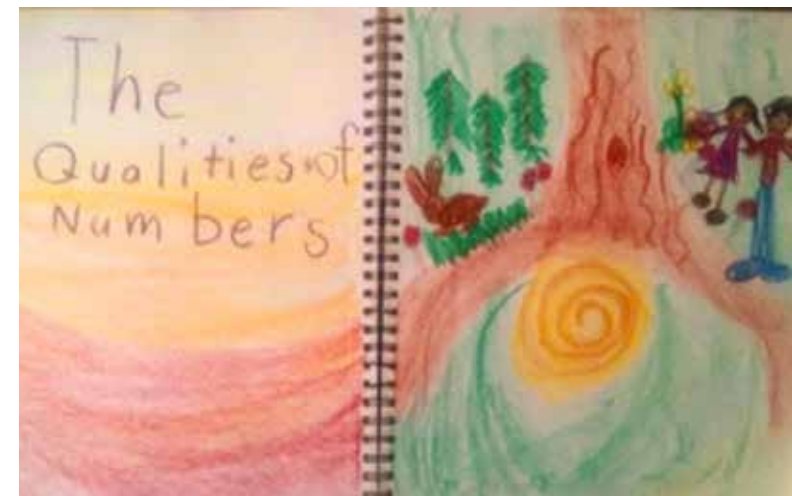
# *Number Sense*

**STARTING WITH THE LARGE AND WHOLE NUMBERS.**

**FINDING EXAMPLES OF NUMBERS IN THE CLASSROOM AND OUTDOORS.**

**LEARNING ALL FOUR OF THE BASIC OPERATIONS OF ARITHMETIC (ADDITION, SUBTRACTION, MULTIPLICATION, AND DIVISION) AT THE SAME TIME.**

**EACH ALGORITHM BECOMES A DISCOVERY.**



# *The Foundations of Reading*

**INTRODUCING EACH LETTER THROUGH STORYTELLING AND ARTISTIC RENDITIONS OF OBJECTS THAT RESEMBLE THE LETTER.**

**EXPERIENCING THE SHAPE AND SOUNDS OF EACH LETTER IN SEVERAL MEDIA.**

**WHEN CHILDREN LEARN WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF STORIES, THEIR LEARNING IS SOLID AND RICH.**



# *Storytelling and Fairy Tales*

**GATHERED FROM THE LITERATURE OF  
WORLD CULTURES.**

**CHOSEN BY EACH TEACHER TO BE  
PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE FOR THE  
CHILDREN IN THE CLASS.**

**INCLUDE ELEMENTS THAT SPEAK TO  
THE DEVELOPMENTAL CHALLENGES OF  
CHILDREN IN FIRST GRADE.**

**HELPERS ALONG THE WAY AND  
POSITIVE RESOLUTIONS ARE  
AFFIRMING AND REASSURING.**



# *Specialty Subjects*

## **HANDWORK**

Knitting with handmade needles

## **SPANISH**

Stories, songs, artwork, and festivals

## **MUSIC**

Pentatonic flute and singing

## **NATURE STUDY**

Quiet outdoor observation

## **MOVEMENT**

Cooperative games



# GRADE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Demonstrating the progression of subjects through the Waldorf grade school curriculum.

	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
<b>Mathematics</b>	Qualities of numbers, Counting, 4 Processes	4 Processes, Place value, Multiplication Tables	4 Processes, Long division, Measurement, Time	Review 4 Processes, Intro to Fractions	Fractions and decimals, Freehand geometry	Geometry, Percentages, Economics Ratio/Percent	Geometry, Practical/Consumer Math, Beginning Algebra	Geometry, Algebra I
<b>Language Arts</b>	Letters, letter sounds, blends, Word families, Handwriting, Introduction to Reading, Class Play	Writing sentences, Reading in Groups, Class Play	Grammar, Cursive, Individual Reading, Class Play	Grammar, Spelling, Punctuation, Composition, Reading, Class Play	Composition from outlines, Study of plots and characters, Grammar, Spelling, Class play	Composition, Research papers, Business writing, Class play	Creative writing, Grammar, Expository writing, Class play	Creative writing, Grammar, Research papers, Class play
<b>History/Social Studies</b>	Folk and Fairy Tales	Fables and Legends of Heroes and Saints	Stories of the Hebrew People, Native American Stories	Norse Myths, Virginia History	Ancient Civilizations: India, Persia, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece	Rome, Medieval Times, Early Islam	Renaissance Times, Age of Exploration	Revolutions, American History to Modern Times
<b>Geography</b>			Landscape Drawing	Virginia Geography, Map-Making	North American Geography	South American Geography	African Geography	Asian Geography
<b>Science</b>	Nature stories and observation	Nature stories and observation	Farming, Gardening, House Building, Cooking	Zoology	Botany	Astronomy, Geology, Physics, Gardening	Physics, Chemistry, Human Physiology and Nutrition, Gardening	Physics, Chemistry, Meteorology, Anatomy, Gardening
<b>Foreign Language: Spanish (Grades 1-8)</b>	Songs, Poems, Cultural activities	Songs, Poems, Cultural activities	Songs, Poems, Cultural activities	Writing, Reading simple texts, Simple grammar	Writing, Reading, Grammar, Simple dialogue	Writing, Reading, Grammar, Simple dialogue	Writing, Reading, Grammar, Dialogue	Writing, Reading, Grammar, Dialogue
<b>Handwork</b>	Knitting	Knitting and Purling	Crocheting, Simple Design, Fiber - wool cleaning, carding, and spinning	Design, Cross stitch, Simple embroidery	Knitting - socks or mittens (4 needles)	Hand stitching, Doll making	Hand sewing, Embroidery, Garments, Quilting	Sewing Machine, Bags, Simple clothing
<b>Woodwork</b>				Use of tools, carving and shaping	Use of tools, carving and shaping	Building projects	Building projects	Building Projects
<b>Fine Arts</b>	Wet-on-wet watercolor, Beeswax modeling, Form drawing	Wet-on-wet watercolor, Beeswax modeling, Form drawing	Wet-on-wet watercolor, Beeswax modeling, Form drawing	Painting, Drawing, Modeling, Form drawing	Painting, Drawing, Modeling, Form drawing	Painting, Drawing, Clay modeling	Perspective drawing, Clay modeling	Pastels, Drawing, Clay modeling
<b>Movement</b>	Story-based, imaginative and circle games	Story-based, imaginative games	Story-based, imaginative and ball-passing games	Strategy, 2-sided games, Basic ball skill games	Ball sports, Frisbee, Competitive team sports, Track & field	Team sports, Track & field	Team sports, Track & field	Team sports, Track & field
<b>Music</b>	Singing, Pentatonic Flute	Singing, Pentatonic Flute	Rounds, Diatonic Recorder, String Ensemble	Part songs, Soprano Recorder, String Ensemble	Recorder, 5/6 Choir, String Ensemble	Recorder, 5/6 Choir, String Ensemble, Songwriting	Soprano/Alto/Tenor/Bass Recorder, 7/8 Choir, 7/8 String Ensemble, Songwriting	7/8 Choir, 7/8 String Ensemble, Songwriting



*The Charlottesville Waldorf School  
builds a foundation that allows  
children to meet the future with  
courage, integrity, and a sense of service.*



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Contact our Admissions Office with any questions  
or to request an application.

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