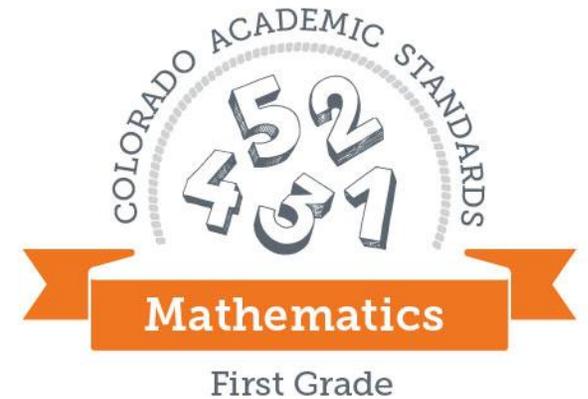


# A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



## Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for First Grade Mathematics. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

## Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

## Mathematics for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The mathematics standards in the elementary years focus on developing students' understanding of number and those concepts from geometry that strengthen students' ability to visualize number. In each grade students are asked to make sense of problems, explain their thinking, and show their world using mathematics.

## Where can I learn more?

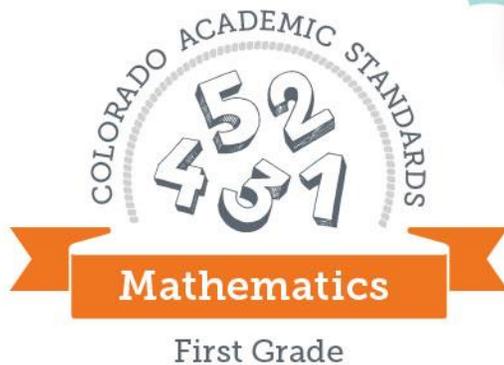
- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Mary Pittman, Mathematics Content Specialist at 303-854-4560, [Pittman\\_m@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Pittman_m@cde.state.co.us)



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

**Colorado**  
**PTA**  
everychild. onevoice.

At the end of  
First Grade,  
students can...



## Mathematics Learning Expectations for First Grade

### Number

Fluently (consistently) add and subtract within 10; mentally add or subtract 10 to any number; break apart numbers into groups of tens and ones; solve a variety of addition and subtraction word problems; and, use equations to show the relationship of numbers in a word problem ( $9 = ? + 4$ ).

### Measurement

Measure and compare the length of objects and tell time to the nearest hour and half-hour.

### Geometry

Join and break apart shapes to create new shapes; find halves and fourths of shapes.

## Throughout the First Grade, you may find students...

- Exploring the meaning of the equal sign (Does  $9 + 7 = 9 + 1 + 6$ ?).
- Using connections between addition and subtraction to solve problems (if  $5 + 7 = 12$  then what is  $12 - ? = 5$ ).
- Mentally adding ten to any number; breaking apart numbers into groups of tens and ones.
- Explaining the difference between seven, seventeen and seventy.
- Frequently comparing the lengths of objects; measuring objects using a variety of units; solving addition and subtraction involving lengths.
- Breaking apart shapes into halves and fourths in a variety of ways; connecting the idea of a half hour on a clock face to a circle divided in half.