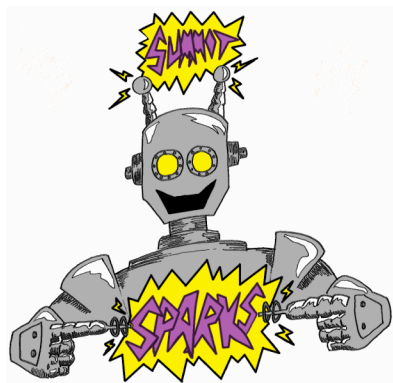


Miss Appel's 1st Grade PARENT PACKET



WELCOME TO SUMMIT ROAD STEM!

SUMMIT ROAD STEM ELEMENTARY

8591 Summit Road
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Principal: Dee Martindale

MISS APPEL'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Miss Katie Appel
E-mail: kappel@reyn.org
Website: www.readingresource.net/missappel
Blog: www.twocandoit.blogspot.com
Facebook: [readingresourcenet/69919142402](https://www.facebook.com/readingresourcenet/69919142402)
Twitter: [readingresource](https://twitter.com/readingresource)

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please cut out and save your Box Tops for Education that you find on many of your household items. They are used to purchase things for our school! You can turn them in at anytime in a closed bag or envelope with your child's name, my name, and the number of Box Tops.

BIRTHDAYS

Treats are always welcome for birthdays. Let me know three days in advance if your child will be bringing in something to share with the class. We will arrange a time at the end of the school year to celebrate all of the "unbirthdays" (summer birthdays). I WILL NOT allow students to bring invitations to a party outside of school unless there are invitations for every child in the classroom! (I can't provide you with addresses/phone numbers of students in the classroom).



BOOK CLUBS

Book club orders will come home periodically. They are optional, but great and inexpensive way to buy reading material for your child. Please send in checks made out to the book club in a sealed envelope. NO CASH PLEASE!

BRAIN BOOST

In the fast paced society of this 21st century, it is important to stay mentally fit. Each morning your child will be participating in a 10-20 "Brain Boost" to do just that. Students may be working independently or with a group of peers. If you have any activities/explorations you think we'd enjoy, send them my way!

DIBELS

DIBELS is used at Summit Road to assess a child's reading skills. DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) is a set of standardized, individually administered measures of early literacy development. The four measures we will be using in first grade are: Letter Naming Fluency, Phoneme Segmentation Fluency, Nonsense Word Fluency, and oral Reading Fluency. Each measure takes about one minute to assess. I will go into further details regarding DIBELS at a later time.

GUIDED READING (DAILY FIVE)

Guided Reading provides opportunity for first grade teachers to tailor direct instruction to each student's specific reading and writing needs. Based on DIBELS assessments and classroom observations, I will select text that will support the selected focus and meet the needs of the groups. Each student will be given a special reading bag that contains materials to practice at home. Please make sure these bags are returned to school the next



ABSENCES AND EARLY DISMISSALS

Please send in a note to school explaining your child's absence or call the office. Please let me know in advance of any absences so that assignments can be sent home. All missed work needs to be turned in.

ASSIGNMENT LOGS & TAKE-HOME FOLDERS



Each child will be given an assignment log during the first week of school. This is my way of communicating with you about homework assignments or any other information you need to know. Your job is to check it each night with your child, sign or initial the bottom, and make sure that it comes back to school each day. We will also be using a take-home communication folder to send papers to and from school. Please make sure to check and clean out this folder each night. This folder needs to come back to school each day!

day! (Refer to "Book-In-A-Bag" note for more information!)

HANDWRITING



We will be using the D'Nealian Handwriting Program. This is a little different than traditional manuscript, but helps make an easier transition to cursive. We will spend some time in the beginning of the year practicing handwriting, but will be carried out during centers for the remainder of the year.

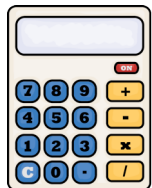
HOMEWORK

I do **NOT** send home packets of work for your child each week. I prefer to send activities home as I see them necessary. Look for "Investigations Homework" to come home 2-3 nights each week. Homework must be completed each night and returned to school the next day (unless otherwise instructed). It is my expectation that first grade students practice the following each night:

- Math Fact to 18 (Adding and Subtracting)
- Reading 10-20 Minutes
- Sight word Practice (Sound Focus words)

*POETRY ANTHOLOGIES will be sent home on Thursdays and must be returned to school on Friday!

INVESTIGATIONS (MATH)



Summit Road has adopted the Investigations series for grades K-4. Investigations for first grade will help students explore problems in depth, find more than one way of solving many of the problems they encounter, reason mathematically and develop problem-

solving strategies, explain and examine their mathematical thinking and reasoning, represent their thinking using models, diagrams, and graphs, make connections between mathematical ideas, prove their ideas to others, develop proficiency with arithmetic, choose from a variety of tools and appropriate technology, and work in a variety of groupings.

Every child will have 9 "Student Activity Books" (one for each unit) that will contain activity sheets, recording sheets for games, homework sheets, and practice pages.

The major objectives in first grade math are place value, problem solving, and learning the addition and subtraction facts through 18. Fluency of math facts is very important. Please spend 5-10 minutes each night practicing with your child. Please document how many minutes your child practices their math facts at home on the "Math Minutes" sheet. In a few weeks we will be taking weekly timed tests to increase addition and

subtraction fluency. We will also be learning these math skills this year:

- Patterning
- Skip counting
- Solving story problems
- Counting coins up to \$1.00
- Telling time to the hour and half-hour
- Fractions
- Measuring in centimeters and inches

LUNCH

The cost of lunch is \$1.65. Milk can be purchased for \$0.35. If your child will be buying most of the time, I would recommend paying weekly or monthly. Checks or cash needs to be placed in a sealed bag with your child's name and the amount of money enclosed.

MANAGEMENT (SPARK/FIVE C's)

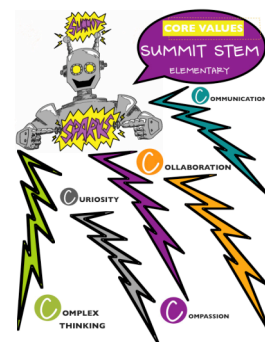
Summit Road has adopted a school-wide "SPARK" initiative that will guide our behavior system in the classroom! We will be learning the different ways to "SPARK" in different areas of the building as the year progresses. Check out the picture on the left to see what "SPARK" means!



Summit has also established core habits (5 C's) that we will be discussing in depth in the classroom and as a school. The

Five C's are characteristics of successful 21st century learners (Collaboration, Communication, Curiosity, Complex Thinking, and Compassion).

Students who are unable to demonstrate appropriate behavior will sign the "Reminder Binder". This is similar to many "card flips" that are in kindergarten classrooms, only we will keep this in a binder and take it with us when we are working with different teachers in the building. Below helps you see the different markings we have:



Markings in "The Reminder Binder"

- 0 desired behavior (Keep it up!)
- 1 verbal warning
- 2 Time out/Redirection
- 3 Note and/or Call Home
- 4 visit to the Principal's office

We will also have a positive behavior "Look Book" which celebrates the great choices that first graders make.

It works in much the same way as the "Reminder Binder" with 1-4 steps. (You'll know when your child signs The Look Book, it's a pretty big deal!)

Markings in "The Look Book"	
1	Miss A is Proud & will Give Me a Squeezy Hug
2	Add a Ball to our First Grade Jar
3	Send a Note Home or Call MY Parents
4	write a Note to Mrs. Martindale

other "positives" include:

- Classroom "Compliment Container" Incentive
- Classroom "Perfect Attendance" Incentive
- Classroom "Brownie Points" Incentive
- Classroom "Super Centers" Incentive

NEWSLETTER

This year, Team Schappelkins will be sending home paper newsletters every once in a while, but will be creating video newsletters each week that will be posted on our team page (which we are still working on!) I will let you know more information soon! (Mr. Schottner will be on the video out-takes. I don't do well in front of cameras!)

POETRY ANTHOLOGY

Every week we will be working on one poem in which we read, sing, act out, highlight sight words, and illustrate. They will be placed in spiral notebooks that are sent home every Thursday. Please encourage your child to read them to you and help them with difficult words. These Poetry Anthologies are to be returned the next school day (Friday). Please make sure they are taken care of. We will be using them throughout the whole year.

PTO

Information will be coming home regarding our PTO. I hope you decide to join and get involved. Our PTO is responsible for so many of the fun and rewarding activities we have here at Summit Road. You can follow our PTO on Facebook!

READING AT HOME/READING WEB

Each night I encourage the first graders to read anywhere from 10-20 minutes a day. This includes listening to books on tape, being read to, shared reading, paired reading, and reading alone. Students will bring home a Reading Log and keep track of how many books they read. Once they are finished, they bring back the log SIGNED BY A PARENT. For each book that is read, a paper clip will be hung and added to our Reading web. We will keep track of how many books we read altogether. This should be a fun activity for you and your child each night. Just remember, the best way for your child to become a better reader is to READ, READ, READ!

READINGRESOURCE & TWOCANDOIT

ReadingResource.net is a website that I have been working on with a colleague of mine (Steve Griffin) from Slate Ridge Elementary. The site is dedicated to helping teachers, parents, or anyone interested in teaching children how to read. You will find the reading activities that your child is working on in the classroom. I will also be running my classroom webpage from this site. I will be posting links, resources, newsletters, and other classroom information for you to check out. (Click on the link "Miss Appel" to see our classroom webpage!) From my page you will also be able to access my new blog (www.twocandoit.blogspot.com) that I will be posting pictures and videos of our classroom happenings! Please look for further information and "Consent to Photograph" and return it to Miss Appel as soon as possible.



RELATED ARTS SCHEDULE

This is the tentative schedule for Miss Appel's Class. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately!

- MONDAY: Health & Wellness
- TUESDAY: Creative Arts
- WEDNESDAY: Media Center
- THURSDAY: Schappelkins' Games
- FRIDAY: Innovation Station

SOUND FOCUS

Each week first graders will be working on 5-10 words that contain the same sound. For example, a list of words for the sound /ae/ might be: *eight, play, weigh, take, & became*. All of the above words contain the long a sound. We will be learning about the different vowel sound combinations throughout the entire year. At the end of each week, students will be given a "Sound Focus Assessment" that incorporates those words along with language arts and math indicators we've learned. It is not a typical "Spelling Test". It is important for you to spend time EACH NIGHT practicing these words with your child. For ideas check out www.readingresource.net and click on "Sight words" for ways to help your child at home!

STAR SCIENTIST

Each student will have the opportunity to be the star scientist for a week. (A schedule will be sent home during the first 1-2 weeks of school). Miss Appel will be the first star scientist to demonstrate what it will look like! One of the MAJOR responsibilities of the star scientist is to create some type of electronic biography that I will post on my blog. I will give further instructions soon! Here are some other privileges that your child will have as "star scientist" just to name a few:

MONDAY	Share photos with the class.
TUESDAY	Lunch with Team Schappelkins
WEDNESDAY	Read a favorite book to the class (Keep selections to 10 minutes!)
THURSDAY	Share science experiment with the class
FRIDAY	Assist in morning Brain Boost/Share electronic biography with the class

TAKE-HOME BOOKS (BINDERS)

Throughout the school year your child will have the opportunity to take home some very special books. I feel that milestones should be celebrated with family, friends, and peers! When these books come home, it is your child's responsibility to write and draw in them and return them to school the next day in case they need to go home with another student! You can also add photographs if you wish! Here are some books you will see (but Miss Appel will probably create a few more!)



- The Boo-Boo Book
- The Tooth Fairy Journal
- The Birthday Book
- The Adventures of "Socko the Sock Monkey"
- The Adventures of Mr. Ribbits (Yeh, he's a frog)
- What a Hoot (All things funny and gross)

TEAM SCHAPPELKINS

Mr. Schottner and I like to combine our classes often, and now that Mrs. Jenkins is with us, we get to add another teacher to the mix! We will be taking our classes outside for 20-30 minutes to compete in "Team Schappelkins' Relay Games" that review the language arts and math indicators for that week. We will also do "super Tasty Treats" as a following the directions and engineering activity. Please look for a list of supplies that we will need, if you are able to donate, we'd appreciate it!

TRANSPORTATION



Your child must have a note or call the office if s/he is not going home in the usual manner. Please do NOT leave messages on my voicemail about changes in transportation. I do not always have time to check it at the end of the day.

VOLUNTEERS

Anyone is welcome to help out in the classroom. I will be sending home a form for you to fill out if you are available to help out. I will try to send out information about field trips, etc. as soon as possible so you can participate. If you aren't able to help out at school and are willing to do some things from home, please let me know!

