

Welcome to 1st Grade American Math



Dear Parents,

This will be a MATHnificent year!!! I am delighted to have your scholar in my class. Your family and I will make a great team to cheer for your scholar's success.

As the days go by, I will inform you of the class plans, your scholar's progress, upcoming quizzes or tests, school events and other activities that arise. Your involvement in your scholar's education is very important.

Remember we are a team!! If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at jessica.varela@archimedean.org.

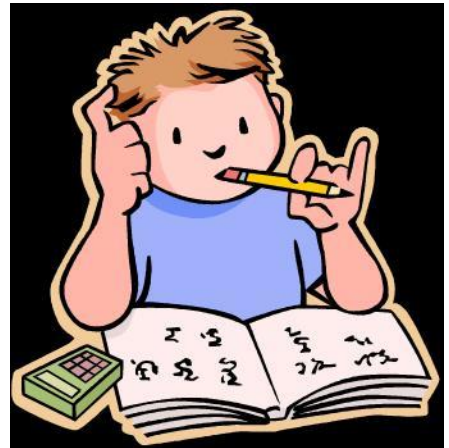
Regards,

*Jessica Varela
1st Grade American Math
Archimedean Academy*

Homework

I assign a weekly homework package. Your scholar will have daily math homework. You will be able to print homework from the Archimedean website at: sis.archimedean.org

Please check that your scholar completes his/her daily homework. This is when we team up! I will teach your scholar important math standards during school hours, and you oversee your scholar completes the math assignments at home. Please initial after your scholar completes each daily assignment. I will collect the homework packet the following Monday and will assign a grade for completion. I will also assign mid-chapter reviews to help prepare your child for upcoming quizzes or tests.



I-ready

Scholars need to complete 45 minutes of I-ready weekly. I-ready will be reviewed the following Monday and will be assigned a separate homework grade for completion. At the end of the quarter, a Test grade will be assigned based on the scholar's I-ready average for the end of the quarter.

Thinkcentral

THINK CENTRAL is an interactive website used to help reinforce mathematical concepts taught in the American Math class. Lessons will be assigned based on the chapters covered in class. This is an optional, not mandatory. It is a great tool in case your scholar was absent or would like to reinforcement or to prepare for upcoming test.

Archimedean Academy Grading Scale & Assignment Category Weight

Test = 40%

Quizzes and Projects = 35%

Classwork = 18%

Homework = 7%

American Math quizzes are not announced. Test will be announce on the homework packet. Graded test and quizzes will be sent home for review and for parent signature and returned back to class.

All quiz and test questions are read to the scholars.





Dear Parents,

This year our school will continue to implement a program called *i-Ready® Diagnostic & Instruction* that will provide our students with an innovative diagnostic assessment and engaging instruction. The focus of this online program is reading and math.

i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction helps teachers to effectively assess their students and then provide individualized instruction based on each student's unique needs.

i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction assesses and teaches the following skill areas:

Math

- Number and Operations
- Algebra and Algebraic Thinking
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry

i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction begins by giving students an adaptive assessment in reading or math.

An adaptive assessment is a test that automatically adjusts the difficulty of the questions according to each student's performance in order to determine his or her abilities in reading or math. Before your child begins the assessment, it's important to set appropriate expectations.

i-Ready is a very different kind of test that presents students with questions that can be both too easy and too hard. It is designed to do this until the assessment finds exactly the level at which the student is performing. Therefore, your child will certainly see some items above his or her level. Encourage your child to independently complete the test to the best of his or her ability, and know that it is okay to get questions wrong.

Each time a student gets an item incorrect, he or she will be presented with a simpler question until the diagnostic finds the grade level at which the student is performing. The assessment efficiently assesses students across multiple grade levels, allowing for identification of root causes of students' struggles or for identification of areas where a student is ready for further challenge. This information will then provide the teacher with a "road map" to instructional remediation.

Once your child completes the test, he or she will be assigned online instruction to support his or her progress in mastering each skill. The online instruction is designed to be both challenging and engaging. *i-Ready* delivers instruction using engaging, contemporary animation; the lessons are also interactive. The result is an experience that attracts and holds your child's interest while also teaching important skills and concepts. These lessons are proven to help students grow academically.

In addition, *i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction* supports the teachers and administrators at your child's school. The program provides a series of comprehensive reports designed to make classroom instruction more effective. These reports include data about student performance as well as detailed teaching suggestions. They help educators make informed decisions about the instruction that is right for your child.

Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office or your child's teacher.

Your Partners in Education,



Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
Why are some questions so hard?	To enable a precise assessment, i-Ready Diagnostic is designed so that students will answer about 50% of the questions incorrectly. We need to understand what's too easy, what's too hard, and what's just right.
Why isn't there an "I don't know" option?	It is critical for the test design that the student answers the question correctly or incorrectly so that the test can adapt to an easier or more difficult question. For example, when students have an "I don't know" choice and they lack confidence, they are likely to select "I don't know" even when they may know the answer. It is better if they make an educated guess, as that provides a much more accurate estimate of a student's ability than giving them the option of "I don't know."
Should I help my child during the test?	You may help your child with any technical issues, such as adjusting your computer's speakers, but it is important that your child completes the test independently to the best of his or her ability so that we can get an accurate read and deliver instruction at his or her unique level.
Is i-Ready Diagnostic a timed test?	No, encourage your child to take his or her time on the test. It may be helpful to take the test over two sessions.

For more information on *i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction*, please visit the Curriculum Associates website at www.CurriculumAssociates.com.



Please take time to speak to your scholar about his/her classroom behavior.

1. Respect adults and peers alike.
2. Follow directions at all times.
3. Raise your hand to speak or stand.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
5. Be safe, be kind, and be honest!

PROCEDURES

Mrs. Varela's follows a behavior traffic light chart. Each day the scholars begin their day on green on the behavior traffic chart. If for some reason a scholar fails to follow the rules, the scholar will be asked to change the color on the chart as follows:

Green: means the scholar is ready to learn.

Yellow: Verbal warning/redirection to make better choices. Note will be send in the agenda.

Red: Parent will be contacted via email requesting a Parent/Teacher meeting. In the meeting, we will discuss how, we can help the scholar make better choices.

If during the class hour, the scholar improves the behavior, the scholar will have the opportunity to move back the colors to end in green.

REWARDS

Scholars who regularly follow class rules will receive positive notices home, treasure box treats, and participation in special class events.

Parent-Teacher Conference



Collaborating for Success

Communication is key to your scholar's success and a great parent/teacher relationship. If you would like to schedule a conference, please send me an email. I will be available to meet Monday through Friday, mornings from 7:30 am to 8:00 am or afternoons, from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.