

**Grace Christian Academy  
Course Description**

**Course Title:** 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Reading  
**Course Length:** Full Year

**Class Meetings (Per Week):** 5 times per week  
**Textbooks:** A Beka Reading Series, Level 1  
A Beka Publishing Co.

**General Course Description:** This is a course designed to help children learn to read with understanding and appreciation so that they will be able to read the Bible with understanding, acquire good character traits, and read for knowledge and pleasure.

**Biblical Principles:**

**To know and apply God’s Word to our lives. (Psalm 105)**

**To read His Word with understanding and hide it in our heart. (Psalms 119:11)**

**To obey the command “to give attendance to the reading of scripture”. (1Timothy 4:13)**

**General Course Content:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:**

Fun with Pets

Tiptoes

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:**

Stepping Stones

Secrets and Surprises

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:**

Open Windows

Kind and Brave

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:**

Strong and True

Aesop’s Fables

**Related Student Objectives/Learner Objectives:**

The Student will learn:

1. To blend consonant and vowel sounds
2. To identify and apply one and two vowel rules
3. To build word analysis skills and apply to reading
4. To build vocabulary
5. To increase in reading comprehension
6. To identify and read special sounds such as ay in pray, st in stop, pl in plane, fr in frog, tr in train, and sh in ship
7. To read, identify and chart words with special sounds like th in this, bl in block, and cl in clock
8. To identify and read blend sounds
9. To identify and read special sounds of the week
10. To identify and read special sounds as ow in bowl, er in verse, ur in nurse, and ir in bird
11. To identify and read words with short e and write them
12. To identify and read the short i sound in words such as sit, hit, big, dig, in, pin, it & will
13. To identify and apply the suffixes like y in rainy, er in bigger, est in biggest, and ly in slowly
14. To identify and read words with the long o sound

15. To identify and read words where an e at the end of a word makes the first vowel long
16. To identify and read the special sounds as ought in thought, aught in caught, g in giant, dge in fudge, an a in asleep
17. To identify apply prefixes correctly
18. To identify and read the special sounds, cl, sl, and st
19. To identify and read special sounds en, in enjoy, un, in unbutton, al, in also, and be, in because
20. To identify the blends tr, fr, and gr
21. To identify and read the special sounds wr in wrinkle, ould in could, and air in hair
22. To integrate spelling and writing by writing a sentence using everyday words
23. To identify the correct words to use in sentences to identify present and past tense
24. To identify and read special sounds as tion in nation sion in missionary
25. To identify and read special sounds as tion in nation sion in missionary
26. To read with smoothness, speed, accuracy, expression and an alertness to punctuation
27. To recall events of a story in proper sequence
28. To read with comprehension and draw conclusions from the facts given in a story
29. To demonstrate the following qualities of good oral reading:
  - Smoothness – reading by phrases rather than word
  - Alertness to punctuation – pausing at a comma by word, dropping voice at a period while raising it at a question mark
  - Volume – reading loudly enough to be heard
  - Enunciation, poise and expression
  - Speed and accuracy
30. Complete reading homework as assigned

**Presentation Method:**

- Reading circle five times a week
- Assigned reading for homework 4 times week

**Evaluation and Grading Methods:**

- Oral reading comprehension questions
- Individual oral reading grade is also evaluated during reading circle
- Completion of assigned reading at home
- Assessment of high frequency words, phonological awareness, fluency, and comprehension
- Grading Scale:

E = Exceeds Expectations	+ = Commendable
M=Meets Expectations	√ = Acceptable
N =Needs Further Development	— = Area of Concern

**Enrichment and/or Supplemental Activities:**

- Reading A to Z Guided Reading Program (Leveled readers are used for homework)
- Incentive Reading Programs:
  - Book It Reading Program
  - Raging Rivers Reading Program
  - Six Flags Reading Program
  - Subway Reading Program
- Read Charlotte's Web for a first grade novel unit (Higher level readers)