

June 2019

# The Month Ahead At Innova

Heidi completed an Honours Bachelor Degree in Arts/Science and a Bachelor Degree in Education at Lakehead University. Heidi spent her first year teaching on an Aboriginal Reservation in Quebec and then moved to Newmarket where she was introduced to classical Christian Education through Innova Academy. She was immediately impressed with the respect, self-discipline and perseverance that was displayed in the students of Innova Academy. Heidi is honoured to now work at Innova Academy as the Grade 1 teacher. Heidi loves history, sports and her Sunday School kids. Most of all, Heidi is grateful for the opportunity to share the love of God with her students every day.



Heidi Di Marco  
Teacher

Grade 1



Grade 1  
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*Grade 1 students are actively engaged in learning foundational knowledge and skills in all subject areas. Our classroom is filled with singing, chanting, movement, and engaging hands-on activities. We seek to provide a safe and nurturing classroom environment where students can deepen their awareness of God's love and relationship with Him, as well as meet their potential for academic success.*

**Christian Education:** During the month of June, students will continue to memorize Psalm 136:1-9. Throughout the month, students will explore Paul's missionary journeys by focusing on the following topics:

- Paul and Barnabas are sent on a journey
- Lystra and Derbe
- Timothy, Paul, and Silas
- Paul's vision of the man of Macedonia
- Paul and Silas in jail

**Reading Fluency:** Grade 1 students' reading instruction is individualized based on individual reading assessments. Students will build and refine oral reading fluency and reading comprehension skills by reading in both large and small groups, individually, and at home. Throughout the year, students will:

- Apply phonics skills to reading unfamiliar words
- Continue to build sight word proficiency
- Read clearly with expression observing punctuation
- Use context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words
- Read for meaning and respond to content questions
- Draw inferences from the text

**Literature and Vocabulary:** In June, students will read a collection of stories from the *Frog and Toad* series by Arnold Lobel. Stories include: *Frog and Toad are Friends*, *Spring*, *The Story*, *A Lost Button*, *A Swim*, and *A Letter*. Students will:

- Discuss the moral lesson of each story and its connection with biblical teachings
- Answer questions that require formulating interpretations, making judgements, and explaining opinions
- Compare and contrast characters from different stories

**Spelling, Phonics, and Penmanship:** Spelling, phonics, and penmanship will be learned together using *Spell to Write and Read* and *Cursive First*. Using a variety of activities and games, students will practice their spelling words and review phonograms. Students will:

- Learn 15 new spelling words each week
- Use those 15 spelling words to construct sentences each week
- Review the 70 phonograms they have learned throughout the year

**Grammar and Writing:** In June, students will explore various studying skills. They will also learn how to write a research report. Specifically, students will:

- Learn how to organize words in alphabetical order
- Learn how to find words in a dictionary
- Gather information from the cover of a book
- Distinguish between fiction and nonfiction
- Plan, draft, edit, proofread, and publish a research report

**Latin:** In Latin this month, Grade 1 students will learn the following types of vocabulary words:

- Gardening words
- Words about playing outdoors

# Grade 1 – The Grammar Stage

Innova Academy's grammar school curriculum builds a solid academic foundation, emphasizing mastery of facts and fundamental skills. Grammar stage students have the natural ability to retain large amounts of information, so Innova intentionally builds knowledge across the curriculum immersing students in a holistic, unified, and rich learning experience. Students are actively engaged in learning while applying skills they have previously acquired to new, expansive content. Classrooms are filled with singing, chanting, movement, and engaging hands-on activities. Strong habits of heart, mind, and soul are reinforced, as students become more aware of their impact on others and build skills in self-governance and responsibility.

**History:** This year, students are studying Canada, focusing on Canada's geography, symbols, early settlers, and communities. This month, students will continue to learn about what daily life was like for the early settlers of Upper Canada. They will then learn how Upper Canada continued to change and became the country of Canada we live in and enjoy today. Students will study:

- The various jobs of tradespeople in villages
- The buildings that made up a village
- The fall fair
- Changes on the farm
- Changes in transportation
- Changes in jobs

**Mathematics:** Grade 1 students begin each mathematics period practicing math facts with the CalculLadder math drill program. Students progress through this program on an individual basis. In the month of June, students will complete a unit on numbers to 120. Students will also spend time reviewing mathematical concepts that have been learned throughout the year. Specifically, students will:

- Review counting to 100
- Identify place value
- Compare and order numbers
- Identify and extend patterns

**Science:** June is an exciting time in science class because students have the privilege of enjoying God's creation in the school! Students are anxiously awaiting the hatching of eggs in the kindergarten classroom. When the chicks hatch, the students will be taking them back to their home on the farm. This month students will study:

- The lifecycle of a chicken
- The development of a chick inside an egg
- The nutritional value of an egg

**Visual Arts:** Students will learn how to draw people in correct proportion and create a landscape scene in watercolour. Students will focus on:

- Composition
- Watercolour techniques

**Music:** In music class, June is primarily a review month. Students will cover all the areas of music learned throughout the year in the form of games and musical activities. They will also explore music history and critical listening. Topics include:

- Solfege singing
- Rhythm syllables and notation
- Peter and the Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev

**Physical Education:** During physical education time, students will have opportunities to develop spatial awareness, balance, and coordination using their bodies and a variety of equipment. Throughout the year, students are led to develop good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month's topics include:

- Rhythm and movement
- Travelling and counting
- Keeping the beat
- Creative dances

*Please note that although students in different grades often study the same topic, curricular expectations are tailored to individual grade levels.*

## Upcoming Events

- June 3 – AMICA Presentation (JK-2)
- June 4 – Prayer Meeting in Room A at 8:30 a.m. – Parents Welcome AND Lunch Lady Lunch
- June 6 – Spring Concert/Musical & Art Show – 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- June 7 – Pizza Lunch
- June 10 – Green Acres Field Trip (JK-2)
- June 11 – Lunch Lady Lunch
- June 15 – End of Year Picnic at the Makarenkos' – 12-2:00 p.m.
- June 18 - Last Day of Classes (noon dismissal) Reports Sent Home AND Grade 8 Graduation

Innova Academy aspires to graduate young men and women who will possess the virtues, wisdom, knowledge, and skills necessary for further academic study.