

May 2021

The Month Ahead

At Innova

Grade 1

Miss Tiffany Gray

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Tiffany holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Alberta, a diploma in Early Childhood Education, and TESOL certification. She has worked overseas in South Korea and the UK as a grammar stage teacher. Tiffany has also worked as an educational assistant for children with special needs. Her love for the classical model grew after she was introduced to it by a fellow teacher and friend. Tiffany grew up in Hamilton and just recently moved to the Newmarket area. When Tiffany is not teaching, she can be found reading, enjoying time at the beach with her dog Zoey, serving in various ministries at church, and spending time with family.



Miss Tiffany Gray
Teacher

Grade 1

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.

Bible: This month, grade 1 students will continue discussing Moses. God preserved the Israelites, delivered them from Egypt, prepared them to worship Him, and brought them to the promised land. God took loving care of the Israelites and kept His promises to them. Areas of study this month include:

- The Ten Commandments
- Building the Tabernacle
- Spies in the land

History: During the month of May, grade 1 students will investigate the world of famous Canadians. This month's famous Canadians are:

- Sir John A. Macdonald
- Sir Sanford Fleming
- Lucy Maud Montgomery
- Terry Fox

Literature: In literature this month, students will continue their study on fairy tales, fables, proverbs, and parables using the *Classics for Young Readers* anthology. Students will focus on:

- Fairy tales and proverb - similarities and differences and identifying the moral lessons of each
- Reading aloud and presentation skills
- Exploring how to make and support inferences
- Identifying story sequence
- Developing comprehension skills by retelling the beginning, middle, and end of a story
- Learning the characteristics of folktales and recognizing words that indicate a story is from long ago

Spelling: This month, students will complete sections J-6, K-1-K-2 of the SWR program. Students will:

- Practice making word pictures better by using adjectives
- Write a class story using the spelling words
- Modify nouns using the questions: "What kind? How many? Which one?"
- Write original sentences
- Practice identifying compound words
- Practice matching multi letter phonograms to a word that contains them

Writing and Grammar: In writing and grammar this month, students will begin a unit about inventive writing. Poems include: "The Wind", "A Kite", "Robin in the Rain", and "The Little Seed". Students will:

- Learn to create a "brain inventory"
- Create outlines on a single topic, choosing details by asking questions
- Summarize a topical paragraph using the outline

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.

- Use the topic/clinchier rule
- Apply the rule that each paragraph has a purpose

Latin: The grade 1 class will study Latin vocabulary related to the following themes:

- Weather: snow, rain, wind, cloud, rainbow
- The Seasons: winter, fall, spring, summer

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will focus on *Chapter 16: Numbers to 100*, and *Chapter 17: Addition and Subtraction to 100*. Areas of study include:

- Counting to 100
- Place Value
- Comparing, ordering, and patterns
- Addition and subtraction with and without regrouping

Science: Over the course of this month, students will complete their unit of study related to the human body focusing on our brain and senses. Our next unit of study to begin in the month of May is plants. Students will explore the following topics:

- The brain and sending messages
- Nerves and cells
- The senses: seeing, hearing, taste, smell, touch
- Planting seeds
- Recording observations

Visual Arts: In May, students will explore three-dimensional forms through their study of different iconic structures around the world. Additionally, students will:

- Recognize different forms within their surroundings
- Create their own 3-dimensional forms using paper and found objects
- Explain how the elements and principles of design can communicate meaning in a piece of art

Music: This month, grade 1 students will learn spring themed repertoire, expand their knowledge of the voice, and do some listening exercises. More specific activities will include:

- Spring concert repertoire
- Identifying head voice and chest voice
- Singing in solfege
- Identifying rhythmic values
- Music history

Physical Education: During the stay-at-home order, students are encouraged to spend time outside and enjoy God's creation through exercise. This month, students are encouraged to:

- Engage in outdoor activities to enjoy fresh air and to develop healthy habits
- Go to the park and practice swinging, sliding, climbing, and playing kindly with others

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

Upcoming Events

May 3, 10 & 17 – Apologetics For Innova Parents With Tim Barnett

May 5 – Community Safety Village (virtual) – grade 1 – 11:00

May 7 – Community Safety Village (virtual) - grade 2 – 1:30

May 10 – Walk Through Literature Day

May 14 – House Spelling B Competition

May 24 – Victoria Day – No School

May 28 – Community Safety Village (virtual) – SK – 9:00

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