

November 2020

The Month Ahead At Innova

Grade 1

Miss Tiffany Gray

tgray@innovaacademy.ca



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: In Grade 1, students move beyond the study of individual Bible characters to see how God's people and their leaders were part of God's plan for salvation. While focusing on God's perfect creation, students move through the introduction of sin into the world, the covenants God made with His people, and how He kept His promises despite the people's unfaithfulness. Areas of study this month include:

- Creation- Days 1-4 and 5-7
- The fall into sin
- Cain and Abel
- Noah and the Flood
- The tower of Babel

History and Geography: Grade 1 students explore Canadian history and geography, including the map of Canada, symbols of Canada, the pioneers, and famous Canadians. Our focus this month is on our second unit: Physical Map of Canada, including:

- The Appalachians
- The Lowlands
- The Canadian Shield
- The Arctic
- The Plains
- The Mountains

Literature: In literature this month, students will study two novels: *The Little House*, and *Madeline*. Students will:

- Ask and answer key questions about the text and retell the stories
- Identify the central message of the story along with words and phrases that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses
- Identify who is telling the story at various points in a text
- Describe characters, setting, and events
- Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters

Spelling: This month, students will be covering sections D, E, F, and G of our SWR spelling program. Students will:

- Write words and sentences from dictation and practice editing rules after writing the sentence
- Hear, say, and read the new phonograms learned
- Review phonograms taught to date
- Identify and write spelling words from clues (antonyms, synonyms, rhyming)
- Hear and see the five spellings of /er/ in the English language
- Write sentences using spelling words
- Identify adjectives, nouns, and verbs within a sentence
- Organize spelling words in ABC order

Writing: In writing this month, students will be introduced to the following poems: "Autumn Leaves," "The Squirrel," "Trees," and "How Much Wood." Areas of study include:

- Quotation marks
- Similes
- Title rule
- Capitalization and punctuation in poetry
- Articles

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.

- -ly adverbs
- Tongue twisters

Latin: The grade 1 class will be studying various items used and seen in their daily lives. Latin topics covered include:

- Classroom items
- Household items
- Review of all vocabulary learned thus far

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will focus on Chapter 5: Shapes and Patterns and Chapter 6: Ordinal Numbers and Position. Areas of study include:

- Exploring plane and solid shapes
- Making pictures and models with shapes
- Seeing shapes around us
- Making patterns with plane and solid shapes
- Problem solving
- Ordinal numbers
- Position words

Science: In science class, students will be introduced to the well-known scientist Louis Pasteur. Over the course of the month, students will also investigate weather and explore the following topics and questions:

- The atmosphere and winds
- Clouds, rain, and thunderstorms
- Rainbows and weather events
- The water cycle
- Humidity and air pressure

Visual Arts: This month, students will design Remembrance Day posters and begin a drawing unit. Areas of study include:

- Poster design: the theme of Remembrance Day
- The message through images - Canadian symbols and words
- Drawing basics focusing on the following elements of design: line, shape, space, colour, value, and texture

Music: In music class, the grade 1 students will build on their knowledge of Orff technique. They will also review music notation, form, and conducting, and begin preparing for Christmas. Lessons will include:

- Mallet technique
- Simple borduns on Orff instruments
- Vocal ostinatos
- Christmas repertoire
- Music notation: review rhythm and C4-G5
- Genre: Ballet - The Nutcracker

Physical Education: Our physical education unit for the month of November centers on supporting, balancing, and creative movement and soccer. Areas of focus include the following:

- Telling a story using creative movements
- Demonstrating balance with various body parts
- Identifying soccer and kickball skills and rules
- Comparing and contrasting soccer and kickball
- Fitness stations
- Running the bases

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

Upcoming Events

November 2 – Picture Day Retakes – Both campuses
November 5 – Interim Parent/Teacher Check-in via Zoom
November 6 – Biblical Parenting Book Study via Zoom
November 11 – Remembrance Day Chapel
November 13 – High School Semester 1 Midterms Go Home
November 20 – Biblical Parenting Book Study via Zoom

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