

April 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 begin a unit on Moses and recognize how 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. God had a plan for saving Moses and prepared him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Areas of study this month include:

- God saves baby Moses
- God calls Moses
- The plagues
- The Passover
- Crossing the Red Sea

History: During the month of April, grade 1 students will investigate the world of early explorers to Canada. Students will read about and discuss their expeditions, challenges, navigational tools, ships, and legacy. They will then learn about famous Canadians. This month's explorers/famous Canadians are:

- Henry Hudson
- Sir John A Macdonald

Literature: In literature this month, students will begin a study on fairy tales and fables. Students will focus on:

- Fables, fairy tales, parables, proverbs
- How are they similar and different?
- Identifying the moral or lesson of fables and parables
- Reading aloud
- Presentation skills

Spelling: This month, students will complete sections J-3 - J-5 of the SWR program. Students will:

- Review prepositional phrases
- Alphabetize spelling words
- Identify and create compound words
- Practice making words plural by just adding -s
- Write original sentences
- Practice adding the suffix -ed to current and past spelling words
- Practice changing two words into a contraction

Writing and Grammar: In writing and grammar this month, students will continue Unit 5: Writing from Pictures. Poems include: "A Flea and a Fly in a Flue", and "The Lady and the Crocodile". Students will:

- Explore homophones/homonyms
- Explore f-sound tongue twisters

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.

- Review dress-ups
- Sequence pictures and create a story based on pictures
- Revise and edit a story to create a final draft

Latin: The grade 1 class will work on the following Latin vocabulary:

- Chapter 19-22 review
- Weather: snow, rain, wind, cloud, rainbow

Mathematics: This month in mathematics, students will focus on Chapter 14: Mental Math Strategies, and Chapter 15: Calendar and Time. Areas of study include:

- Mental addition and subtraction
- Using a calendar
- Telling time to the hour and half hour

Science: Over the course of this month, students will continue to engage in study related to the human body: skin, hair, bones, and joints. Students will explore the following topics:

- Vocabulary: glands, germs, melanin, pore, skeleton, skull, ligament, and joints
- Skin, hair
- Broken bones, soft skeletons
- How joints work, kinds of joints, joint problems, why do you need joints?

Visual Arts: In April, students will use their understanding of geometric and organic shapes to create different forms. They will:

- Identify symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes
- Use lines of symmetry to make balanced shapes
- Make collages with various shapes to create characters and scenes

Music: As we enter the final months of the school year, the grade 1 class will begin preparing repertoire for the spring concert. They will create a musical composition, learn folk dances, and develop their ensemble playing. Specific skills include:

- Time signatures
- Playing and listening as an ensemble
- Writing music
- Identifying instruments of the orchestra
- Folk dance

Physical Education: Our physical education unit for the month of April centers on t-ball and kickball. Students will explore:

- Basic rules of tee ball
- Running with bases
- Batting with a tee
- Cooperative warm up games
- Overhand throwing

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

Upcoming Events

- April 1 – High School Parent Teacher Interviews
- April 2 – Good Friday – No school
- April 5-16 – Spring Break – No school
- April 7 – Blakey Art Competition Deadline – Gr. 9-11
- April 19 – Students Return to School from Spring Break
- April 19 – Apologetic Series for Parents
- April 28 – CLT10 (Classic Learning Test) – Gr. 9/10

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