



# WELCOME TO 1ST GRADE

## ALL ABOUT ME

My name is Stacy Benton, and I am thrilled to be your child's first-grade teacher. I absolutely adore first graders and am so excited to have your child in my First Grade AM TOPS class!

This will be my 20th year teaching and my 13th year at EDUPRIZE. I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Arizona State University in 2005. In 2014, I completed a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Northern Arizona University and also earned my Reading Endorsement.

Although I'm originally from Lincoln, Nebraska, I've lived in Arizona for the past 34 years. I currently live in San Tan Valley with my husband, Shane, and our daughter, Kennedy, who will be starting kindergarten this year. My bonus daughter, Jordan, lives in Flagstaff and is getting married in June 2026.

I am blessed to work right next door to my sister, Mrs. Davis, who is the other First Grade AM TOPS teacher! We've had the joy of teaching together throughout my entire career.

I can't wait to meet you and your family! If you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, please don't hesitate to reach out. The best way to contact me is via email at [stacy.benton@eduprize.com](mailto:stacy.benton@eduprize.com). I look forward to partnering with you to make this a fantastic school year for your child.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Benton*

## COTTAGE

Your child will be exploring four different thematic units this year. At EDUPRIZE we call these units "cottages." Each cottage is full of hands-on learning experiences. The first grade cottages are: Wavelength Arcade, Plymouth Plantation, Resource Resort, and Birdhouse.

## OPEN HOUSE

**Open House is planned for Friday, July 18, 2025. Our scheduled time to meet is from 8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. in room 23.** You will be able to meet me, see our classroom, and drop off supplies. You will also be able to pick-up your carpool tag from the gym.

**Please bring your child's supplies to school with you on the day of Open House.** (Our supply list is on the next page.) There will be areas for you to sort the supplies, as well as a few tasks for you to do to help your child get organized before the first day of school. Click [HERE](#) if you'd like to read over the open house agenda in advance. If you are unavailable during our scheduled time, I will be available periodically throughout the day.

## 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL

Our first day of school is Tuesday, July 22nd. AM TOPS starts at 7:15 a.m. However, the students should be outside and in line by 7:10 a.m. Your child must be prompt and present the full first day to be considered enrolled at EDUPRIZE. The AM TOPS schedule this year is from 7:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monday - Friday.



## IMPORTANT

In order to save time during open house, I have made some of the required paperwork digital. Please click on the link below to fill out the questionnaire prior to open house. This online form is in addition to any of the paperwork required by the school.

[Open House Form](#)



# SUPPLY LIST



Please bring the following school supplies to the Open House on Friday, July 18, 2025 between 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. This will allow me to store the supplies and have a smooth start on the first day of school. Some items will be used as a classroom set, so please do not write your child's name on the supplies, unless it is indicated.

I have added links to Walmart for your convenience, and so you can see an example of what is needed. However, feel free to purchase your child's supplies wherever you'd like. Also, unless it is indicated, brand does not matter. Lastly, please reach out to me if you are experiencing any financial difficulties. I would love to help.

## PLEASE DO LABEL THESE ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME

- Unpackaged, labeled [Headphones](#) in a large Ziploc bag (Earbuds are very difficult for first graders to use, so please send in headphones only.)
- 1 regular-sized [pencil box](#) (Please keep in mind that I will be taping a rectangle nametag onto the top of your child's pencil box.)
- 1 set of [Crayola Washable Watercolor Paints](#) (8 colors) paints
- 1 pointed pair of unpackaged [scissors](#)
- ½ inch, solid colored [3-ring binder](#) with inside pockets and a clear sheet on the outside to hold a cover sheet (This will be used as a Homework/Communication Book.) Please write your child's name on the inside, upper right-hand corner.

## PENCILBOX PREP

Please help prepare your child for the first day of school by packing their pencil box prior to open house with the following items. You will sort their remaining supplies in the labeled areas throughout the classroom for use when needed throughout the year.

- 2 sharpened pencils
- 1 box of Crayola Crayons (24 pack)
- 1 white, Hi-Polymer eraser
- 1 pair of pointed scissors
- 1 glue stick



PENCIL BOX  
EXAMPLE

## PLEASE DO NOT LABEL THESE ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME

- 2 - boxes of [Crayola Crayons 24 pack](#)
- 1 - box of [sharpened pencils](#) (preferably Dixon Ticonderoga)
- 2 [erasers](#) (white, Hi-Polymer)
- 1 - [glue stick](#)
- 2 - [primary composition notebooks](#) with half page ruled (This just means there is space for pictures.)
- 1 - package of black, thin [Expo white board markers](#)
- 1 - box of [tissues](#) (any shape)
- 1 - container of [antibacterial wipes](#) for cleaning desks
- 1 - roll of paper towels
- 1 - container of [electronic wipes](#) used to wipe down Chromebooks between use (any brand)
- 1 - bottle of [hand sanitizer](#) with pump (any size)
- 1 - box of plastic baggies (Boys [quart size](#) and Girls [gallon size](#))

## WISHLIST

We are also in need of the following items:

- White Copy Paper
- Sharpie Markers (Any Color)
- Colored Copy Paper (Any Color)
- Colored Cardstock (Any Color)
- Click [HERE](#) for a link to our classroom wish list on Amazon.

