

A COURSE OF STUDY.

The following course of study for Grade I. is used in the Chicago Institute, under Colonel Parker. Does it suggest anything for us?

HISTORY.—Social life; dramatic play; constructive study of industries and inventions.

LITERATURE.—Telling and dramatization of stories—ethical stories, nature myths, fairy stories, fables, poems and songs.

GEOGRAPHY.—Field trips to typical areas—lake shore, swamp, woods, garden, farm, and park.

Experiments in outdoor laboratory.

NATURE STUDY.—Constructive study of landscape. Habits and care of plants and animals. Synthetical study of soil, stones, air, sound, water, heat, and light.

CORRELATED NUMBER.—Standard units of measurement in lines, area, volume, and weight, gained through use in science, history, manual training, and industrial art. Facts in number twelve functioned in whole numbers and necessary fractions in addition, subtraction, multiplication, partition, and division.

Note.—There is no arbitrary limit as to size of numbers used in any grade.

READING.—During the first year the child gains, incidentally, a reading vocabulary of about five hundred words. He reads only to find out something (silent reading) or to tell something (oral reading).

WRITING AND SPELLING.—The child takes notes, makes records, constructs a dictionary, begins true composition. He gains through use a vocabulary of about three hundred words.

LANGUAGE.—English. In written work the first year child learns use of capital letters, period, comma, interrogation point, quotation marks, etc.

There is constant incidental training in oral language.

SCHOOL ECONOMICS.—Necessary rules for the comfort of the community. Appearance of school-room. Care of wraps and materials. Observation of temperature and ventilation. Preparation and cooking of simple foods.

ART.—Expression in painting and drawing, modeling with clay and chalk.

INDUSTRIAL ART.—Large sewing—making of work-bags, curtains, costumes and Christmas gifts. Simple weaving of mats and baskets. Pottery. Simple book-making.

DRAMATIC ART.—Personating, dramatization, and acting of stories, poems, and songs, and manifestations of life in all subjects of study. Memorizing of selected poems.

MUSIC.—Correlated rote singing. Melodic exercises and interval-work based on songs. Exercises for developing diaphragm-breathing. Simple work in original musical expression.

MANUAL TRAINING.—Making of tools and useful articles in cardboard and wood.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.—Developing and corrective exercises. Games and plays—traditional, historical, imaginative, and dramatic.

"If there is something new in education that you know is perfectly true, and therefore condemnatory of some bad practice you follow, don't adopt it, but call it the latest American fad. That's the best loop-hole known. Your loyalty will more than atone for error." What do you think?