



1st Grade ELA Teacher Job Description

Organization Background

Global Ambassadors Language Academy (GALA) provides a life changing bilingual educational opportunity for students in Cleveland. GALA is a tuition-free, nonprofit public charter school that offers language immersion instruction where children spend 50% of every day learning in English, and the 50% in their chosen language—Spanish or Mandarin. GALA is the first language immersion school in Northeast Ohio, and only Mandarin immersion school in Ohio.

For two years in a row, GALA is the #1 school in its neighborhood (West Park) and is ranked the 5th highest performing school for academic achievement, out of 94 K-8 public schools in Cleveland. GALA received 5 out of 5 stars for Gap Closing, and 3 out of 5 stars for Academic Achievement, and Progress. These achievements are especially significant, as GALA students spend the majority of every day receiving instruction in Mandarin or Spanish, and then measured by state standardized assessments administered in English.

Since opening in 2016, GALA has been a neighborhood asset with an incredibly diverse school population. Currently, 70% of students reside in Cleveland, 30% reside across 26 suburbs; 69% of students are economically disadvantaged; 45% are White, 35.5% are Black, 10% are multi-racial, 8% are Asian, and 1.5% are American Indian; and 51% are Hispanic.

Location: GALA, 13442 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44111

Reports To: Principal

Status: Full-time, Salary, Exempt

Start Date: August 2024

Job Overview:

GALA is seeking a dedicated and passionate 1st Grade ELA (English Language Arts) Teacher to join our vibrant educational community. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in early childhood literacy and a commitment to fostering a love for language in young learners. This role involves developing and implementing a comprehensive ELA curriculum that supports the academic and social-emotional growth of 1st grade students.

Key Responsibilities:

Curriculum Development and Instruction:

- Design and implement a dynamic ELA curriculum that aligns with state standards and GALA's educational philosophy.
- Teach the science of reading, writing, and language skills to 1st grade students.
- Develop lesson plans that incorporate a variety of instructional strategies and resources to meet the diverse needs of students.

Classroom Management:

- Create a positive and inclusive classroom environment that promotes active student engagement and a love for learning.

- Establish and maintain classroom rules and routines to ensure a safe and productive learning environment.
- Assess and monitor student progress, providing timely feedback and support to help students achieve their academic goals.

Collaboration and Professional Development:

- Collaborate with fellow teachers and staff to support interdisciplinary learning and school-wide initiatives.
- Participate in professional development opportunities to stay current with best practices in immersion education.
- Communicate regularly with parents and guardians about student progress and school activities.

Additional Duties:

- Incorporate cultural activities and celebrations to enhance students' understanding and appreciation of Spanish-speaking cultures.
- Working with a team to organize and oversee extracurricular activities related to ELA, such as reading clubs or writing workshops.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the principal.

Qualifications:

Education and Certification:

- Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, English, or a related field required;
- Valid state teaching certification in Elementary Education (K-3) and/or ELA

Experience:

- Previous teaching experience in early childhood education, specifically in 1st grade, preferred.
- Strong knowledge of early literacy development and instructional practices.

Skills and Abilities:

- Excellent classroom management and organizational skills.
- Ability to inspire and motivate young learners to develop literacy skills.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Creative and resourceful in developing engaging lesson plans and activities.

Application Process:

Interested candidates should submit a **resume**, **cover letter**, and **2-3 professional references** to Principal Bethany Araujo at baraujo@galacleveland.org.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

We look forward to welcoming a talented and enthusiastic 3rd Grade Immersion Spanish Teacher to our GALA community!

Global Ambassadors Language Academy (GALA) is an equal opportunity employer and encourages candidates of all backgrounds to apply. GALA actively seeks and encourages candidates of traditionally underrepresented groups (race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability) to apply.

Learn more at: www.galacleveland.org and www.facebook.com/GlobalAmbassadorsLanguageAcademy