First graders should be able to...

	Listen		Speak
•	Remember information Follow instructions Follow 2 to 3 step directions in order	•	Be understood without much effort Answer "yes/no" questions that are more complex Tell a story or event and then retell it in a logical order Express an idea in complete sentences Use most of the parts of speech Ask and answer "wh" questions (who, what, when, where, why, and how) Maintain a topic during conversation Give others directions Initiate conversation
	Read		Write
•	Make rhyming words Pick out all the sounds in short words Blending sounds into words Point out spoken words in print Know that a book is read from left to right and top to bottom Point out a letter, word, and sentences Sound out words Recognize 100 words just by sight (without sounding it out) Read grade level material without making many errors and at a normal speed Understand what it means to read	•	Expresses thoughts through writing Print legibly Spell words that are used often correctly Start each sentence with a capitol letter Finish each sentence with punctuation (.,?,!) Use different means of writing like journaling, writing stories, or letters