

1st grade writing prompts

1st Grade Writing Prompts: Navigating the Challenges and Unlocking the Opportunities

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Abstract: This article explores the crucial role of 1st grade writing prompts in fostering literacy development. It delves into the challenges teachers face in crafting effective prompts and highlights opportunities for enriching the writing experience. We'll examine different prompt types, strategies for differentiation, and the importance of assessment and feedback in nurturing young writers.

The Power of 1st Grade Writing Prompts

First grade marks a pivotal stage in a child's literacy journey. It's the year when the foundational skills learned in kindergarten begin to coalesce into more complex writing abilities. Effective 1st grade writing prompts are essential for guiding this development, encouraging creativity, and building confidence. However, creating engaging and developmentally appropriate prompts presents its own set of challenges.

Challenges in Crafting Effective 1st Grade Writing Prompts

One significant hurdle lies in balancing the need for structure with the

encouragement of creativity. First graders are still developing their fine motor skills, spelling abilities, and sentence construction. Prompts that are too open-ended can be overwhelming, leading to frustration and avoidance. Conversely, overly restrictive prompts can stifle creativity and limit the opportunities for self-expression.

Another challenge stems from the diverse learning needs within a typical first-grade classroom. Some students might be advanced writers, while others are still grappling with basic phonetic awareness. Differentiating 1st grade writing prompts to cater to this range of abilities requires careful planning and a deep understanding of each student's individual strengths and weaknesses.

Furthermore, assessing the quality of first-grade writing requires a nuanced approach. Teachers must move beyond simply evaluating spelling and grammar and focus on the overall communication skills displayed. Providing constructive feedback that encourages growth without being discouraging is crucial for building confidence and motivation.

Opportunities Presented by 1st Grade Writing Prompts

Despite these challenges, 1st grade writing prompts offer incredible opportunities to foster literacy development. Well-designed prompts can:

Develop foundational writing skills: Prompts focusing on specific skills, such as sentence structure, capitalization, and punctuation, can help students build a strong foundation.

Enhance vocabulary and language skills: Exposure to new words and phrases through prompts can broaden their vocabulary and improve their expressive language abilities.

Boost creativity and imagination: Open-ended prompts that encourage storytelling and imaginative writing can unlock a child's creativity and foster a love of writing.

Promote critical thinking skills: Prompts that require students to analyze information, solve problems, or express opinions encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Improve self-expression and communication: Writing allows students to express their thoughts, feelings, and experiences, improving their communication skills and self-esteem.

Build confidence and self-esteem: Positive feedback and encouragement can significantly boost a child's confidence in their writing abilities.

Types of 1st Grade Writing Prompts and Best Practices

Several types of 1st grade writing prompts can be utilized effectively:

Narrative Prompts: These prompts encourage storytelling. Examples include: "Write a story about a magical creature," or "Tell about a time you went on

an adventure."

Descriptive Prompts: These prompts focus on using sensory details to describe something. Examples: "Describe your favorite toy," or "Describe what it feels like to be at the beach."

Expository Prompts: These prompts encourage explaining or informing.

Examples: "Explain how to make your favorite snack," or "Explain why it's important to brush your teeth."

Opinion Prompts: These prompts ask for a personal viewpoint. Examples: "What is your favorite animal and why?" or "What is the best season and why?"

Best Practices for Using 1st Grade Writing Prompts:

Keep it short and simple: Prompts should be easy to understand and not overwhelming.

Use visuals: Pictures or real-life objects can help stimulate ideas.

Provide sentence starters: This can be particularly helpful for students who struggle with sentence construction.

Offer choices: Provide a few different prompts, allowing students to choose one that interests them.

Encourage collaboration: Pair students to brainstorm ideas and support each other.

Provide positive feedback: Focus on the effort and progress, not just the perfection of the writing.

Assessment and Feedback for 1st Grade Writing

Assessment should focus on the child's progress and effort, not just the mechanics of writing. Use a holistic rubric that considers content, organization, voice, and mechanics. Feedback should be specific, encouraging, and focused on areas for improvement. Celebrate small victories and encourage persistence.

Conclusion

1st grade writing prompts are a powerful tool for fostering literacy development. By carefully selecting prompts, differentiating instruction, and providing effective feedback, teachers can unlock the creative potential of their students and build a strong foundation for future writing success. The key lies in understanding the challenges and capitalizing on the opportunities presented by this crucial stage in a child's educational journey.

FAQs

1. How long should a 1st-grade writing response be? Length should be dictated by the student's ability and the prompt. Aim for several

sentences, focusing on quality over quantity.

1. What if a student refuses to write? Explore the reasons behind the refusal. Offer choices, provide support, and make writing fun. Focus on oral storytelling first.
1. How can I differentiate 1st grade writing prompts for diverse learners? Offer varied levels of support, such as sentence starters, graphic organizers, or pre-writing activities. Allow varied modes of expression, including drawings and dictation.
1. What are some effective strategies for providing feedback? Focus on positive aspects first, then offer suggestions for improvement. Use specific examples and avoid generalizations.
1. How can I integrate 1st grade writing prompts into other subjects? Use writing prompts related to science experiments, math problems, or social studies topics.
1. How can I encourage creativity in 1st grade writing? Use imaginative prompts, allow for experimentation with different writing styles, and provide time for free writing.
1. What are some common mistakes to avoid when creating 1st grade writing prompts? Avoid overly complex vocabulary, ambiguous instructions, and prompts that are too long or abstract.
1. How can I assess the effectiveness of my 1st grade writing prompts? Observe student engagement, analyze writing samples, and solicit feedback from students.

1. Where can I find more resources for 1st grade writing prompts? Websites like Edutopia, Teachers Pay Teachers, and Pinterest offer a wealth of resources.

Related Articles

1. "Using Visual Aids to Enhance 1st Grade Writing Prompts": This article explores the effective use of pictures, objects, and videos to inspire young writers.
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1st grade writing prompts: *Grade 1 Writing* Kumon Publishing North America, 2013-06 From fairy tales to five-paragraph essays, Kumon Writing Workbooks offer a complete program to improve the development and organization of ideas and expand vocabulary. Our fun and innovative exercises inspire creativity and the desire to write.

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1st grade writing prompts: Amelia Bedelia's First Apple Pie Herman Parish, 2010-12-07 Amelia Bedelia loves everything about autumn: the red and yellow leaves, the jolly orange pumpkins, and most of all, the apples ripe for picking! In this third installment of the nationally best-selling series, young Amelia Bedelia gets into the spirit of the fall season and bakes her very first apple pie with Grandma. Amelia Bedelia can't wait to share it with her mom and dad, but the hungry birds have other ideas. Luckily, she always has a plan up her sleeve...Hooray for Amelia Bedelia! Includes a recipe.

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1st grade writing prompts: Small Moments Lucy Calkins, Abby Oxenhorn Smith, Rachel Rothman, 2013

1st grade writing prompts: Writing Reviews Lucy Calkins, Elizabeth Dunford, Celena

Dangler Larkey, 2013

1st grade writing prompts: *Duck on a Bike* David Shannon, 2016-07-26 In this off-beat book perfect for reading aloud, a Caldecott Honor winner shares the story of a duck who rides a bike with hilarious results. One day down on the farm, Duck got a wild idea. "I bet I could ride a bike," he thought. He waddled over to where the boy parked his bike, climbed on, and began to ride. At first, he rode slowly and he wobbled a lot, but it was fun! Duck rode past Cow and waved to her. "Hello, Cow!" said Duck. "Moo," said Cow. But what she thought was, "A duck on a bike? That's the silliest thing I've ever seen!" And so, Duck rides past Sheep, Horse, and all the other barnyard animals. Suddenly, a group of kids ride by on their bikes and run into the farmhouse, leaving the bikes outside. Now ALL the animals can ride bikes, just like Duck! Praise for *Duck on a Bike* "Shannon serves up a sunny blend of humor and action in this delightful tale of a Duck who spies a red bicycle one day and gets "a wild idea" . . . Add to all this the abundant opportunity for youngsters to chime in with barnyard responses ("M-o-o-o"; "Cluck! Cluck!"), and the result is one swell read-aloud, packed with freewheeling fun." —Publishers Weekly "Grab your funny bone—Shannon . . . rides again! . . . A "quackerjack" of a terrific escapade." —Kirkus Reviews

1st grade writing prompts: *The Writing Prompts Workbook, Grades 1-2* Bryan Cohen, 2012-04-01 To make writing more exciting for first and second grade students, you need to give them a chance to grow their creativity and imagination. The Writing Prompts Workbook is a collection of imaginative situations and questions that will get your students and children using their brains to come up with wildly creative ideas when they begin to put pen to paper. Bryan Cohen, the author of 1,000 Creative Writing Prompts and 500 Writing Prompts for Kids, has compiled 200 of some of his best prompts for first and second graders in this workbook. Use them for journals, assignments, poems, conversations, songs and more.

1st grade writing prompts: *Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun* Maria Dismondy, Kim Shaw, Kathy Hiatt, 2016-02-04 Lucy has big hair, eats fun foods and is teased by a boy named Ralph at school because she is different. She tries to be brave but she wishes the teasing would stop. What should I do? she asks herself over and over. Lucy's Papa Gino reminds her to do the right thing and treat people with kindness. So when Ralph gets stuck on the playground and needs help, will Lucy use this chance to teach Ralph a lesson? Or will she have the courage to be true to herself and make the right choice with an act of kindness? Readers of all ages can empathize with Lucy's brave journey as she sets out to rise above Ralph's mean words, stay true to herself and build her self-esteem every step of the way. This book comes with a free Reader's Companion, complete with discussion questions, lesson plans and activities for children to go beyond the book. Download your copy direct from the publisher website. The best book for teaching kindness and confronting bullying. *Spaghetti in a Hotdog Bun* is perhaps the most beloved book by award-winning author Maria Dismondy. It carries the key message of love, courage and positivity supported by the many advocates of positive parenting solutions. It will sit comfortably on your shelf alongside other books that focus on emotions, confidence and bullying. Like the work of Adir Levy (*What Would Danny Do?*) and Jacquelyn Stagg (*Kindness Starts with You*).

1st grade writing prompts: *500 Writing Prompts for Kids* Bryan Cohen, 2011-04-25 '500 Writing Prompts for Kids' is a book full of story-starters catered to the elementary school age group.--Page 4 of cover.

1st grade writing prompts: *Red is Best* Kathy Stinson, Robin Baird Lewis, 1982 The little girl in this story likes to wear red clothes all the time - no matter what she looks like Each day, she struggles with her mum to be allowed to wear her favourite clothes.

1st grade writing prompts: *Mouse's First Fall* Lauren Thompson, 2011-08-09 Lauren Thompson and Bucket Erdogan show what makes fall so much fun in Classic Board Book edition of *Mouse's First Fall*! One cool day Mouse and Minka venture out to play. From leaves of all colors—red, yellow, orange to brown—to leaves of all shapes and sizes—Mouse learns what makes fall such a special season! Before their fun, fall day is over, Mouse takes a big leap! Now featuring the newly redesigned Classic Board Book logo, this sturdy book is perfect for little ones learning

about the seasons!

1st grade writing prompts: *The Recess Queen* Alexis O'Neill, 2016-06-28 An irrepressible new girl dethrones the reigning recess bully by becoming her friend in this infectious playground romp. Mean Jean was Recess Queen and nobody said any different. Nobody swung until Mean Jean swung. Nobody kicked until Mean Jean kicked. Nobody bounced until Mean Jean bounced. If kids ever crossed her, she'd push 'em and smoosh 'em lollapaloosh 'em, hammer 'em, slammer 'em kitz and kajammer 'em. Until a new kid came to school! Parents and teachers will appreciate the story's deft handling of conflict resolution (which happens without adult intervention). A lively story about the power of kindness and friendship -- Publishers Weekly A lighthearted look at a serious topic in schools and on playgrounds everywhere... -- School Library Journal Great for reading aloud and joining in. -- Booklist

1st grade writing prompts: *You're Finally Here!* Mélanie Watt, 2011-02 A rabbit in a picture book is very glad when a reader turns up.

1st grade writing prompts: **1st Grade at Home** The Princeton Review, 2020-11-10 Learn at home with help from the education experts at The Princeton Review! 1ST GRADE AT HOME provides simple, guided lessons and activities that parents can use to help keep 1st graders on track this year. Anxious about remote learning and hybrid schooling? Worried that the unique circumstances around coronavirus and education might keep your child from getting the help they need in class this year? Want to help support your child's schooling, but not sure where to start? You're not alone! 1ST GRADE AT HOME is a parent guide to supporting your child's learning, with help you can undertake from home. It provides: · Guided help for key 1st grade reading and math topics · Skills broken into short, easy-to-accomplish lessons · Explanations for parents, plus independent question sets for kids · Fun at-home learning activities for each skill that use common household items · Parent tips, review sections, and challenge activities seeded throughout the book The perfect mix of parent guidance, practical lessons, and hands-on activities to keep kids engaged and up-to-date, 1ST GRADE AT HOME covers key grade-appropriate topics including: · letters and sounds · compounds and contractions · early reading comprehension · numbers and place value · addition and subtraction · fact families · patterns and shapes ... and more!

1st grade writing prompts: *50 Writing Prompts for Kids* Creativity Builders, 2020-09-03 Inspiring questions that make writing fun! Journaling is a great way to work on a child's confidence and self-esteem by encouraging creativity, reflection and communication skills. The carefully selected questions in this journal help your child express their ideas and expand their skills. Each writing prompt is complemented by a drawing space and a fun doodle or illustration. Designed for the emerging writer grades 1-3. Encourages writing practice with questions kids actually want to write about Large drawing area that allows more creative expression Friendly for left-handed kids! Page on the left can be used to draw & write. Fun and cute illustrations that engage but do not limit child's own original thoughts Wide lined paper with midline which helps kids practice correct letter formation and spacing The Details: Glossy cover Size 8.5 x 11 (21.59 x 27.94 cm) Designed in USA by mother of two young kids. Check out our other titles in the Creativity Builders Author Page.

1st grade writing prompts: *501 Writing Prompts* LearningExpress (Organization), 2018 This eBook features 501 sample writing prompts that are designed to help you improve your writing and gain the necessary writing skills needed to ace essay exams. Build your essay-writing confidence fast with 501 Writing Prompts! --

1st grade writing prompts: *Writing Skills: Grade 1 (Flash Kids Harcourt Family Learning)* Flash Kids, 2006-02 This workbook is designed to reinforce specific writing skills including understanding parts of sentences, writing paragraphs, and writing a letter.

1st grade writing prompts: **A Letter from Your Teacher** Shannon Olsen, 2022-03 From the author and illustrator of *Our Class is a Family*, this touching picture book expresses a teacher's sentiments and well wishes on the last day of school. Serving as a follow up to the letter in *A Letter From Your Teacher: On the First Day of School*, it's a read aloud for teachers to bid a special farewell to their students at the end of the school year. Through a letter written from the teacher's

point of view, the class is invited to reflect back on memories made, connections formed, and challenges met. The letter expresses how proud their teacher is of them, and how much they will be missed. Students will also leave on that last day knowing that their teacher is cheering them on for all of the exciting things to come in the future. There is a blank space on the last page for teachers to sign their own name, so that students know that the letter in the book is coming straight from them. With its sincere message and inclusive illustrations, *A Letter From Your Teacher: On the Last Day of School* is a valuable addition to any elementary school teacher's classroom library.

1st grade writing prompts: *101 Story Starters for Little Kids* Batch Books, Maisy Day, 2020-01-18 Write your own stories with the help of these illustrated story starters for little kids! With 101 fun and unique writing prompts, you'll have no trouble kicking your imagination into high gear. Each story starter consists of: 1-2 short sentences to boost imagination. Large text for easy reading. A black and white illustration for visual inspiration. Leave writer's block and blank-page anxiety behind! Whether you write animal stories, funny stories, or something else entirely, you'll find dozens of ideas and inspiration to help you get started. Inside, you'll find story starters in each of the following categories: Crazy Changes. Animals Acting Strange. Monsters, Aliens, and Other Spooky Stuff. Adventure. Funny. Realistic Stuff. These illustrated story starters are perfect for little kids in grades 1-3 but can be used by anyone young at heart. Use this book in the classroom or give it as a gift to a budding author.

1st grade writing prompts: Writing Prompts for Kids. Letter Tracing + Draw and Write Pages Elita Nathan, 2018 This writing and tracing book is designed for beginning writers. Writing a full sentence is hard, and this journal is here to help! Your child can practice their handwriting by tracing the writing prompt on each page, and then complete the sentence by using one of the suggested words. There are also blank pages without prompts or word suggestions in the second half of the book to allow your child to write on their own. What makes this book unique: - 50+ writing prompts appropriate for preschool to 1st grade - writing prompts that can be traced to practice handwriting - suggested words to help your child complete the sentence - large area for drawing to entice the little artists

1st grade writing prompts: Ditch That Textbook Matt Miller, 2015-04-13 Textbooks are symbols of centuries-old education. They're often outdated as soon as they hit students' desks. Acting by the textbook implies compliance and a lack of creativity. It's time to ditch those textbooks--and those textbook assumptions about learning In *Ditch That Textbook*, teacher and blogger Matt Miller encourages educators to throw out meaningless, pedestrian teaching and learning practices. He empowers them to evolve and improve on old, standard, teaching methods. *Ditch That Textbook* is a support system, toolbox, and manifesto to help educators free their teaching and revolutionize their classrooms.

1st grade writing prompts: *Grace's Ghosts* Stephenie Wilson Peterson, 2020-04-28 Twelve-year-old Grace and her feline best friend, Midnight, have a secret: Midnight is a ghost. But then again, so are the rest of Grace's friends. Since she's the only person in hundreds of years with the ability to see them, the many ghosts of Tansy have flocked to Grace since birth. She doesn't mind. She prefers the company of the dead to that of the cliquey kids at school. Grace is happy with her strange life, until one day, the ghosts tell her about the secret her town has hidden for centuries. There's a reason there are more ghosts than living people in Tansy. Three-hundred years ago, a lonely witch cast a spell that mistakenly trapped the soul of every person to ever set foot in the tiny town. So when the spirits beg her to find a way to break the curse, Grace is eager to help. As she searches for answers, Grace makes discoveries about the secret her family hid for generations and a world of magic hidden in her own backyard. Grace soon realizes that if she succeeds in breaking the curse, she'll lose Midnight and all of her ghost friends, but if she fails, everyone living in Tansy will face the same fate. Can Grace break the curse before it's too late?

1st grade writing prompts: *Ralph Tells a Story* Abby Hanlon, 2012 Although his teacher insists there are stories everywhere, Ralph cannot think of any to write.

1st grade writing prompts: *Teaching Writing* Lucy Calkins, 2020-01-21 Writing allows each of

us to live with that special wide-awakeness that comes from knowing that our lives and our ideas are worth writing about. -Lucy Calkins Teaching Writing is Lucy Calkins at her best-a distillation of the work that's placed Lucy and her colleagues at the forefront of the teaching of writing for over thirty years. This book promises to inspire teachers to teach with renewed passion and power and to invigorate the entire school day. This is a book for readers who want an introduction to the writing workshop, and for those who've lived and breathed this work for decades. Although Lucy addresses the familiar topics-the writing process, conferring, kinds of writing, and writing assessment- she helps us see those topics with new eyes. She clears away the debris to show us the teeny details, and she shows us the majesty and meaning, too, in these simple yet powerful teaching acts. Download a sample chapter for more information.

1st grade writing prompts: Nonfiction Chapter Books Lucy Calkins, Kristine Mraz, Barbara Golub, 2013

1st grade writing prompts: Picture Story Starters for Little Kids Jan Teacher, 2020 50 picture prompts to get them thinking, fire their imagination and fill them with enthusiasm to write amazing stories--Back cover.

1st grade writing prompts: My Summer Writing Prompts Simo IB Press, 2020-07-08 A 60-Day writing prompts Journal for Kids (ages 8 - 12) is guided journal to help kids cultivate authentic writing skills Confidence, Self-Awareness, Grit, and Gratitude! Specifically created for kids, the 2 page-a-day entries guide them every step of the way by the most clear, specific and inspirational prompts, to help them focus on a wide range of leadership topics. The topics covered change every week, and range progressively from the more inward-looking such as Each page is filled with kid-friendly appreciations and reflection prompts, your children will discover what fills them with joy, gratitude, happiness, creativity, courage, wisdom, and inspiration. This beautifully designed journal makes a perfect birthday, holiday, or school gift. Not just for home, this journal is also great for school teachers and counselors, as part of a Social Emotional Learning curriculum for bulk orders. What ages is this journal good for? We recommend ages 8 - 12. What's inside? My Happiness Tracker Appreciation (guided, changes daily) Daily Reflection (guided, changes daily) One amazing thing that happened today My Energy Tracker One daily blank page for inspirational writing prompts

1st grade writing prompts: 105 Writing Prompts for Kids - 5th Grade Dancing Pen Prompts, 2018-08-27 NORMAL PRICE \$21.95! Just \$8.95 for a limited time(BIG Savings)! Do you find yourself stuck with writer's block? No matter what you do, inspiration just isn't hitting? Don't worry. We've got you covered. This collection of 105 imaginative and clever writing prompts will cure your writer's block instantly. Get those creative juices flowing and do what you do best - write! An absolute must-have and great gift for writers, aspiring authors, poets, journalists and scribes Scroll up, order now and get writing today!

1st grade writing prompts: The Simple 6TM for Beginning Writers Kay Davidson, 2007

1st grade writing prompts: Engaging Students in Academic Literacies María Estela Brisk, 2014-07-25 The Common Core State Standards require schools to include writing in a variety of genres across the disciplines. Engaging Students in Academic Literacies provides specific information to plan and carry out genre-based writing instruction in English for K-5 students within various content areas. Informed by systemic functional linguistics—a theory of language IN USE in particular ways for particular audiences and social purposes—it guides teachers in developing students' ability to construct texts using structural and linguistic features of the written language. This approach to teaching writing and academic language is effective in addressing the persistent achievement gap between ELLs and mainstream students, especially in the context of current reforms in the U.S. Transforming systemic functional linguistics and genre theory into concrete classroom tools for designing, implementing, and reflecting on instruction and providing essential scaffolding for teachers to build their own knowledge of its essential elements applied to teaching, the text includes strategies for apprenticing students to writing in all genres, features of elementary students' writing, and examples of practice.

1st grade writing prompts: A Pedagogical Design for Human Flourishing Cynthia

McCallister, 2022-03-28 -A product of three decades of action research during which the author worked with teachers and school leaders in more than 30 high-poverty, low-performing NYC schools to transform them into high-performance learning organizations. -Provides conceptual explanations, instructional procedures, resources, and assessments that learners, teachers and school leaders can use to organize classrooms in ways that re-distribute responsibility from teachers to learners. -Readers are given what they need to develop and manage effective learning, teaching and assessment practices in culturally, linguistically, racially and economically diverse classrooms.

1st grade writing prompts: *Write Away* Education.com, 2015-06-17 Exercises, tools, and tips will teach third graders how to spice up their stories with sensory words, action verbs, supporting details, and point of view. They'll also learn about personal narrative writing, creating a biography, and more.

1st grade writing prompts: Teaching K-12 Transdisciplinary Literacy Enrique A. Puig, Kathy S. Froelich, 2021-09-14 Accessible and comprehensive, this text introduces a transdisciplinary framework for literacy instruction in grades K-12. This cutting-edge volume addresses the need for literacy instruction that crosses disciplines to provide students with a skillset that is not constrained or siloed, but rather knowledge that students can apply to existing and emerging fields. The text begins with a clear, theoretical understanding of literacy instruction, delves into practical aspects of select instructional practices by grade level, and expands to the creation of schoolwide Multi-Tiered Systems of Support to ensure a continuous improvement system. The authors' inviting and innovative approach walks through real-world pathways for meaningful and inclusive literacy practices at distinct grade levels and includes authentic examples that show what the successful implementation of a K-12 transdisciplinary framework looks like. Covering key topics such as MTSS, RtI, Professional Communities of Practice, national and state standards, this book supports pre-service ELA teachers, literacy coaches, reading specialists, and administrators, and is ideal for courses in literacy instruction and content area literacy.

Additional Resources

abbreviations - When is it proper to abbreviate first to 1st?

Barring cases of extreme abbreviations (where one might use such abbreviations as "t ppl complaind abt t difficulty n reading &c", such as some live internet chat room, or mediaeval ...

"the 1st" or "1st" - English Language & Usage Stack Exchange

a) The United States ranked 1st in Bloomberg's Global Innovation Index. b) The United States ranked the 1st in Bloomberg's Global Innovation Index. I've seen a) in the news, however, it is ...

What do we call the "rd" in "3rd" and the "th" in "9th"?

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E.g. in School we have 5-7 or 8 hours every day (Math, History, Biology, Chemistry, English etc.). The first hour starts at 8:00 A.M.

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