***Sequencing Rationale***

When beginning a new topic or unit, it is imperative to make sure that the sequencing of activities and lessons are set forth in an understandable and comprehendible way to the students. It is important to make sure the activities and lessons build off of one another and flow—rather than being scattered with no particular purpose.

When learning math, it is important to make sure the students master the basics and the fundamentals before applying it to other ideas and concepts. In my curriculum design, I have the students refreshing the basics of shapes and patterns first. This was a concept that was taught in kindergarten and it is important that this is mastered before moving on to concepts designed specifically for the first grade.

I will spend a few weeks on basic counting and numbers. The students must know how to properly count, skip count, identify numbers, and understand ordinal numbers. This will help them when we enter the topic of addition. The students will use basics to understand addition (pictures and number lines). Once they feel confident in adding, we will move to subtraction. Subtraction will be taught similarly to addition—starting with the basics and moving up to more complex problems.

It is important that each topic be mastered and comprehended before moving on because they each build off previous topics. This process will be continued throughout the year with other topics.