



FIRST GRADE NEWSLETTER

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Learning about the world – Reading non-fiction: This month we are learning all the different strategies that good readers can do to read hard words, or tricky words.	At home, read with your child for at least 20 minutes. Help your child by making flash cards of new vocabulary words in their non-fiction books. They could also draw a picture to match the word. Review new words every night and keep flash cards in their home book baggie.
Writing	Non-fiction Chapter Books: This month we are learning about a different type of writing called non-fiction writing, where we zoom in, think, and write about something we know how do to really well. We will teach someone how to do something through our writing and illustrations!	At home, help our child think about topics that they know A LOT about by writing a Circle Map of their ideas. Some topics may include all about school, my family, or me. Help them by organizing their thoughts into different chapters with a different chapter on each page. Remember they need to write many details about their topic, so remind them that they must pick topics they know about, not just like.
Math	Subtraction Strategies: This month we are learning many different strategies to solve addition problems and number stories in multiple ways.	At home, practice subtraction by using small objects around the house like paper clips or pennies to write number stories and number sentences that match. Review vocabulary like less than and take away.
Science	Weather and Seasons: This month we are learning about types of weather and seasons as well as the reasons for them, through reading different non-fiction and fiction books as well as through various educational video clips.	At home, talk to your child about the weather forecast, the weather outside, and how it changes each day. Review vocabulary words like meteorologist, temperature, humid and hazy and have your child write sentences with words.
Social Studies	Families and Communities are important: This month we are learning about the different roles and responsibilities of various types of family by reading different fiction and non-fiction books as well.	At home, talk about how families were different long ago compared to how they are now. For example, different ways of transportation, toys and food. Try using a Thinking Map like a Circle Map, Double Bubble Map or Tree Map.

Focus of the Month: Close Reading of Complex Science Text

This month we are focusing on understanding the meaning of what we are reading science complex texts by retelling using our hands and sequence words. At home after reading with your child have them retell by touching each finger and using sequence words like First, Then, Next and Finally or Last, which is what we are also doing during Reading Workshop!

Reminders and Upcoming Events:

November 2, 2016 - Picture Day
November 3, 2016 - Half Day for students; Parent Teacher Conferences
November 8, 2016 - No School for Students – Chancellor’s Conference Day
November 10, 2016 - Second Thursday – Parents invited to join in our classrooms!
November 11, 2016 - No School – Veteran’s Day
November 24-25, 2016 - No School for Students – Thanksgiving Break