



On Common Ground

FIRST GRADE – MARKING PERIOD 2:

2012-2013

THIS NEWSLETTER PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN BASED ON THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS DURING THE FIRST MARKING PERIOD OF FIRST GRADE IN READING, WRITING AND MATHEMATICS. IT ALSO OFFERS IDEAS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING AT HOME.

WHAT ARE THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS (CCSS)?

- The Common Core State Standards initiative was a state-led effort to establish a shared set of clear academic standards for English Language arts and Mathematics that states may voluntarily adopt. The standards have been created based on the best available evidence and the highest state standards across the country.
- The standards were created by a group of teachers, content experts, school administrators, and parents.
- The goal of the standards is to ensure that students graduating from high school are prepared to go to college or enter the workforce and that parents, teachers, and students have a clear understanding of what is expected from them.
- The standards are also benchmarked to international standards to guarantee that students are competitive in the emerging global marketplace.

READING

At school, students will:

- Retell stories, including key details and demonstrate understanding of the central message or lesson.
- Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.
- Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, table of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text.
- Explain major differences between books that tell stories and books that give information.

At home, you can:

- Ask your child questions about stories he/she is reading; have him/her use parts of the story to explain his/her thinking.
- Read different stories together and discuss the similarities and differences of the adventures of the characters.
- Read informational texts and Internet content together; use text features to find facts or information.
- Practice sight words.

WRITING

At school, students will:

- Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, and provide some sense of closure.
- With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
- Print all uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Produce and expand complete and simple and compound sentences in response to prompts.
- Sequence 2 or more events, with beginning, middle and end.

At home, you can:

- Encourage your child to keep a personal journal or diary to tell his/her own stories.
- Use books and Internet sources to gather information; have your child write about what he/she learned.
- Show your child how to make simple sentences more complex. (e.g., I have a dog., I have a big brown dog., I have a big brown dog that barks.)



MATH

At school, students will:

- Count, read, and write numerals 0-50
- Solve word problems that call for three whole numbers whose sum is less than or equal to 20.
- Determine the unknown whole number in an addition or subtraction equation relating three whole numbers.
- Compare two, two-digit numbers based on meanings of the tens and ones digit, recording the results of comparisons with the symbols $>$, $=$, $<$.
- Tell time in hours using digital and analog clocks.

At home, you can:

- Practice reading, counting and writing numbers to at least 50.
- Give your child addition and/or subtraction sentences with three numbers to solve (e.g., $3+9+6=18$; $16-5-8=3$).
- Show your child how to compare numbers using the symbols $>$, $=$, $<$; use the words "greater than", "equal to", or "less than" when comparing numbers.
- Practice reading the clock using hours.