



On Common Ground

FIRST GRADE – MARKING PERIOD 1: 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:

- Describe characters, setting and major events in a story using text and illustrations.
- Ask and answer questions about key details and identify the main idea in a text.
- Use text features such as captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, electronic menus and icons to locate key facts or information in a text.
- Read regularly spelled one-syllable words (e.g., man, pig, hen, cut)

At home, you can:

- Discuss the details your child sees in a book's illustrations.
- Listen to your child read decodable text and give appropriate feedback.
- Help your child sound out decodable words when reading together.
- Ask your child questions about a text when reading together.
- Read books to and with your child and discuss characters, setting, and events in a story.
- Build word families (cat, bat, sat)

WRITING

At school, students will:

- Write narratives that include two or more events in sequence, details of what happened, and closure.
- Use transitional words such as "first," "next," and "then" to signal order of events.
- Print all uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Capitalize dates and names of people.
- Use proper punctuation for sentences.
- Spell words using knowledge of learned spelling patterns. For example, if students learn the "an" pattern, they can use it to spell "man," "pan,".
- Spell untaught words phonetically, connecting sounds to letters.

At home, you can:

- Encourage your child to tell a sequence of events in his/her writing. What happened first, next, and last?
- Help your child correctly write all of the uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Explain why it is important to capitalize names and dates when writing.
- Encourage your child to use letter sounds to figure out how to spell words.



MATH

At school, students will:

- Count, read, and write numerals 0-20.
- Represent a number of objects with a written numeral. For example, students can count beans and write down the amount counted.
- Add and subtract up to 20, using objects, drawings, and equations.
- Understand that 10 can be thought of as a bundle of ten ones, called a "ten."
- Understand what each digit of a two-digit number represents. For example, 13 is made up of 1 ten and 3 ones.

At home, you can:

- Practice counting and writing numbers.
- Have your child count objects around the house. For example, your child can count how many shirts are going into the washing machine. Then, ask your child to write that number.