



On Common Ground

KINDERGARTEN – 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 KINDERGARTEN 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:

- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.
- Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories.
- Describe the connections between two individuals, events, ideas or pieces of information in a text.
- Read sight words.
- Associate the long and short sounds with common spellings for the five major vowels.
- Retell a story after listening to the story.

At home, you can:

- Ask your child questions about stories he/she is reading; have them use parts of the story to explain his/her thinking.
- Read different stories and talk about how the characters are similar and different.
- Ask your child to describe different events or retell information in books you read.
- Practice sounding out words and encourage your child to find words he/she knows.
- Visit your local library.

WRITING

At school, students will:

- Use drawing, dictating and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events; tell about the events in order; and provide a reaction to what happened.
- With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
- Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun *I*.
- Spell single words, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships.

At home, you can:

- Set up a writing station at home where your child can write and draw; provide paper, markers, crayons and other materials to encourage writing and drawing.
- Ask your child to write stories about events from his/her day; encourage him/her to include events in the order they took place.
- Encourage your child to capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun *I*.



MATH

At school, students will:

- Count to 100 by ones and by tens.
- Write numbers from 0 to 20.
- Compare two groups of objects and determine if one group is greater than, less than or equal to the other.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems up to 10 using objects or drawings to represent the problem.
- Identify shapes as either two- or three- dimensional.
- Create models of shapes using materials such as clay and sticks and draw shapes.

At home, you can:

- Practice counting to 100 by ones and tens.
- Practice writing numbers.
- Use "greater than", "less than" or "equal to" when comparing groups of items.
- Practice adding and subtracting groups of up to 10 objects.
- Look for two- and three- dimensional shapes in the environment.